



**Programme
“Support to researchers for the application to the ERC
programmes”**

Call info

European Research Council encourages national authorities to set up visiting fellowship programme to fund potential candidates for ERC's calls to visit teams of the ERC-funded projects that are implemented at the time of the call and visit.

The purpose of the call is to stimulate researchers from the Republic of Croatia to apply for the ERC frontier research grants (*Starting Grant (SG)*, *Consolidator Grant (CoG)* and *Advanced Grant (AdG)*) so as to create the conditions to facilitate the increase of success rate of the ERC grant applications from Croatia.

Croatian Science Foundation will implement the call in line with the ERC guidelines published on 19 January 2016:

https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/Fellowship_Visit_ERC_Grantee.pdf.

Short information about the call

Release date: 29 March 2018

Closing date: 2 May 2018

The call is open to all scientific fields.

Applicant: researcher with internationally recognised achievements in science and/or technology

Maximum monthly expenses per researcher: 2000 € (net amount)

Duration of the visit: 3 to 4 months

Estimated end of evaluation: July 2018

Objective of the call

Objective of the call is to develop cooperation between Croatian researchers (Visiting researcher) and one of the current ERC Principal Investigator, with the aim to gain experience and to develop and prepare their own project proposal.

Accordingly, the Call's ultimate objective is that the Visiting researcher applies for an appropriate ERC grant (*Starting Grant*, *Consolidator Grant* or *Advanced Grant*) on the first call published after the visit. In case the Visiting researchers' application for the ERC grant is not accepted for funding, he/she shall apply for the first available call after that, taking into account the restriction on

resubmission. A restriction on resubmission is triggered by the proposal submitted to the first call please see the ERC Work programme for the corresponding year for the latest information on resubmission restriction.

Conditions

The applicant to the call is an institution where Visiting researcher is permanently employed. Consequently, Visiting researcher will apply for an appropriate ERC grant through this institution. The institution may submit more applications to this Call.

The Visiting researcher has to fulfil the following criteria:

- Appropriate research profile (PhD, project leader experience, established research group, relevant publications and/or patents in the proposed research field) with results recognised internationally; the Visiting researcher has to meet the profile for the ERC Principal Investigator as set out in the annual ERC Work Programme;
- Visiting researcher has to be employed at the public university, public scientific institute in the Republic of Croatia, or at other legal person performing scientific activities and are registered at the scientific activities that are registered at the Register of the Scientific organisations of the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education and which fulfil the minimum criteria prescribed by Ordinance on conditions for approval to perform scientific activity, reaccreditation conditions for scientific organisations and the content of the (Official Gazette 83/10). Visiting researcher can submit a project proposal only in the field for which the applicant institution is accredited for.
- Visiting researcher can submit only one application for this Call.
- Only researcher are eligible to apply for the ERC grant can submit application for this Call. The only exception is the researcher with the PhD that will meet the eligibility to apply for the ERC grant at the time when they finish the visit.

Visiting researchers already eligible to apply for AdG can only visit AdG grantees; those intending to apply for CoG can only visit CoG or AdG grantees; those applying for StG can visit StG, CoG, or AdG grantees.

Research shall be carried out in the Host Institution in EU member or Associated countries listed in the document on H2020: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/applying-for-funding/find-partners_en.htm.

Documentation for the call for proposals includes a list of ERC grantees who expressed their willingness to host a visiting researcher.

Eligible expenses

CSF will finance the following expenses:

- Cost of one roundtrip to and from the city of the ERC research group (by public transport);
- The cost of accommodation and living expenses in total sum of 2000 EUR net per month (the salary of Visiting researcher during the period of the visit will continue to be covered by his home institution).

Duration of project/visit

From three to four months starting in 2018.

Submission of application

The application shall include:

1. Application form
 - Part A - Information about the Visiting researcher (Curriculum vitae showing scientific excellence and achievements consistent with the ERC's instructions)
 - Part B - Outline of the project proposal which will be submitted to one of the ERC calls. The outline needs to be written in the form prescribed by the ERC)
 - Part C - Information about the ERC Principal Investigator (Host researcher)
 - Part D - Information about the visit:
2. Signed statement of the Visiting researcher that at the time of submitting the proposal to one of the ERC calls will meet all the requirements for that particular call: <https://erc.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/funding-schemes>
3. Signed statement of the applicant institution and the Visiting researcher declaring that the Head of the institution approves the Visiting researchers' leave, that the Visiting researcher will apply for the appropriate ERC grant (Starting Grant, Consolidator Grant or Advanced Grant) on the first call. In case the Visiting researchers' application for the ERC grant is not

accepted for funding, he/she shall apply for the first available call after that, taking into account the restriction on resubmission, and that he/she shall meet the requirements of the call and that the applicant institution for this programme will also be the Applicant institution for the ERC calls.

4. Support letter from the ERC Principal Investigator (he/she will describe the plan for an inclusion of the Visiting researcher into an ongoing ERC project).

The application shall be submitted in Croatian and English. The applicant is responsible for any differences in application in both languages and the Foundation is not responsible for possible differences.

Application to the Call is submitted by using the official forms of the CSF via address ercpotpora@hrzz.hr.

The application has to be complete and submitted by the deadline. Applications that are not complete and not submitted in time shall not be considered for financing.

Evaluation

External review will be used for the purpose of evaluation of project proposals. Evaluation will be conducted by the Evaluation Panel, composed of experts from all scientific disciplines represented in submitted applications. The Board of the Croatian Science Foundation will nominate the Evaluation Panel. These Panel members are experts in their scientific disciplines and will be chosen based on the call for the Expression of Interest. Former and present Croatian ERC panel members will also be a part of the Evaluation Panel.

The applications will be evaluated by the Panel members according to the criteria defined in the Evaluation form (available at the CSF's website). The following elements shall be evaluated: Visiting researcher scientific excellence in the last five years, ERC project proposal abstract (the importance of proposed research, possibility to conduct ground breaking result, scientific results) and the quality of proposed cooperation between the Visiting researcher and the ERC PI.

Panel will prepare the ranking list of projects proposed for financing. The Board of the CSF will bring the final decision on the selection of applications to be financed.

Visiting researchers' obligations

The Visiting researcher is responsible for fulfilling the following obligations:

- Participation in the research of the ERC PI's project;

- Submission of narrative and financial report (in English) within 30 days after the visit's conclusion, co-signed by the ERC Principal Investigator;
- Application to the ERC appropriate ERC grant on the first call. In case the Visiting researchers' application for the ERC grant is not accepted for funding, he/she shall apply for the first available call after that, taking into account the restriction on resubmission.

Deadline for submitting the application

Deadline for submitting the application: 2 Mayl 2018 13:00.

Applications that are not consistent with any details of the Call or CSF's Regulations shall not be accepted.

Contact

All additional information related to the Call can be obtained only by email to: ercpotpora@hrzz.hr.