



MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Opportunities for third country organisations and researchers

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Presentation of the programme



- **Part of Horizon Europe, Excellent Science** (Pillar 1)
- **Global coverage:** support for researchers and organisations around the world
- Programme based on **geographical mobility**
- **Bottom-up** programme: funding for all scientific disciplines



Actions

Doctoral Networks

Doctoral programmes to train doctoral candidates incl. Joint and industrial programmes

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Support for the best postdoctoral researchers

Staff Exchanges

Collaborative research and innovation projects through exchange of academic and administrative staff

COFUND

Co-funding for doctoral and postdoctoral programmes

MSCA and Citizens

Outreach events



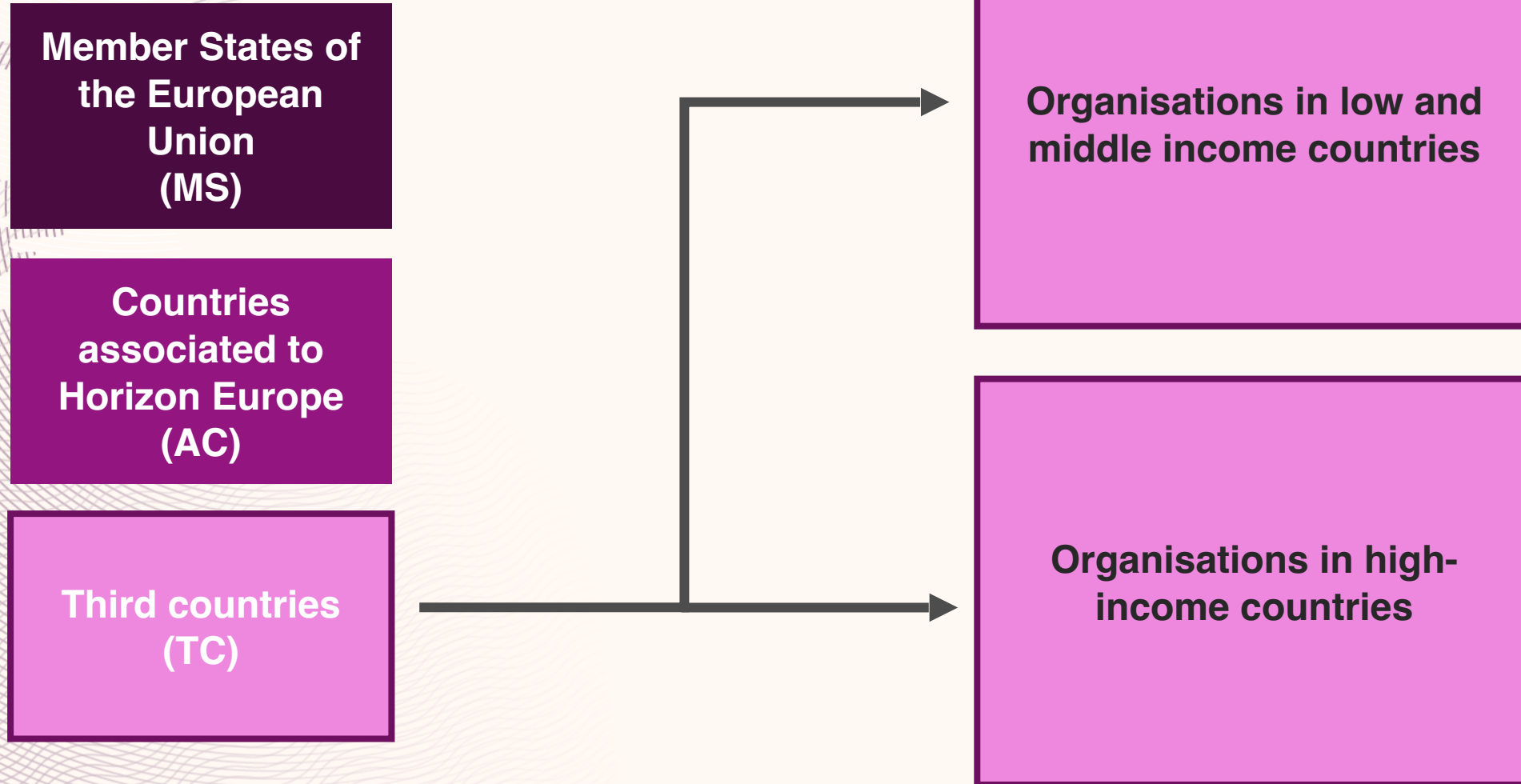
Participation of Third Countries in a nutshell

- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions provide **funding for organisations and researchers, across all scientific disciplines**
- **Organisations**
 - From **all socio-economic sectors**: universities, research centres, public sector, businesses, NGOs, museums, SMEs, etc.
 - Different modalities of participation depending on the project, **Third Country organisations may receive funding or host/send researchers, academic and administrative staff paid for the project**
 - Possibilities to **create connections, attract talents and develop new projects**
- **Researchers**
 - Open to researchers of **any nationality**
 - Some restrictions (years of experience in research, place of residence, etc.)
 - Opportunity to participate in a **prestigious funding programme**
 - Remember one word: **EURAXESS**



Opportunities for organisations

Participation



Participation of Third Countries – Status

Beneficiary organisation (Middle and Low Income Countries in Doctoral Networks only)

- Signs the contract with the European Union
- Must respect certain geographical requirements and comply with the required composition of the consortium
- Receives funds directly from the European Union
- **Can host, send and train researchers**

Partner organisation

- Does not sign the contract with the European Union
- Contributes to the implementation of the project
- It does not receive funds directly from the European Union
- **It can host and train researchers under the project's costs, and in some cases send academic and administrative staff to other organisations**

Participation of Third countries – in a nutshell

MSCA Actions	Beneficiary	Partner organisation	Third Country organisations can...
Doctoral Networks	Yes, with direct European Union funds *	Yes, but does not receive funds directly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit, monitor and train pre-doctoral staff (beneficiary organisations established in low- and middle-income countries only) Receive pre-doctoral researchers for short stays (1/3 of project duration) for research and training paid for the project
Staff Exchanges	No	Yes, but does not receive funds directly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host research staff from EU Member States and from Associated Countries 1 up to 12 months to cover the costs of the project Send research staff to EU Member States or Associated countries up to 12 months at the cost of the project (only low- and middle-income countries) Send research staff to EU Member States or Associated countries at their own costs (High Income Countries)
Postdoctoral Fellowships	No	Yes, but does not receive funds directly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host postdoctoral researchers from EU Member States or Associated countries up to 2 years at the cost of the project Hosting postdoctoral researchers from EU Member States or Associated countries for short research assignments (1/3 of project duration) paid by the project
COFUND	No	Yes, but do not receive funds directly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host pre-doctoral and postdoctoral researchers from the EU or Associated countries (1/3 of the duration of the project) for short research stays paid by the project Host postdoctoral researchers from EU Member States and Associated countries up to 2 years at the cost of the project

* Beneficiaries can be organisations established in low- and middle-income countries and receive funds directly from the European Union. The full list of these countries is available in the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#).

Doctoral Networks

- **Train pre-doctoral researchers**, with a particular focus on the acquisition of scientific and transferable skills and on their career development
- Enable the organisations involved **to attract talent and strengthen ties with leading scientific teams** around the world
- Applications are submitted by **international consortia** consisting of:
 - **at least three organisations in three different EU Member States or Associated countries**, of which at least one must be in an EU Member State.
 - From this minimum number, **organisations from Third Countries can participate, host and train researchers**
 - Special requirements for Joint and Industrial Doctoral Networks
- **Eligible organisations** include: universities, research organisations, public institutions, enterprises, SMEs, museums, hospitals, NGOs...

Doctoral Networks – modalities

Standard	Industrial	Joint
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced training and supervision through excellent programmes, in and outside academia Doctoral degree awarded by one of the academic organisations of the consortium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint training and supervision between non-academic academic organisations Excellent programmes focused on innovation and cooperation with industry, the public sector, SMEs, etc. Researchers must spend min. 50 % of their fellowship duration outside academia Doctoral degree awarded by academic organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced and joint supervision and training between consortium organisations Excellent programmes Joint, double or multiple doctoral degree awarded by at least two participating organisations

Possible stays in third countries, up to 1/3 of the duration of the researcher contract

Project duration: 4 years max.	Project duration: 4 years max.	Project duration: 5 years max.
Duration of fellowship: 36 months max.	Duration of fellowship: 36 months max.	Duration of fellowship: 48 months max.
Number of researchers: 10 max.	Number of researchers: 15 max.	Number of researchers: 15 max.

