



TECHNOLOGY
CENTRE PRAGUE

MSCA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS AND DOCTORAL NETWORKS THROUGH THE NCP LENSES

Ludmila Tysjačna, MSCA and ERC NCP
Lucie Stewart, MSCA and Research Infrastructures NCP
MENDELU
10 September 2026

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions



30
years

*Curiosity that changes
the world*



Technology Centre Prague

1. MSCA – Introduction
2. MSCA Postdoctoral fellowships
3. MSCA – Doctoral Networks
4. NCP (Technology Centre Prague) support



Ludmila Tysjačna
NCP for MSCA and ERC

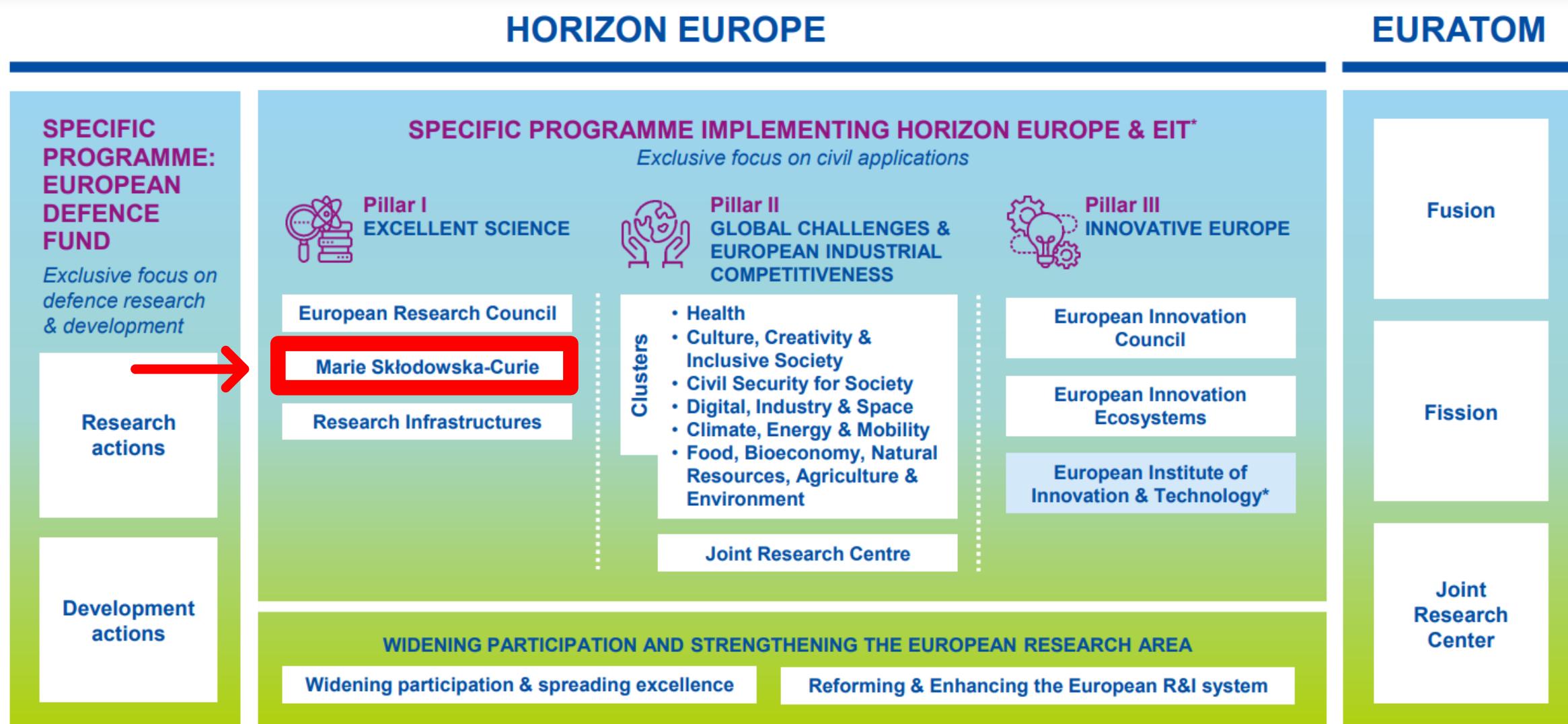


Lucie Stewart
NCP for MSCA,
Research infrastructures for MSCA and ERC



Zuzana Šimek
Support of the NCPs

MSCA in Horizon Europe (2021 – 2027)



