



MSCA-PF 2024

MSCA-PF: Postdoctoral Fellowships Call 2024

MSCA-PF OBJECTIVES

MSCA-PF are aimed at improving the career prospects and employability of **Postdoctoral Researchers (RE)**:

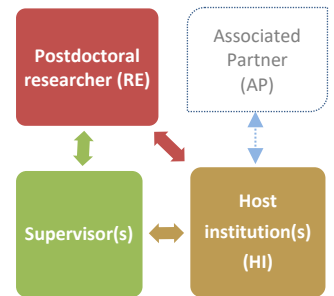
- Encourage excellence through the realization of an original & personalized R&I project.
- Enhance the creative and innovative potential of RE (research training + transferable skills) + career development support.
- Focus on i3 mobility (international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary).
- Build bridges and encourage exposure to the non-academic sector.

**TRAINING
THROUGH
RESEARCH**

MAIN ACTORS INVOLVED

A **Host Institution (HI)** established in an EU Member State or Associated Country (MS/AC) recruits the **Postdoctoral Researcher (RE)**, and signs the **Grant Agreement (GA)** with the EC, and ensures, through a **Supervisor** (staff belonging to the HI), a specific training and the performance of the project.

In addition to the HI, there is the possibility of participation of **Associated Partners (AP)**, which are institutions that provide additional training to the RE and will host him/her during *secondments* (during the project), *placement* (after the project) or in *the outgoing phase* (Global Fellowships). The APs do not recruit the RE, nor do they sign the GA with the EC, this is only done by HI.



WHO CAN APPLY?

Postdoctoral Researcher (RE): Researcher in possession of a PhD degree with a maximum seniority of 8 years*.

* The limit of 8-years full-time R&D experience is determined based on the date of award of the (first) PhD and the call deadline. In specific cases, RE exceeding this limit can declare deductions, for example for maternity/paternity leave, career breaks, research experience in third countries.

TYPES OF MSCA-PF

EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP (MSCA-PF-European)	GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP (MSCA-PF-Global)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ It takes place in an EU MS/AC and can last between 1-2 years. Researchers of any nationality can apply. ▶ The RE must move or have moved from any country to the HI, located in <u>MS/AC</u> (UPO). ▶ The RE must comply with the mobility rule <u>in Spain</u> (UPO). ▶ IMPORTANT. Try to include (one or both of the following): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least one <i>Secondment</i> in another EU entity, preferably in the non-academic sector. ○ A final <i>Placement</i> of 6 months in an entity of the non-academic sector. In this case, the project will be extended 6 months (up to a max. of 30 months (2y+6m)) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ It lasts between 2-3 years, of which the first 1-2 years will be spent in a <u>non-associated non-EU countries</u> (TC)¹, followed by a mandatory return phase of 1 year to an organisation based in an EU MS/AC (UPO). ▶ The mobility rule must be met <u>in the TC</u>. ▶ The RE must be a MS/AC national or long-term resident (>5 years). ▶ <i>Secondments</i> and/or <i>Placement</i> are possible and highly advisable. With a Placement the project will be extended (up to a max. of 42 months (2y+1y+6m)) ▶ Letter of Commitment from the TC entity is required.

¹ a TC organisation is considered as **Associated Partner** in the Project.



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MOBILITY RULE

The RE must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the HI (for *European PF*), or the HI for the outgoing phase (for *Global PF*) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline.

Call 2024: Mobility eligibility window is from 12th September 2021 until 11th September 2024.

SECTORS

ACADEMIC	NON-ACADEMIC
Universities, non-profit R&D organisations and international European R&D organisations.	Any other entity not included in the academic sector and that meets the requirements of the Horizon Europe Programme.

SUMMARY TABLE

	MSCA-PF	EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS	GLOBAL FELLOWSHIPS	
RESEARCHES (RE)	Nationality	Any	MS/AC or long-term residents	
	Experience	Maximum 8 years from date of award of the (first) doctoral degree.		
	Mobility rule	From ANY country to MS/AC	From ANY country to TC then to MS/AC	
		The RE cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity <u>in the country of the HI</u> for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately prior to the call deadline.	The RE cannot have resided or carried out his/her main activity <u>in the country of the Associated Partner hosting the outgoing phase HI</u> for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately prior to the call deadline.	
	Hosting organisations	<u>Beneficiary</u> : UPO (Host Institution)	<u>Beneficiary</u> : UPO (Host Institution) <u>Associated Partner hosting the outgoing phase</u> : Legal entity established in a TC.	
	Duration	12-24 months (UPO) + 6 months (if placement)	12-24 months (outgoing phase) + 12 months (UPO) + 6 months (if placement)	
Restriction	Resubmission restrictions will apply for applications that received a score below 70% the previous year.			

HOW DOES IT RUNNING?

The HI, i.e. the UPO, is the beneficiary of the grant, signs the GA with the EC, and hires the RE for the duration of the project. The salary is established by the MSCA programme and is based on unit costs per month of project. There is also part of the budget for *Research, Training and Networking* (RTN) expenses, among others.

The Supervisor has to be part of the UPO staff, and is in charge of collaborating, integrating and supervising the RE during the project. In the Global fellowships, there must also be another Supervisor at the TC organisation of the outgoing phase.

The RE is encourage to perform *Secondment(s)* and/or a *Placement* in other organisations during the project.

The main aim of the MSCA-PF is to enhance the career perspective of the RE and, therefore, the EU R&D Area.



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PROPOSAL

The RE must describe a concrete plan for training-based research at the HI facilities. The subject of the proposal is free choice. The [Application Forms](#) are composed of three different parts:

Part A: Administrative forms, ethical aspects and the Budget.

Part B1: *Technical part: Excellence - Impact - Implementation (10 pages.)*

Part B2: *CV of the RE, description of the HI & letter of commitment.*

EVALUATION – Part B1

- ▶ **Excellence** (50% of the score): Quality & pertinence of the project's R&I objectives; Soundness of the proposed methodology; Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the RE & HI; and Appropriateness of the RE's professional experience, competences and skills; Gender dimension & Open Science.
- ▶ **Impact** (30%): Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the RE; Measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts; Project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts.
- ▶ **Implementation** (20%): Work plan; Assessment of risks and Quality and capacity of the HI's.

Evaluation Form

MSCA priorities under HE

- Green research
- Cooperation beyond academia
- Employability & competitiveness
- International cooperation
- Academic freedom
- Gender & inclusiveness
- Open research

Proposals will be evaluated by one of eight **'main evaluation panels'**: Chemistry (CHE), Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC), Economic Sciences (ECO), Information Science and Engineering (ENG), Environment and Geosciences (ENV), Life Sciences (LIF), Mathematics (MAT), Physics (PHY).

SECONDMENTS & PLACEMENT

SECONDMENT(S): During the execution of the Project, it is advisable to carry out at least one in a MS/AC institution.

MSCA-PF European	MSCA-PF Global
Up to 1/3 of the standard project duration	Permitted for up to 1/3 of the outgoing phase or at the beginning of the Project (max. 3 months).

PLACEMENT: At the end of the project, a 6-month Placement in a non-academic sector organisation.

MSCA-PF European	MSCA-PF Global
Additional period after the standard duration of the fellowship, and has to be carried out in a MS/AC and in the non-academic sector.	

IMPORTANT: Try to include *Secondment(s)* and/or a *Placement* in the proposal, Both should bring a clear added value to the proposal.

----- CALL 2024 -----

TOPIC ID	HORIZON-MSCA-2024-PF-01-01	
Budget	271 M€	
Opening date & Deadline	10 April 2024	11 September 2024
Deadline model	Single-stage	