SNSF TRANSITIONAL MEASURES: INFORMATION EVENT

25 September 2023
Programme

1. Welcome
2. Presentation of the political Situation – SERI
3. SNSF Consolidator Grants 2023 - SNSF
4. SNSF Swiss Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023 - SNSF
5. SNSF Advanced Grants 2023 - SNSF
6. Presentation ERC Calls - Euresearch
7. Q&A
Rules

Please be aware that we will give the whole presentations before allowing questions.

We will be recording the presentation, so that we can set it online for the people you could not participate.

Chat: you can write questions, it might be that we will not manage to answer all the questions during the meeting, but we will either answer them afterwards or directly take them up in the FAQ.

If you would like an answer directly, please raise your hand and we will answer you orally during the meeting.

We will share the presentation and the recording in the next days😊.
Today SERI’s team

Mascha Zurbriggen
Deputy Head EU Framework Programmes
Today SNSF’s team

Simona Berardi
Head of Projects

Florence Ettlin
Scientific Officer (CoG/AdG)

Marco Bieri
Scientific Officer (SPF)
SNSF Consolidator Grants 2023
Eligibility time window:

- Applicants with a PhD or equivalent degree awarded between 1 January 2011 and 16 October 2016

Applicants have shown research independence and contributions to science without the participation of their PhD supervisor. These benchmarks should be complemented by at least one of the following indicators:

- Several important peer-reviewed publications in a responsible role that had an impact in the research field(s).
- Major research monographs (for research fields where monographs are the norm).
- A substantial record of invited presentations at well-established international conferences, organisation of international conferences, granted patents, outreach activities, general contributions to science, other artefacts with documented use.
Doctorate/PhD/equivalent qualification: awarded between 1 January 2011 and 16 October 2016

Is it possible to extend the eligibility period in special circumstances?
Clause 1.11 of the General implementation regulations for the Funding Regulations

An extension of the eligibility window can be requested based on the listed reasons in the implementation regulations:

a) paternity, adoption or parental leave;
b) inability to work due to illness or accident;
c) care duties;
d) services that benefit the general public, particularly military or civilian service;
e) continuing education in connection with the applicant’s research activities, particularly internships or clinical work;

The actual delays (in weeks) can be requested or in the case of maternity 18 mo/child
Consolidator Grant: New Call Procedure

**Call steps**
- **15.09.2023** Pre-registration
- **16.10.2023** Submission Deadline
- Mid/end of March 2024 Decision who to invite for the interview
- **Interviews** 23/24 May 2024
- **01.08.2024** earliest project start
- **Send out decisions**

**SteCo tasks**
- Advice, decide on panel size and composition
- Based on peer reviews and referee reviews: decision which proposals advance to the interview part
- Based on final ranking/budget: SteCo formulates funding proposal for presiding board

**Dates**
- **September 23**
- **October 23**
- **Feb 24**
- **March 24**
- **April 24**
- **May 24**
- **June 24**
- **July 24**
CoG: Most important Changes

• Procedure:
  • 1-step procedure: the full proposal is evaluated – without a first step with only an extended synopsis
  • The full proposal is evaluated by external reviewers + panel members – not only by panel members
  • …This builds the basis for the decision regarding the invitation to the interview vs. rejection.
  • For those invited to give an interview, the external reviews, the panel members’ written evaluations, the interview (presentation + Q&A), and the following discussion without the applicant will build the basis for the panel members’ votes. (Corresponds to “Step 2” of previous CoG Call)

• New standardized SNSF CV format must be used

• No DMP for submission; only necessary for approved grants

• Proposals are evaluated on mySNF, not on the SNSF Portal
CoG: Budget and Duration

SNSF Consolidator Grants are awarded up to a maximum of CHF 1.75 million for a period of up to 5 years (in addition, overhead is paid directly to the host institution).

Applicants may request additional funding of up to CHF 870,000 for

a) eligible installation costs in connection with the move to Switzerland due to the SNSF Consolidator Grant (see Annex, section 8.1)

b) for the acquisition or use of scientific infrastructure/major equipment

c) other major experimental and fieldwork costs, excluding personnel costs
CoG: Evaluation Criteria

Scientific quality of the research project

- Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project
- Scientific Approach

Qualification of the applicant

- Applicant – intellectual capacity and creativity
CoG: Relation to other Funding

• The applicant may submit an application under the call identifier ERC-2023-CoG. **But cannot be PI** in any ERC frontier project or SNSF Advanced Grant or SNSF Starting Grant and in an SNSF Consolidator Grant in parallel.