Doctoral Networks – Conditions for researchers

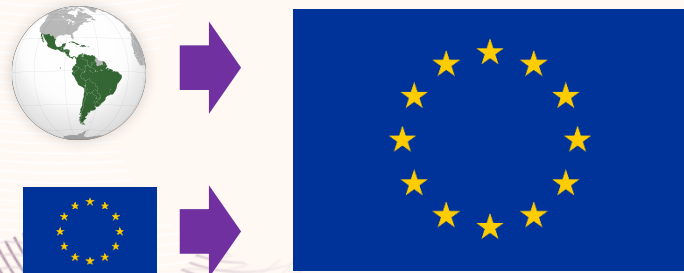
- **Third Country organisations can host, train and supervise researchers for up to 1/3 of the duration of the project**
- **There are no limitations on age or nationality**
- **Mobility rule:** the researcher cannot have carried out his/her main activity in the main host country in the EU and associated countries for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline
- For Industrial Doctorates: researchers must spend at least 50 % of their time in non-academic organisations
- Researchers must **NOT** hold **a doctoral degree** or have successfully defended the doctoral thesis at the **closing date of the call**
- **Researchers apply directly for vacancies published** by selected projects on **Euraxess**

Postdoctoral Fellowships

- Highly prestigious fellowships recognised at global level
- Support to **postdoctoral researchers** to:
 - manage their own project and boost their career
 - train and work under the supervision of leading researchers in their sector
 - acquire new skills and competences
- Support to organisations **to attract international talent, third country organisations can host researchers for periods between 4 months and 2 years**, according to the modality
 - Organisations in any socio-economic sector: universities, research centres, public institutions, businesses, NGOs, SMEs, museums, research infrastructures, etc.
 - Hosting organisations should appoint an experienced supervisor to supervise the researcher of the project
- **Funding for projects in all scientific disciplines**

Postdoctoral Fellowships – modalities

European fellowships



- **Researchers from Third Countries** can carry out a fellowship in **EU Member States and Associated countries**
- **TC researchers residing in Europe** (for min. 5 years) can carry out their fellowship in another EU Member State or Associated Country
- Projects of **12 to 24 months** (incl. short stays)
- Possible stays in Third Country organisations up to **1/3 of the duration of the contract**
- Researchers apply with host organisation and supervisor in the EU or Associated Country

Global fellowships



- Researchers in the **European Union or Associated countries** (incl. TC nationals residing in these countries) can carry out a fellowship in Third Countries
- Projects of maximum 36 months
 - **Outgoing phase: Period 12 to 24 months in the TC** (incl. short stays)
 - **Return phase: Mandatory return period of 12 months** in the European Union or Associated Country
- Researchers apply with the host organisation and supervisors in the EU or Associated Country and in cooperation with the Third Country organisation

+ 6 months (optional) non-academic placement in an EU Member State or an Associated Country

Postdoctoral Fellowships – Conditions for researchers

- Applicants must have a **doctoral degree** or have successfully defended the doctoral thesis before the call deadline
- **There are no limitations on age or nationality**
- Limitations for researchers with more than **8 years of research experience** since obtaining their (first) doctoral degree
 - Do not count: research periods outside Europe, paternity/maternity leave, periods of inactivity, etc.
- For **Global Fellowships**, the researcher must have the **nationality of an EU Member State or an Associated country or be permanently residing** (min. 5 years) in one of these countries
- **Mobility rule**: the researcher/researcher cannot have carried out his/her main activity in the country of the beneficiary organisation (European fellowships) or outgoing phase host organisation (Global fellowships) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately preceding the call deadline

Staff Exchanges

- Collaborative **research and innovation projects through the exchange of research, academic and administrative staff** (between 1 and 12 months)
- Allow participating organisations to
 - Develop long-lasting collaborations and cutting-edge research between different organisations in the academic and non-academic sectors, test innovative ideas and turn them into products and services
 - Foster knowledge exchange, capacity building, institutional exchanges, training for research infrastructures, etc.
- They **apply for international consortia** consisting of:
 - At least **3 independent legal entities in three different countries, 2 of which established in different EU Member States or Associated Countries**
 - If all organisations are from the same sector (academic or non-academic), **at least one organisation must be from a Third Country**
 - Above this minimum, the consortium may include **TC organisations**
- **Eligible organisations** include: universities, research organisations, public institutions, enterprises, SMEs, museums, NGOs...

