

Research in Europe

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R&D – Europe's challenges

	EU-27	US	Japan
Financed R&D (% of GDP) ⁽¹⁾	1.84	2.66	3.18
Privately financed R&D (% of GDP) ⁽¹⁾	1.00	1.70	2.37
Researchers (FTE) per thousand labour force ⁽²⁾	5.5	9.1	10.1
Share of world scientific publications (%) (2004)	38.1	32.8	8.7
Scientific publications per million population (2003)	662	894	569
Contrib. to 10% most cited publications (2001-2004)	~1.00	~1.45	~0.75

Data: Eurostat, OECD.

Source: DG Research

Notes: ⁽¹⁾ EU-27: 2005; US, JP: 2004. ⁽²⁾ EU-27: 2004; US: 2002; JP: 2003.



Why research at European level?

- General positive effects on economy
 - Pooling resources
 - Encourage national policies
 - Fostering human capital and excellence in S&T
- ▶ **EU activities (“supranational”):**
- ▶ ECSC – Euratom – EC (1957), JRC (1959), JET (1973),
Framework Programmes: FP1 (1984) ... FP7 (2006-2013)



“Ideas”, ERC and FP7

- The FP7 “family” :
 - Co-operation
 - **Ideas** (~ € 7.5 bn or ~15% of FP7 budget)
 - People
 - Capacities
- “Ideas” creates European Research Council (ERC) and is complementary to other FP7 programmes (bottom-up vs. targeted)
- A new programme and a new “institution”?



Strategic Aims of the ERC

European Research Council



Boost European excellence in frontier research

- by investing in the best researchers and ideas
- through competition at European level
- on the basis of excellence as the sole criterion
- in ALL fields of science
- providing benchmarks and leverage towards broader (structural) improvements in European research



ERC Grants

Who can apply ?

- Individual Research Teams:
 - headed by a single “**Principal Investigator**” (team leader)
 - of any nationality
 - with a host in the EU or Associated State
 - if necessary, including additional team members.
- The PI has the freedom to choose the **research topic** and the power to assemble his/her **research team** meeting the needs of the project.
- Teams can be of **national or trans-national** character.



Evaluation criteria

Solely based on excellence

- 1. Quality of Principal Investigator**
- 2. Quality of research project**
- 3. Research environment**



ERC Starting Grant

(ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grant)

- Improve **career opportunities and independence** - especially for young researchers
- Support researchers at the start of their independent research career and establishing or consolidating their own independent research team (or research programme)
- Provide a structure for transition from working under a supervisor to an independent research leader
- For up to **5 years, ~500'000-2'000'000 Euro** per Grant





ERC Advanced Grant

(ERC Advanced Investigator Researcher Grant)

- Increase **competition, recognition and international visibility** for excellent individual scientists and scholars in Europe
- Attract & reward established independent research leaders
- Complement the ERC Starting Grant scheme by targeting researchers who have already established their independence as team leaders
- For up to **5 years, i.e. up to ~2'500'000 Euro** per grant



ERC planning

- **1st Call**
 - StG only, Jan 2007 ~ € 300 Mio.
- **2nd Call**
 - AdG only, November 2007 ~ € 550 Mio.
- **3rd call onwards:**
 - StG (1/3) + AdG (2/3) at least € 1.0 bn per year



ERC Actors

The Scientific Council

Independent scientific governance

The Agency (Commission Directorate for the time being)

Practical implementation and management of operations

The European Union

Providing the financial means



The ERC Board

Prof. Fotis Kafatos
President of the ERC



Prof. Helga Nowotny
Dr Daniel Esteve
Vice-Presidents of the ERC



Prof. Ernst-Ludwig Winnacker
ERC Secretary-General



Jack Metthey
Director of ERC DIS
(EC RTD Directorate S)






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Practical Information on ERC Grant Schemes

- [ERC Guide for Peer Reviewers](#) (02/08/2007) (PDF 421 kB)
- [ERC Guide for Applicants - updated version](#) (01/08/2007) (PDF 391 kB)
- [ERC Work Programme 2007 - final version](#) (26/02/2007) (PDF 111 kB)
- ERC Guide for Grant Holders (shortly available)
- [ERC Rules for the submission of proposals and the related evaluation, selection and award procedures relevant to the Ideas Specific Programme](#) (Approved June 2007) (PDF 130 kB)
- [ERC Grant agreement](#) (16/04/2007).
 - [Core Grant Agreement](#)
 - [Annex II single beneficiary](#)
 - [Annex II multi beneficiary](#)
 - [Accession form](#)
 - [Annex IV](#)
 - [Annex VA](#)
 - [Annex VB](#)
 - [Special clauses](#) (09/08/2007)
- [ERC Supplementary Agreement](#) (29/05/2007)

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