• A researcher participating as principal investigator in an ongoing ERC frontier research grant may not submit a proposal to the present SNSF Consolidator Grant Call 2023 unless the existing project ends before the end of **July 2025**. An SNSF Consolidator Grant can only start once the previous ERC frontier research grant agreement has ended.
The SNSF awarded 54 million Swiss francs to projects selected under the transitional measure SNSF Consolidator Grants 2022. 30 projects out of the 182 could be funded. The total success rate lies at around 17%.

Applicants whose projects were rejected in the first or second stage of evaluation for the SNSF Consolidator Grants 2022 can submit an application in the call for proposals for the SNSF Consolidator Grants 2023. However, previously submitted and evaluated proposals will not be regarded as re-submissions but as new applications.
SNSF Swiss Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023
# Swiss Postdoctoral Fellowships

## Aim
- Transitional solution for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Open to researchers of any nationality
- Offer expert scientific training and academic career development in Switzerland

## Eligibility
- Doctoral degree (PhD defence at submission date required)
- Mobility rule (applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity - work, studies, etc. - in Switzerland for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately prior to the submission deadline)
- A maximum of eight years of postdoctoral experience

## Eligible costs
- Postdoc's salary and social security contributions
- Research funds
- Conference costs

## Duration
- 12 to 24 months

## Evaluation
- Fully remote setting by discipline-specific experts
- MSCA PF criteria ‘Excellence’, ‘Impact’, ‘Quality and efficiency of the implementation’
- Success rate 2021: ~10%
  Success rate 2022: ~18%
Supervisor
- Ambizione/Eccellenza fellows are eligible as SPF supervisors
- A supervisor can support more than one SPF applicant
- Supervision must be ensured for the whole project duration and grantee

CV
- SPF 2023 new standardized CV format must be used

Research plan
- Must strictly follow the structure of the template
- Must not exceed 10 pages (including references, tables, figures, etc.)

Resubmission
- If evaluation score < 6.3 then host institution must be changed (restriction does not apply if resubmission refers to an unsuccessful application under SPF 2021)
- Unsuccessful applications under SPF 2021 and 2022 can be resubmitted under SPF 2023

Further restriction
- No parallel submissions with other SNSF career funding schemes (exception: Postdoc.Mobility return grant, ERC transitional measures schemes)

Confirmation letters
- Digital signatures are permissible for host/supervisor letters
Swiss Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023

**Main changes to SPF 2022**

- Introduction of new CV format (standardized format, no research output list)
- No career plan required anymore
- Data management plan (DMP) only required for approved grants

**Timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening of the call</td>
<td>1 September 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission deadline</td>
<td>1 <strong>December 2023</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(no pre-registration)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication of results</td>
<td>June 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earliest project start</td>
<td>1 July 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latest possible project start</td>
<td>1 July 2025</td>
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SNSF Advanced Grants 2023
The same procedure applied to the CoG will be most probably used, i.e.

1) No need to submit an extended Synopsis
2) New standardized CV format must be used
3) and all proposals will be sent out for expertisation

4) There are thoughts on avoiding the interview but to give the possibility of a rebuttal letter concerning the criticism of the external reviewers
Advanced Grant: New Call Procedure to be defined, Draft timelines

SteCo tasks
- Advice, decide on panel size and composition
- Based on final ranking/budget: SteCo formulates funding proposal for presiding board

Call steps
- Opening Call
- Submission Deadline
- Send out decisions
  - 01.01.2025 earliest project start

Timeline:
- Nov. 23: Pre-registration
- Dec. 23
- Jan. 24
- Aug. 24
- Oct. 24
- Nov. 24
- Dec. 24
ERC Calls
Horizon Europe – 9th Framework Programme for R&I

Pillar 1: Excellent Science
- ERC StG
- ERC CoG
- ERC AdG
- ERC SyG
- ERC PoC

Pillar 2: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness
- Health
- Culture, Creativ., Society
- Security
- Quantum SGA
- Digital, Indust., Space
- Industry

Pillar 3: Innovative Europe
- European Innovation Council
  - EIC Accelerator
- EIC Pathfinder
- EIC Transition

European Innovation Ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology
  * Activities generally open, but eligibility cannot be quantified, as no complete work programme available.