Staff Exchanges – conditions for researchers

- Third country organisations can:
 - **Host and train research staff from** other organisations of the consortium based in the European Union and Associated Countries, covered by the project's budget
 - **Second staff to** other consortium organisations in the European Union and Associated Countries, covered by the project's budget (only low- and middle-income countries)
 - Send research staff to the European Union and Associated Countries at their own costs (high-income countries)
- Staff mobilised:
 - Includes **research (pre or post-doctoral), academic, administrative, technical and managerial staff** at any stage of their career
 - May be of **any nationality**
 - Can be seconded for 1 to 12 months, in one or several stays
 - Must have a **contractual link or have been involved in research and innovation activities at the sending organisation** at least one month before their stay in a host organisation
 - **Continues to be linked to the sending organisation and must return to it** after the stay in order to convey knowledge and continue the collaboration
 - It is selected directly by the participating organisations

Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)

- Financial support (co-funding) for **doctoral and postdoctoral programmes** (maximum 60 months)
- They allow organisations to:
 - Create, support or improve their own programmes to **attract talent at regional, national and international levels** and enhance scientific collaboration with other countries
 - Train researchers with a particular focus on the acquisition of scientific and transferable skills and their career development
- A **single organisation** from EU Member States or Associated countries applies
- **Organisations from Third Countries** can **participate as partners, define job offers to host and train researchers** and for shorter stays
- **Eligible organisations** include: universities, research organisations, public institutions, enterprises, SMEs, museums, hospitals, NGOs,...

COFUND – modalities *Doctoral programmes*



- **Researchers from Third Countries** can carry out a fellowship in **EU Member States or Associated countries**
- Researchers in **EU Member states or Associated countries** (incl. TC nationals permanently resident in these countries) can carry out a fellowship in other **EU Member States or Associated Countries**
- Projects of at least **3 months**
- Possible stays in Third Country organisations up to **1/3 of the duration of the researcher's contract**

Postdoctoral programmes



- Researchers in **EU Member States or Associated countries** (including TC nationals permanently resident in these countries) may carry out a project of **at least 15 months**:
 - **Outgoing phase in a TC** (short stays possible)
 - **Mandatory return phase of 12 months** in the EU or Associated Country



- Researchers in TC may carry out a project of **at least 3 months in EU Member States or Associated Countries**
- Possible stays in TC organisations up to **1/3 of the duration of the researcher's contract**

COFUND – conditions for researchers

- Common:
 - **There are no age or nationality limitations** (except for **Postdoctoral Fellowships outside EU Member States and Associated countries**)
 - **Mobility rule:** the researcher/researcher cannot have carried out his/her main activity in the host country for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately preceding the **closing date for applications under the programme**
- PhD candidates:
 - Researchers must **NOT hold a doctoral degree** or have successfully defended the doctoral thesis by the application **deadline for the programme**
 - Researchers must follow a doctoral programme leading to a degree
- Postdoctoral researchers:
 - Researchers must hold a **doctoral degree** or have successfully defended the doctoral thesis by the **deadline for applying for the programme**
 - For **Postdoctoral Fellowships outside EU Member States or Associated Countries**, the researcher must be a national or permanent resident (+ 5 years) in one of these countries

How to apply?

- All calls are published on [the Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal](#)
- Familiarise yourself with key documents, available on [the Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal](#):
 - Guides for applicants: overview of rules, financial aspects, etc.
 - [MSCA work programme](#) and [annexes](#)
 - Proposal templates
 - [FAQs](#) on the Funding & Tender Opportunities portal
- Find partners with whom to form a consortium and announce your organisation as a potential partner for the call for interest:
 - On the Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal via the partner search function
 - In [MSCA Matchmaking Platform](#)
 - For MSCA PhD projects, find researchers interested in developing a project with your organisation [by publishing hosting offers on Euraxess](#)
- Register your organisation to participate in a proposal or call. Follow the link to [register your organisation to get a PIC number](#)
- Check the [MSCA-NET](#) project website (useful information for researchers and organisations wishing to apply)
- Attend information events organised in your region by Euraxess Worldwide
- The [MSCA National Contact Point](#) in your country can help you.