Nature of MSCA projects

- **TMA** = training and mobility actions



BOTTOM-UP



MOBILITY



**TRAINING AND CAREER
DEVELOPMENT**

Nature of MSCA projects

- 3l dimension



INTERNATIONAL



INTERDISCIPLINARY



INTERSECTORAL

SCHEME	TARGET GROUP	IN A NUTSHELL
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)	Postdocs	Individual research projects
MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN)	Ph.D. candidates	Innovative doctoral programmes, including programmes leading to industrial and joint doctorates
MSCA Staff Exchanges (SE)	Employees participating in R&I activities	International, interdisciplinary and intersectoral cooperation through secondments
MSCA COFUND (COFUND)	Ph.D. candidates or postdocs	Co-funding of regional, national and international doctoral or postdoctoral programmes
MSCA Choose Europe for Science (CEfS)	Postdocs	Co-funded programme offering long-term employment beyond the project period
MSCA and Citizens (CITIZENS)	Public	European Researchers Night and Researchers at Schools

MSCA CALL SCHEDULE 2026-2027 (TENTATIVE!)

Call	Scheme	Call Opening	Call deadline
MSCA-PF-2026 MSCA-PF-2027	Postdoctoral Fellowships	09/04/2026 07/04/2027	09/09/2026 08/09/2027
MSCA-DN-2026 MSCA-DN-2027	Doctoral Networks	28/05/2026 26/05/2027	24/11/2026 23/11/2027
MSCA-COFUND-2026 MSCA-COFUND-2027	COFUND	16/12/2025 08/12/2026	08/04/2026 06/04/2027
MSCA-2027-COFUND-02-01	Choose Europe for Science	08/12/2026	06/04/2027
MSCA-SE-2026 MSCA-SE-2027	Staff Exchanges	16/12/2025 15/12/2026	16/04/2026 15/04/2027
MSCA-CITIZENS-2027	MSCA and Citizens	09/03/2027	08/06/2027