Research Infrastructures

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area
- Widening participation and spreading excellence
- Reforming and enhancing the European R&I systems
ERC Grants

Starting Grant
€1.5M
5 years

Consolidator Grant
€2M
5 years

Advanced Grant
€2.5M
5 years

Synergy Grant
€10M
6 years
2-4PIs

Proof of Concept Grant
€150 K
1.5 years
For PIs on an ERC grant

No specific criteria regarding years post PhD
ERC Grants

No specific criteria regarding years post PhD

- **Starting Grant**
  - €1.5M
  - 5 years

- **Consolidator Grant**
  - €2M
  - 5 years

- **Advanced Grant**
  - €2.5M
  - 5 years

- **Proof of Concept Grant**
  - €150 K
  - 1.5 years
  - For PIs on an ERC grant

**Synergy Grant**
- €10M
- 6 years
- 2-4 PIs
# ERC 2024-2025 Grants Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ERC-2024-StG</td>
<td>Open – deadline 24 Oct</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ERC-2024-CoG</td>
<td>Open – deadline 12 Dec</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ERC-2024-AdG</td>
<td></td>
<td>29 May – 29 Aug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERC-2024-SyG</td>
<td>Open – deadline 8 Nov</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ERC-2024-PoC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ERC-2025-StG</td>
<td>Open call</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ERC-2025-CoG</td>
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<tr>
<td>ERC-2025-PoC</td>
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Changes to the ERC in 2024

Evaluation: New Panel - SH8
- Studies of Cultures and Arts
  - Physical Sciences and Engineering = 11 Panels
  - Life Sciences = 9 Panels
- Social Sciences and Humanities = 8 Panels

Evaluation: Focus will be slightly more on project than on PI

Eligibility: date of the successful defence (not award) of first PhD degree

Evaluation: Two new categories = ‘A’ and invited to step 2, ‘A’ but not invited to step 2

Lump Sum Pilot Scheme: ERC AdG funding is paid in one lump sum, regardless of actual costs incurred
ERC Grant Evaluation

Starting Grant
• 2-step evaluation
• thematic panels
• interview

Advanced Grant
• 2-step evaluation
• thematic panels
• interview

Consolidator Grant
• 2-step evaluation
• thematic panels
• interview

Synergy Grant
• 3-step evaluation
• thematic panels
• interview

Proof of Concept Grant
• single-step evaluation
### ERC vs SNSF Transitional Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ERC</th>
<th>SNSF Trans Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation - panels</td>
<td>28 Thematic Panels PE – 11 Panels LS – 9 Panels SSH – 8 Panels</td>
<td>5-6 ‘discipline specific panels’ that are determined after deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation - ‘high-risk/high-gain’</td>
<td>No longer present</td>
<td>Still a criteria for the SNSF-CoG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding - schedule</td>
<td>actual costs except for AdG (lump sum)</td>
<td>actual costs only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility - window</td>
<td>StG = 2-7 years post PhD CoG = 7-12 years post PhD</td>
<td>StG = 2-8 years post PhD CoG = 7-12 years post PhD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Horizon Europe – 9th Framework Programme for R&I

Pillar 1: Excellent Science
- ERC StG
- ERC CoG
- ERC AdG
- ERC SyG
- ERC PoC
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
  - MSCA DN
  - MSCA PF
  - MSCA SE
  - MSCA COFUND
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar 2: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness
- Health
- Culture, Creativ., Society
- Security
- Quantum SGA
- Digital, Indust., Space
- European Innovation Council
  - EIC Accelerator
  - EIC Pathfinder
  - EIC Transition
- European Innovation Ecosystems

Pillar 3: Innovative Europe
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology *
- Joint Research Center
  - Climate, Energy, Mobility

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area
- Widening participation and spreading excellence
- Reforming and enhancing the European R&I systems

* Activities generally open, but eligibility cannot be quantified, as no complete work programme available.
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Mobility, Career Development and Training

— Funding for excellent **projects**, skills development and **training**
— For postdoctoral researchers, max 8 years after PhD
— **1-3 years** project duration
— Additional 6 months placement in the private sector possible
— **Triple “I”** (international, intersectoral, interdisciplinary)
— **Mobility Rule** (< 12 months in the 3 years prior to call deadline)
— Funding includes **salary, research/training/networking costs** and overheads
— **Annual calls** (opening in April, deadline in September)

Two implementation modes: European & Global Fellowship
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

European Fellowship (EF)
— Mobility inside Europe
— 1-2 years
— For researchers of any nationality
— Host institution in a EU Member State (MS) or Associated Country (AC)
  Currently NOT possible with Swiss host institution!

Global Fellowship (GF)
— 2-3 years
— Outgoing phase: 1-2 years in a non-associated Third Country
— Return phase: 1 year in an EU MS/AC
— Only for nationals of EU MS/AC or long-term residents
  Swiss institution can host the outgoing phase!
MSCA PF vs. Swiss PF

MSCA PF and SPF by SNSF are very similar, **some differences** with regards to:

- Evaluation/Scoring
- Implementation
- Part-time work
- Host institution
- Funding mechanism
- Administration of grants
Horizon Europe National Contact Points

Véronique Sordet, Isabelle Spühler, Sibylla Martinelli
National Contact Points for MSCA
Euresearch Network Office
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Questions?

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