Timetable of the calls (2024)

Year	Modality	Opening	Deadline
2024	Doctoral Networks	29 May 2024	27 November 2024
	Postdoctoral fellowships	10 April 2024	11 September 2024
	Staff Exchanges	10 October 2024	5 March 2025
	COFUND	8 October 2024	6 February 2025



Opportunities for researchers

PhD candidates

- If you intend to complete a **PhD in Europe with MSCA**, take a look at the [list of vacancies published in EURAXESS](#), which is updated daily.
- Find all the requirements of the post you are interested in and **apply directly to the institution or project of your choice**
- In most cases, you will be recruited by a host organisation for a period of **approximately 3 years**.
- MSCA funding provides a salary, mobility allowances, research and training costs
- **Conditions:**
 - No nationality or age limits
 - You must NOT hold a doctorate degree or have defended your doctoral thesis successfully
 - The Researcher cannot have carried out his/her main activity in the host country for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately preceding the closing date for applications under the programme which will recruit him/her

Postdoctoral researchers – vacancies

- If you intend to do a **post-doctorate with MSCA**, please take a look at the [list of vacancies published in EURAXESS](#), which is updated daily.
- Find all the requirements of the post you are interested in and **apply directly to the institution or project of your choice**
- In most cases, you will be recruited by a host organisation for a period of between **2 and 3 years**.
- MSCA funding provides a salary, mobility allowances, research and training costs

Conditions:

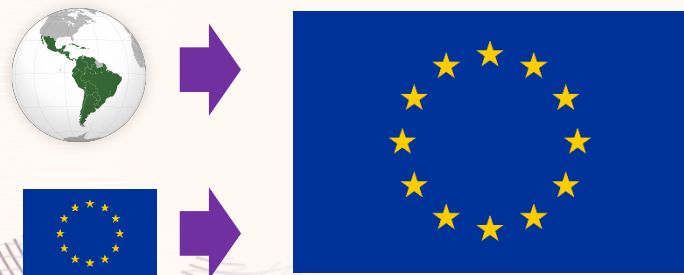
- No nationality or age limits
- You must have a doctorate degree or have defended your doctoral thesis successfully before the call deadline
- The researcher cannot have carried out his/her main activity in the host country for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately preceding the closing date for applications under the programme which will recruit him/her

Postdoctoral Fellowships

- You can also apply for the annual call for Postdoctoral Fellowships, highly prestigious fellowships recognised at global level.
- Support for **postdoctoral researchers** to:
 - manage your own project and boost your career
 - train and work under the supervision of leading researchers in your sector
 - acquire new skills and competences
- Support to organisations **to attract international talent, TC organisations can host researchers for periods between 4 months and 2 years**, according to the modality
 - Organisations in any socio-economic sector: universities, research centres, public institutions, businesses, NGOs, SMEs, museums, research infrastructures, etc.
 - Hosting organisations should appoint an experienced supervisor to supervise the researcher or researcher of the project
- **Funding for projects in all scientific disciplines**

Postdoctoral Fellowships – modalities

European fellowships



- **Researchers from Third Countries** can carry out a fellowship in **EU Member States and in Associated countries**
- **TC researchers residing in Europe** (for min. 5 years) can carry out their fellowship in another EU country or in an Associated country to HE
- Projects of **12 to 24 months** (incl. short stays)
- Possible short stays in Third Country organisations up to **1/3 of the duration of the contract**
- Researchers apply with host organisation and supervisor in the EU or Associated Countries

Global fellowships



- Researchers in an **EU Member State or Associated country** (incl. TC nationals residing in these countries) can carry out a fellowship in Third Countries
- Projects of maximum 36 months
 - **Outgoing phase: Period 12 to 24 months in a Third Country** (incl. short stays)
 - **Return phase: Mandatory return period of 12 months** in the European Union or Associated Country
- Researchers apply with the host organisation and supervisors in the EU or Associated Country, and in cooperation with the Third Country

+ 6 months (optional) non-academic placements in an organisation established in an EU Member State or an Associated Country

Postdoctoral Fellowships – Conditions for researchers

- You must have a **doctoral degree** or have successfully defended the doctoral thesis at the **closing date of the call**
- **There are no limitations on age or nationality**
- Limitations for researchers with more than **8 years of research experience** since obtaining their (first) doctoral degree
 - Do not count: research periods outside Europe, paternity/maternity leave, periods of inactivity, etc.
- For **Global Fellowships**, the researcher must have the **nationality of an EU Member State or an Associated country or be permanently residing** (min. 5 years) in one of these countries
- **Mobility rule**: the researcher cannot have carried out his/her main activity in the host country (European Fellowships) or the country of the host during the outgoing phase (Global Fellowships) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately preceding the closing date of the call.

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Thank you!

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