MSCA PF



Rules for participation

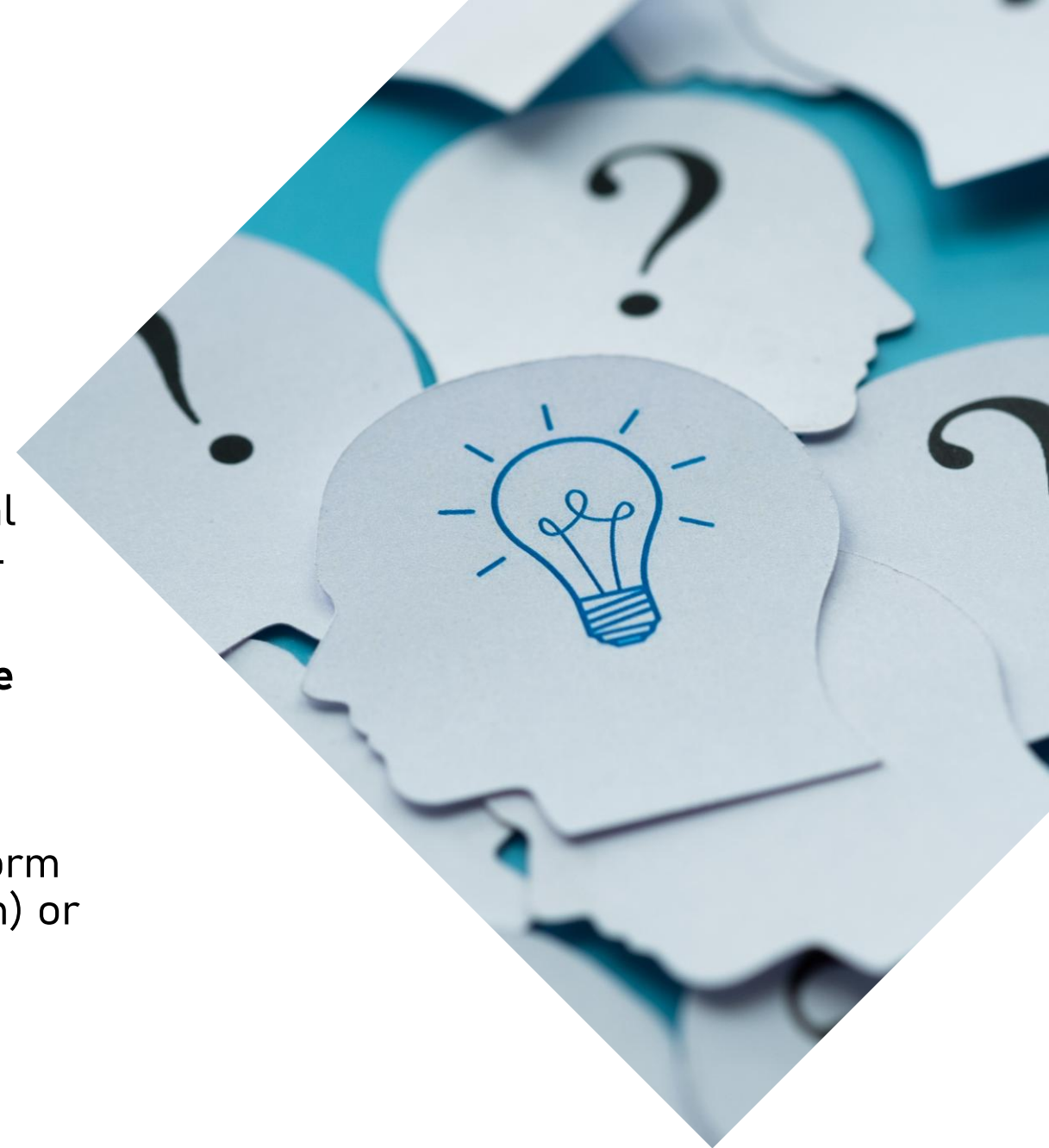
MSCA PF 2027 CALL

- **Opening date:** 7 April 2027
- **Deadline date:** 8 September 2027, 17:00 CET
- **Budget:** ~~Originally 388.57 mil. EUR~~, **NEW -> 459,70 mil EUR:** 390.74 (EF), 68.95 (GF)
- Additional Choose Europe boost of 70.75 million EUR is allocated to the 2027 Postdoctoral Fellowships Call
- [Call page on the F&T portal](#)
- [MSCA Work Programme 2026 – 2027](#) – to be updated
- [MSCA PF Guide for Applicants 2026](#) – to be updated
- [MSCA PF Proposal template 2026](#) – to be updated



WHAT IS A MSCA PF?

- **Training-through-research project under the supervision** of an experienced expert carried out abroad, **MONOBENEFICIARY**
- **Focus on a younger generation of postdocs with clearly identified gaps**postdocs (min. unconditional defence of the PhD title, max. 8 years FTE of post-PhD research experience);
- Obtaining **research-related as well as transferable skills**
- Two-way **transfer of knowledge**
- Optional stays outside the host institution in the form of a **secondment** (up to ½ of the fellowship duration) or a **non-academic placement** (additional period of a max. 6 months)
- **Dissemination and communication activities**



A) EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP

- Hosted by an institution located in an EU MS or a [Country associated to Horizon Europe](#) (specifically to Pillar I !!)
- **Duration:** 12 – 24 months, for **applicants of any nationality**
- **Mobility rule:** applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host institution for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline



B) GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP

- 2-phase fellowship:
 - (1) **Outgoing phase** in a third country of 12-24 months
 - (2) a mandatory 1-year **return phase** in an EU MS or AC
- Duration: 24-36 months
- **For EU/AC nationals or long-term residents only !!**
- **Mobility rule:** applies to the country of the **outgoing host**

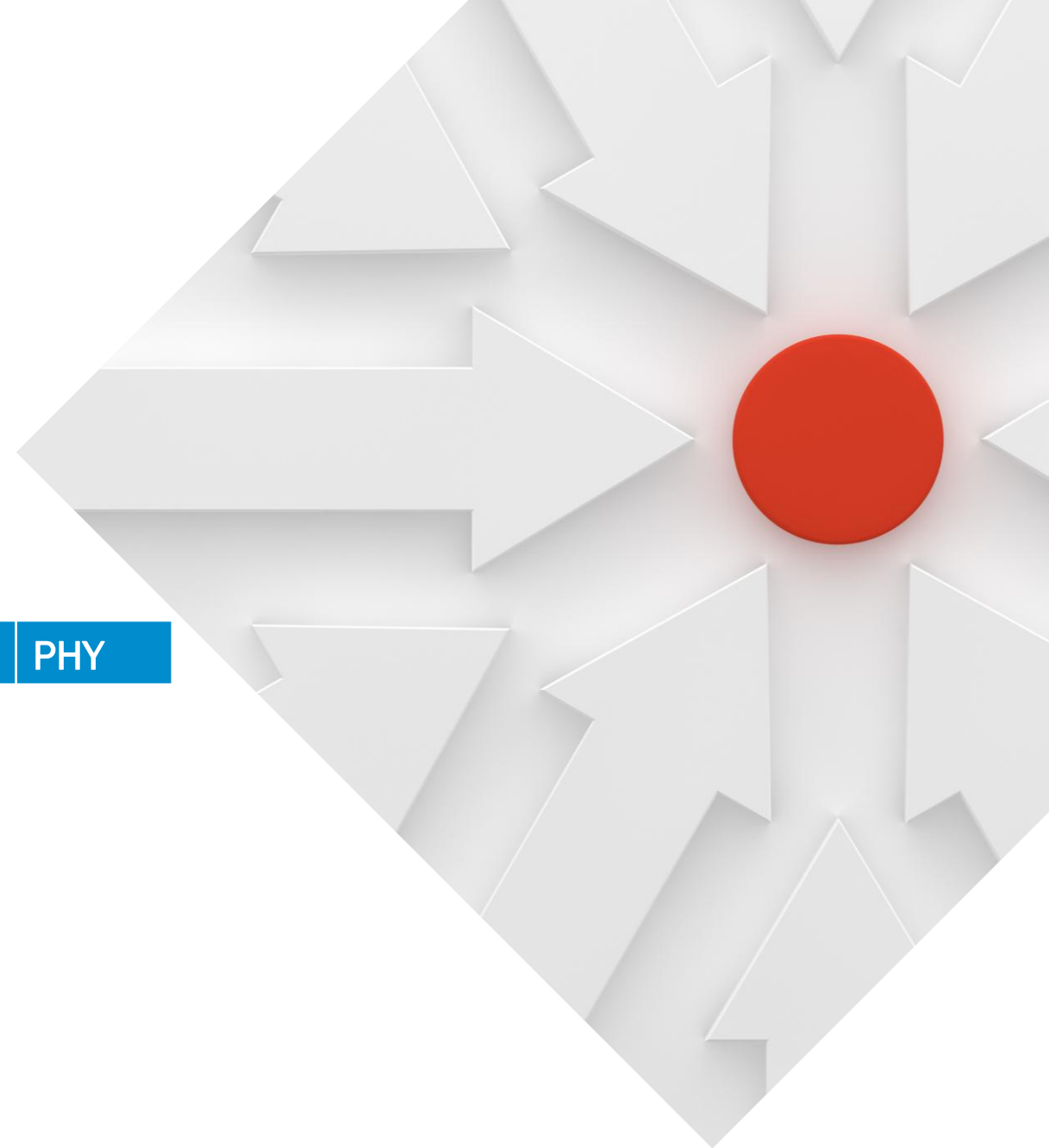


Topics

- **Bottom-up approach:** project related to all scientific fields, incl. nuclear research funded from the Euratom Programme
- 8 scientific panels

CHE	SOC	ECO	ENG	ENV	LIF	MAT	PHY
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

- In case you cannot decide which panel is the most relevant, you can make use of the [MSCA keywords](#) list



