



# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions 2021-2027

*Developing talents,  
advancing research*

Under Pillar I of Horizon Europe, the MSCA are the European Union's reference programme for doctoral education and postdoctoral training. They support researchers from all over the world, at all stages of their careers, with a focus on their training, skills and career development.

## Under Horizon 2020 (2014-2020), the MSCA:

Funded **1080 doctoral programmes**, of which 156 industrial doctoral programmes and 76 joint doctorates

Involved **4 700 companies**, of which **2 200 SMEs**

Involved **37% of researchers** from non-EU countries and around **1300 organisations** from non-EU and non-associated countries

Since 1996  
*budget*  
**14 billion €**  
*researchers*  
**140 000**  
(39 000 PhDs)

## Horizon Europe (2021-2027)

*budget*  
**6.6 billion €**

*researchers*  
**65 000**  
(25 000 PhDs)

## Under Horizon Europe, the MSCA will:

### Strengthen organisations

The MSCA support excellent doctoral and postdoctoral programmes and collaborative projects worldwide, promoting structuring impact on organisations

### Foster research and innovation beyond academia



The MSCA boost ties between academia and other non-academic organisations with various incentives, increasing fellows' exposure to other sectors

### Build international links

The MSCA are key in attracting talent to Europe, building international, strategic partnerships, and promoting global research mobility and science cooperation




## Towards a **greener** MSCA

The MSCA fund excellent projects in any research domain, including projects tackling climate and environmental-related challenges. The new **MSCA Green Charter**  encourages sustainable behaviours, research activities and management in line with the **European Green Deal** .

## Excellent **working** conditions

The MSCA promote supportive environments for the researchers in line with the principles of the **European Charter for Researchers** and **Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers**.

The new **MSCA Guidelines on Supervision**  promote effective supervision and adequate mentoring and career guidance for all fellows.

# The MSCA have **5** main actions

## Doctoral Networks

**implement doctoral programmes** (including joint doctorates and industrial doctorates) **by international partnerships** of organisations from different sectors. They train highly-skilled doctoral candidates, stimulate their creativity, enhance their innovation capacities and boost their employability in the long-term.

## Postdoctoral Fellowships

**support researchers' careers and foster excellence in research and innovation.**

Researchers holding a PhD can carry out their research activities, acquire new skills and develop their careers abroad, whilst developing competences in non-academic sectors and working within interdisciplinary teams.

## Staff Exchanges

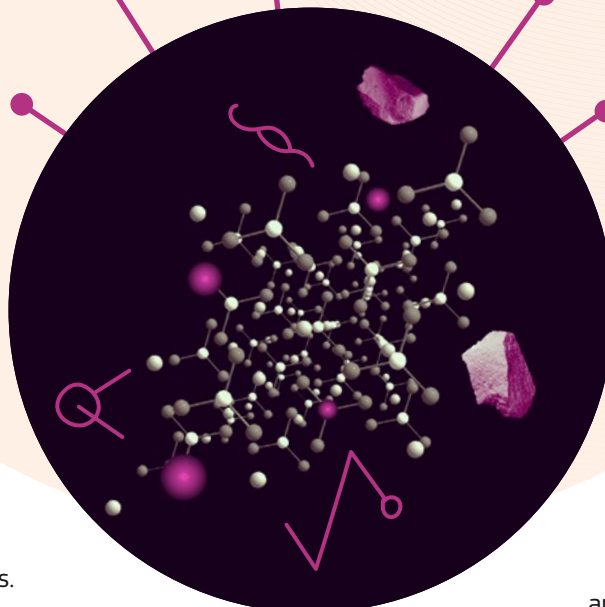
**encourage short-term international and inter-sectoral exchanges of research and innovation staff** through sustainable, collaborative projects in Europe and beyond. By doing so, they enhance knowledge and skills transfer and increase organisations' research and innovation capacities.

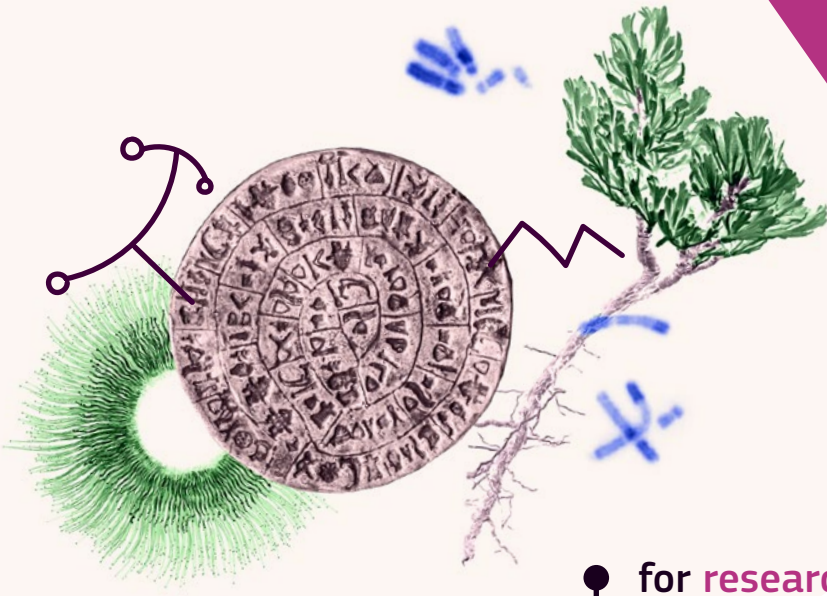
## MSCA and Citizens

**brings research and researchers closer to children, families and the public at large** through the European Researchers' Night - the annual research communication and promotion event taking place at the end of September across EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries.

