



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

Call Identifier: ERC-11-2017

This Call for proposals is based on the Normative Acts of the Croatian Science Foundation. By applying to the Call you accept its terms and obligations. The terms in the masculine gender used in this Call for Proposals are neutral and refer to persons of either gender.

Call info

European Research Council (ERC) encourages national authorities, including Croatian Science Foundation (CSF), to set up visiting fellowship programme for funding potential ERC candidates' visits to the ERC funded projects and its Principal Investigators. Visits should be start and end during the ERC project implementation.

The purpose of the call is to stimulate researchers from the Republic of Croatia to apply for three ERC programmes (*Starting Grant (SG)*, *Consolidator Grant (CoG)* and *Advanced Grant(AdG)*) in order to increase the success rate of the Croatian ERC grant applicants.

CSF will implement the call in line with the ERC guidelines published on 19 January 2016 available on:

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

Short information about the call

Release date: 31 October 2017

Closing date: 30 November 2017

The call is open to all scientific fields.

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

Maximum monthly expenses per researcher (for accommodation and living costs): 2000 € net per month.

Duration of the visit: 3 to 4 months.

Estimated beginning of financing: January 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, develop and prepare their own project proposal for the ERC Call.

Accordingly, the Call's ultimate objective is for the Visiting researcher to apply for an appropriate ERC grant (*Starting Grant*, *Consolidator Grant* or *Advanced Grant*), in the first available call after the visit closure. If the application is not accepted for funding, the candidate must apply to the second available ERC call, in line with the latest ERC Work Programme as well as the restrictions on submission of proposals stated in the ERC Work Programme for his last application.

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 researcher has to fulfil minimum requirements of the ERC call (<https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC-Work-Programme-2018.pdf>);
- 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 Register of the Scientific organisations of the Ministry of Education and Science 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's institution is accredited for.
- Visiting researcher can submit only one application to this Call.
- Visiting researcher has to meet the criteria for the ERC Principal Investigator, with one exception for the researchers with PhD that will meet the ERC Call criteria by the end of 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.

This Call for proposals contains the list of the ERC Principal Investigators that expressed their interest in hosting the Visiting researchers.

Eligible expenses

The planned amount for the Call is 1.000.000 HRK (around **130.000 EUR**).

CSF will finance the following expenses:

- Round-trip ticket for a visit to the ERC research group (public transportation – the departure and return dates on the tickets must be in line with the duration of the visit to the Host institution);
- The cost of accommodation and living expenses in total sum of 2 000 EUR net per month (the middle exchange rate of the Croatian national bank prevailing on the date of payment serves as a reference for the conversion from HRK to EUR). The Visiting researcher can be paid through his current institution.

Duration of project/stay

From three to four months.

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 line with the ERC objectives and principles).
 - 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 the ERC call he will meet all the requirements for that call: <https://erc.europa.eu/funding/starting-grants> , <https://erc.europa.eu/funding/consolidator-grants> , <https://erc.europa.eu/funding/advanced-grants>.
3. Signed statement of the applicant's current institution and the Visiting researcher declaring that the Head of the institution approves the Visiting researcher's leave and that the Visiting researcher will apply for the first available ERC call (*Starting Grant, Consolidator Grant or Advanced Grant*). If the application is not accepted for funding, the candidate must apply to the second available ERC call, in line with the latest ERC Work Programme as well

as the restrictions on submission of proposals stated in the ERC Work Programme for his last application. Furthermore, it has to read that the Visiting researcher will meet the requirements of the ERC call and that the applicant's institution for this programme will also be the applicant's institution for the ERC call/calls.

4. Support letter from the ERC Principal Investigator should include the plan for inclusion of the Visiting researcher in the 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 CSF is not responsible for possible deviations.

Application to the Call is submitted on the official forms of the CSF via the following e-address: ercpotpora@hrzz.hr.

The complete application has to be submitted within the deadline. Incomplete applications as well as applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered for financing.

Evaluation

The applications will be evaluated by the external reviewers and conducted by the Evaluation Panel, composed of experts from scientific disciplines represented in submitted applications. The Board of the CSF will name the members of the Evaluation Panel. The Panel members are experts in their respective scientific disciplines and selected based on the public call. Former and present Croatian ERC Panel members will be part of the Evaluation panel.

The applications will be evaluated by the Panel members according to the criteria defined in the Evaluation form (available on 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 Principal Investigator.

Panel will prepare the ranking list of projects proposed for financing. The Board of the CSF will make the final decision on the applications proposed for financing.

Visiting researchers' obligations

The Visiting researcher is responsible for fulfilling the following obligations:

- Participation in the research of the Principal Investigator's ERC project;
- Submission of narrative and financial report (in English) within 30 days after the visit closure, co-signed by the ERC Principal Investigator;
- Application to the first available ERC call. If the application is not accepted for funding,

the candidate must apply to the second available ERC call, in line with the latest ERC Work Programme as well as the restrictions on submission of proposals stated in the ERC Work Programme for his last application.

Deadline for submitting the application

Submission deadline: 30 November 2017, 13:00 CET.

Applications that do not meet the Call criteria or the CSF's Regulations will not be considered for funding.

Contact

Additional information related to the Call can be obtained only by e-mail to: ercpotpora@hrzz.hr.