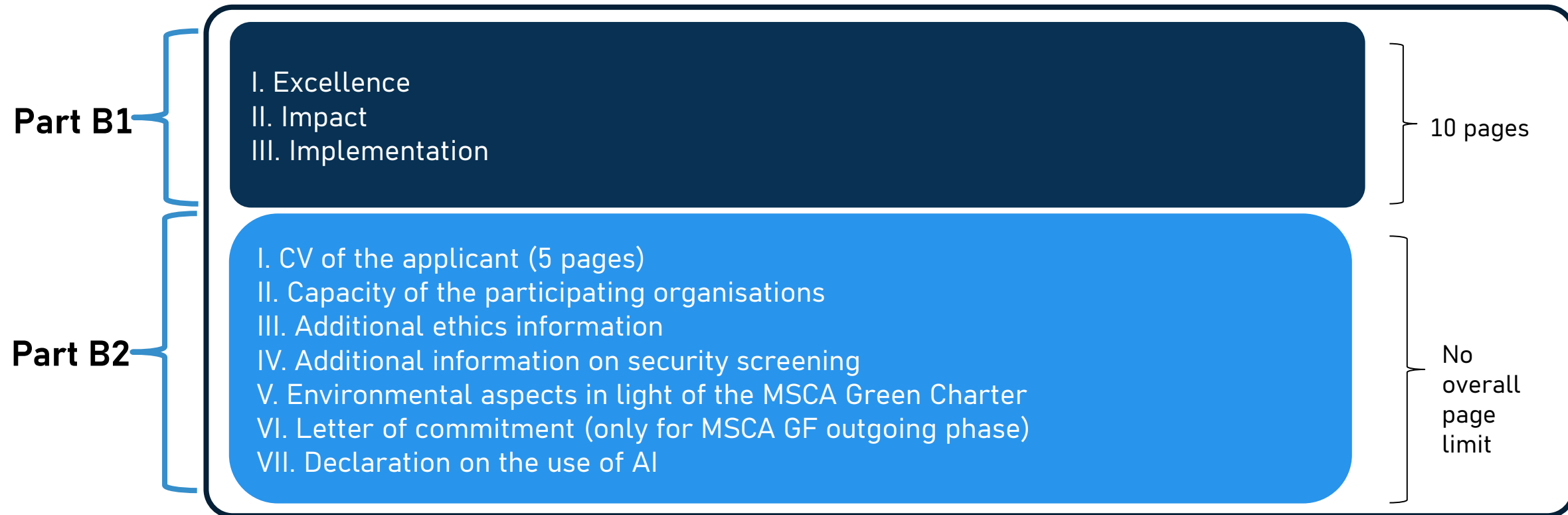
Budget structure

- Simplified model of funding based on **unit costs**
- 1 unit = 1 person-month = 1 person working for 1 month FTE (full-time equivalent)
- **100 % reimbursement rate** – automatically calculated in the FTO portal based on the duration of your fellowship and the country* (**CCC** for Czechia according to the 2026-2027 WP: **97,4%**)

Contributions for the recruited researcher					Institutional unit contributions	
per person-month					per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance	Long-term leave allowance	Special needs allowance	Research, training and networking contributions	Management and indirect contributions
EUR 6 350*	EUR 710	EUR 660	EUR 7 060 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

Proposal structure

PART A: online administrative form submitted via the F&TP – incl. panel, keywords, abstract (2000 characters incl. spaces), information about participating organisations, budget, ethics, security, possibility to ask for the ERA Fellowship



- References **COUNT** towards the page limit in B1 !!