## COFUND

**co-finances regional, national and international doctoral and postdoctoral programmes for researchers' training and career development.** The COFUND action spreads MSCA's best practices by setting high standards and excellent working conditions, and boosts training and international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility.





## Benefits of MSCA:

### for organisations

- High-quality research training and supervision offered
- Build up strong research and innovation partnerships
- Strengthened research capacity
- Improved human resources and working conditions to attract the best researchers
- Sustainable knowledge transfer and new international and inter-sectoral collaborations
- Enhanced global visibility and attractiveness


### for researchers

- New knowledge and skills in and outside academia
- Increased career prospects and employability
- Innovation-oriented mindset, to convert ideas into products and services
- Networking and increased visibility in the European R&I community
- International, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral experience and exposure
- Access to leading organisations and their teams

### for European Research and Innovation

- Scientific excellence promoted in all countries
- Attract and retain talents in Europe
- High quality R&I for Europe's sustainable growth
- Increased strategic cooperation and brain circulation between countries, disciplines and sectors
- New links between research, industry and society
- Stronger European Research Area (ERA)

## Former MSCA fellow wins a Nobel Prize!

In 2020, MSCA alumna *Emmanuelle Charpentier*  received the **Nobel Prize in Chemistry** together with Jennifer A. Doudna 'for the development of a method for genome editing'. Other MSCA fellows and supervisors have also won prestigious awards, including **9 Nobel Prizes** and **1 Oscar**.



## Want to know more?

Check the *Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions' website* [↗](#) to explore all the opportunities offered by the programme



The *European Research Executive Agency* [↗](#) (REA) manages the MSCA on behalf of the European Commission

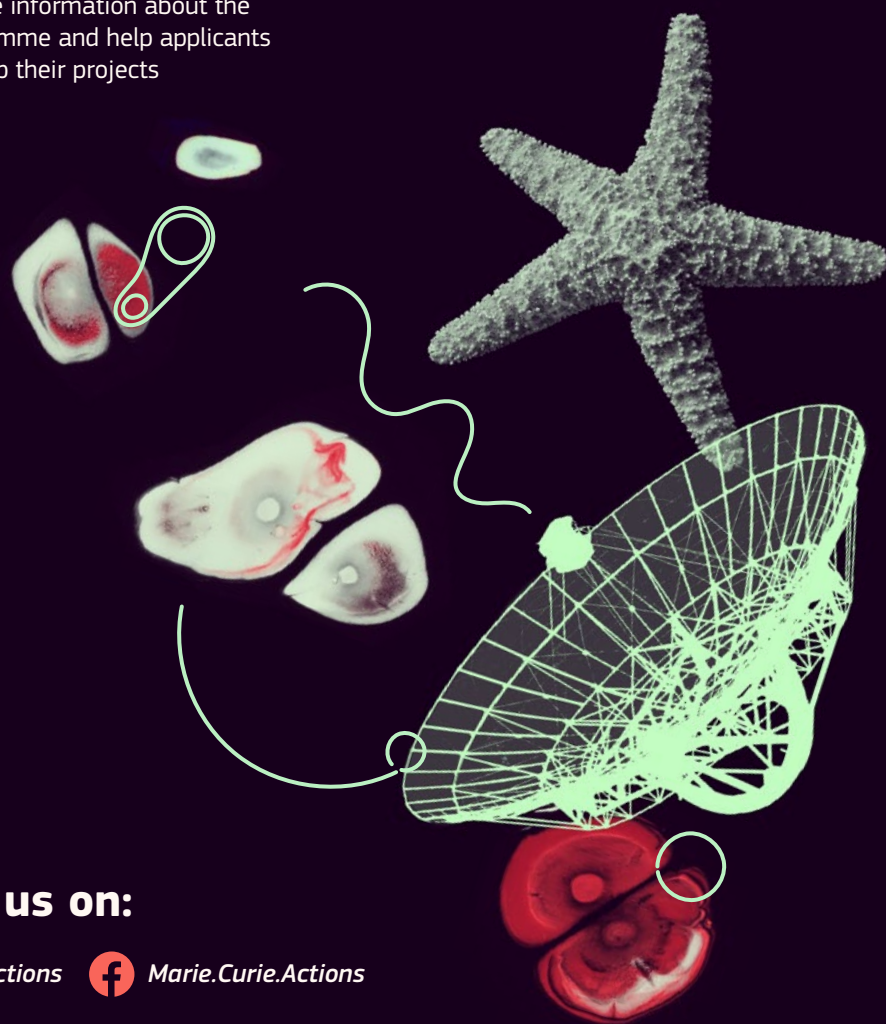


*MSCA National Contact Points* [↗](#) provide information about the programme and help applicants develop their projects

*Euraxess* [↗](#) provides support services to professional researchers, including hosting offers, PhD and postdoctoral job postings funded by the MSCA



The *Marie Curie Alumni Association* [↗](#) is the programme's global network of former MSCA fellows, with an increasing community of over 20 000 members



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