

Annex 3 Advanced Investigator Grant Call for Proposals

Call Title: Call for proposals for *ERC Advanced Investigators Grant*

Call identifier: ERC-2012-AdG

Date of publication¹: 16 November 2011

Electronic proposal submission deadlines² (single submission of full proposal):³

Domain Physical Sciences & Engineering (Panels PE1 - PE10):

16 February 2012 17.00.00 (Brussels local time)

Domain Life Sciences (Panels LS1 – LS9):

14 March 2012 17.00.00 (Brussels local time)

Domain Social Sciences & Humanities (Panels SH1 – SH6):

11 April 2012 17.00.00 (Brussels local time)

Indicative budget: EUR 679.95m from 2012 budget⁴. The ERC Scientific Council has established the following indicative percentage budgets for each of the three main research domains:

Physical Sciences & Engineering: 44%

Life Sciences: 39%

Social Sciences & Humanities: 17%

An indicative budget is then allocated to each panel within each domain, in proportion to the budgetary demand of its assigned proposals. Indicative budgets may permit a variation of the budget for each domain by a maximum of 10% of the total budget for the call. However the budget proportions allocated to projects in the three main research domains will be no lower than the percentages indicated.

The final budget awarded to this call, following the evaluation of projects, may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the call.

Union contribution: Based on the reimbursement of eligible costs the Union financial contribution shall correspond to 100% of the total eligible and approved direct costs, and a reimbursement of a flat-rate of 20% of the total eligible direct costs⁵ towards indirect costs. The level of the grant represents a maximum overall figure – payments must be justified on the basis of the amounts actually disbursed for the project⁶.

¹ The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date of publication.

² The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

³ Please consult Annex 1 of the Ideas Work Programme for the panel description.

⁴ Under the condition that the draft budget for 2011 is adopted without modifications by the budgetary authority.

⁵ Excluding the direct costs for subcontracting and the costs of resources made available by third parties which are not used on the premises of the host institution.

⁶ Commission Decision (C(2009)1942) of 23 March 2009 on the use of flat rates to cover subsistence costs incurred by beneficiaries during travel carried out within grants for indirect actions shall apply to grants awarded under this work programme.

Objective: ERC Advanced Grants encourage substantial advances at the frontier of knowledge by supporting excellent, leading advanced investigators to pursue ground breaking, high-risk/high gain research.

Minimum number of participants: At least one independent legal entity established in one of the Member States, or one of the associated countries (in the case of the participation of more than one legal entity the participants are not obliged to establish a consortium agreement).

Eligibility criteria: See eligibility criteria in the work programme section 3.4.

Evaluation criteria: Excellence is the sole criterion of evaluation. It will be applied to the evaluation of both the Principal Investigator and the research project in conjunction. For the detailed elements applying to the two Sections of the proposal see section 5.7 of the work programme.

Evaluation procedure: The evaluation will be conducted by means of a structure of high level peer review panels⁷ as listed in Annex 1. The panels may be assisted by remote referees. See section 5.6 and Annex 9 of the work programme.

Grant starting date: Due to the ground-breaking nature of frontier research projects, it is expected that all projects start within 6 months from the award of the grant. ERC reserves the right to cancel a grant if the proposed start date goes beyond this limit.

Information on the modalities of the call and guidance to applicants on how to submit projects is available on:

<http://erc.europa.eu>

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/appmanager/participants/portal>

⁷ Panel members will be compensated on the evaluation tasks they perform. Additional reimbursement of travel and subsistence will be made for assignments involving travel. Referees who may assist the evaluation panels will not be compensated.