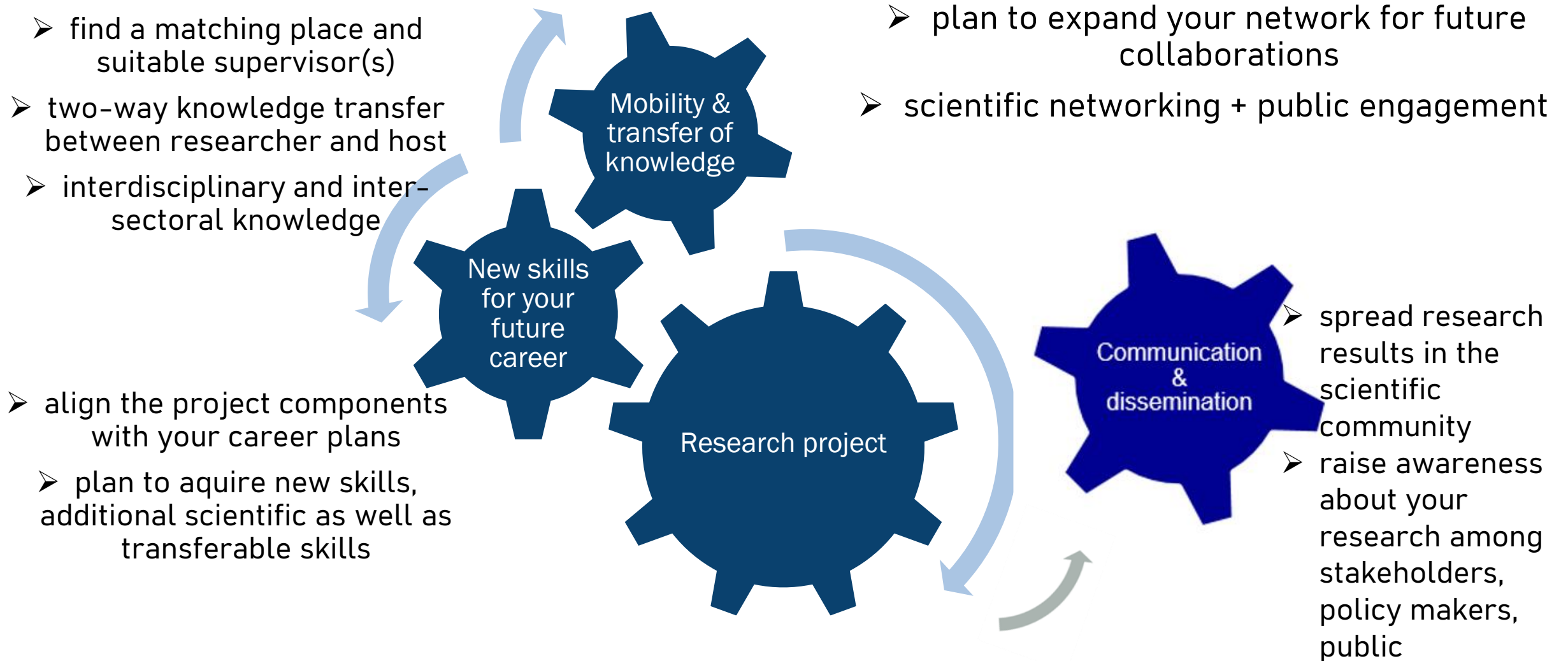
Award criteria 2027

Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious , and go beyond the state of the art)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan , assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	Quality and capacity of the host institutions and participating organisations , including hosting arrangements
Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts	
Quality and appropriateness of the researcher's professional experience, competences and skills		
50%	30%	20%

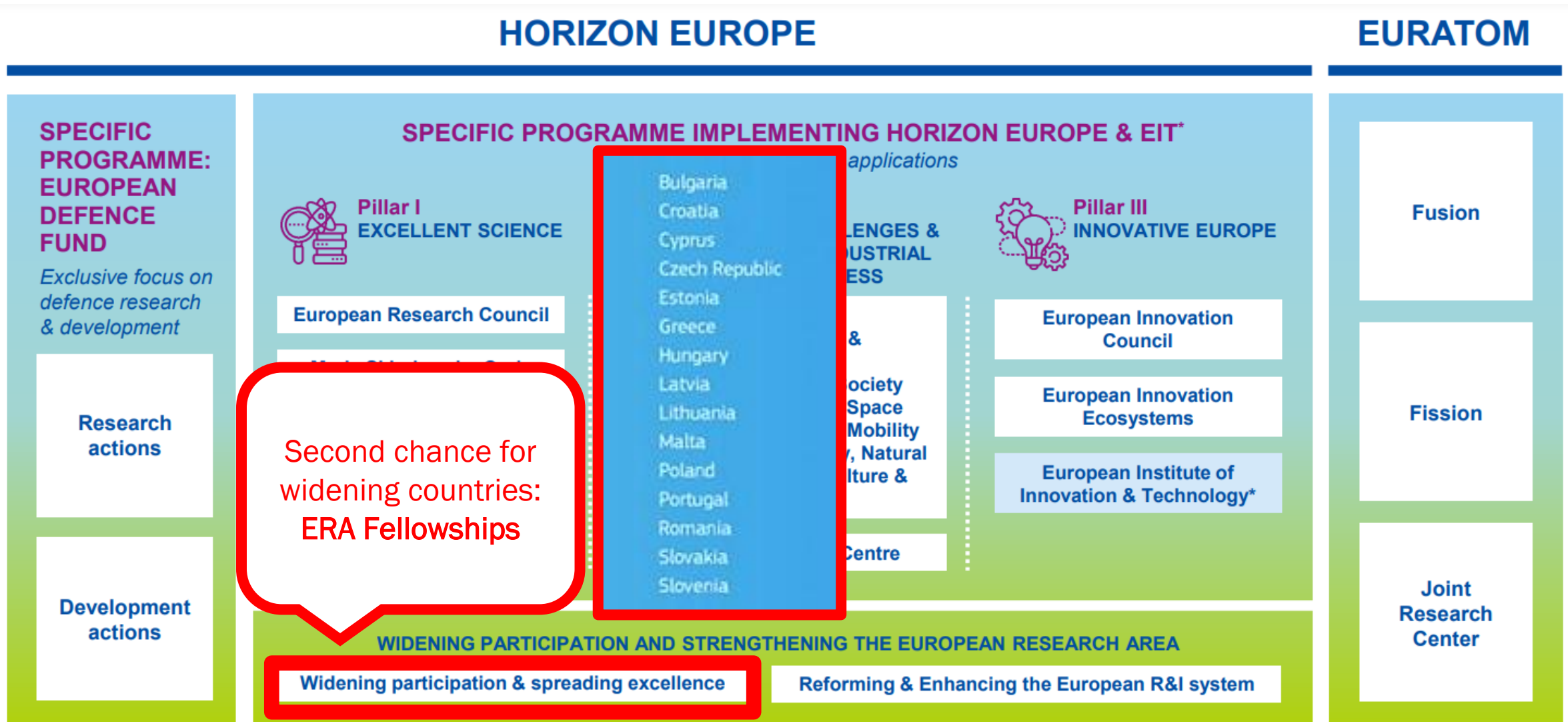
NEW in 2027



PRACTICAL TIPS



MSCA in Horizon Europe (2021 – 2027)



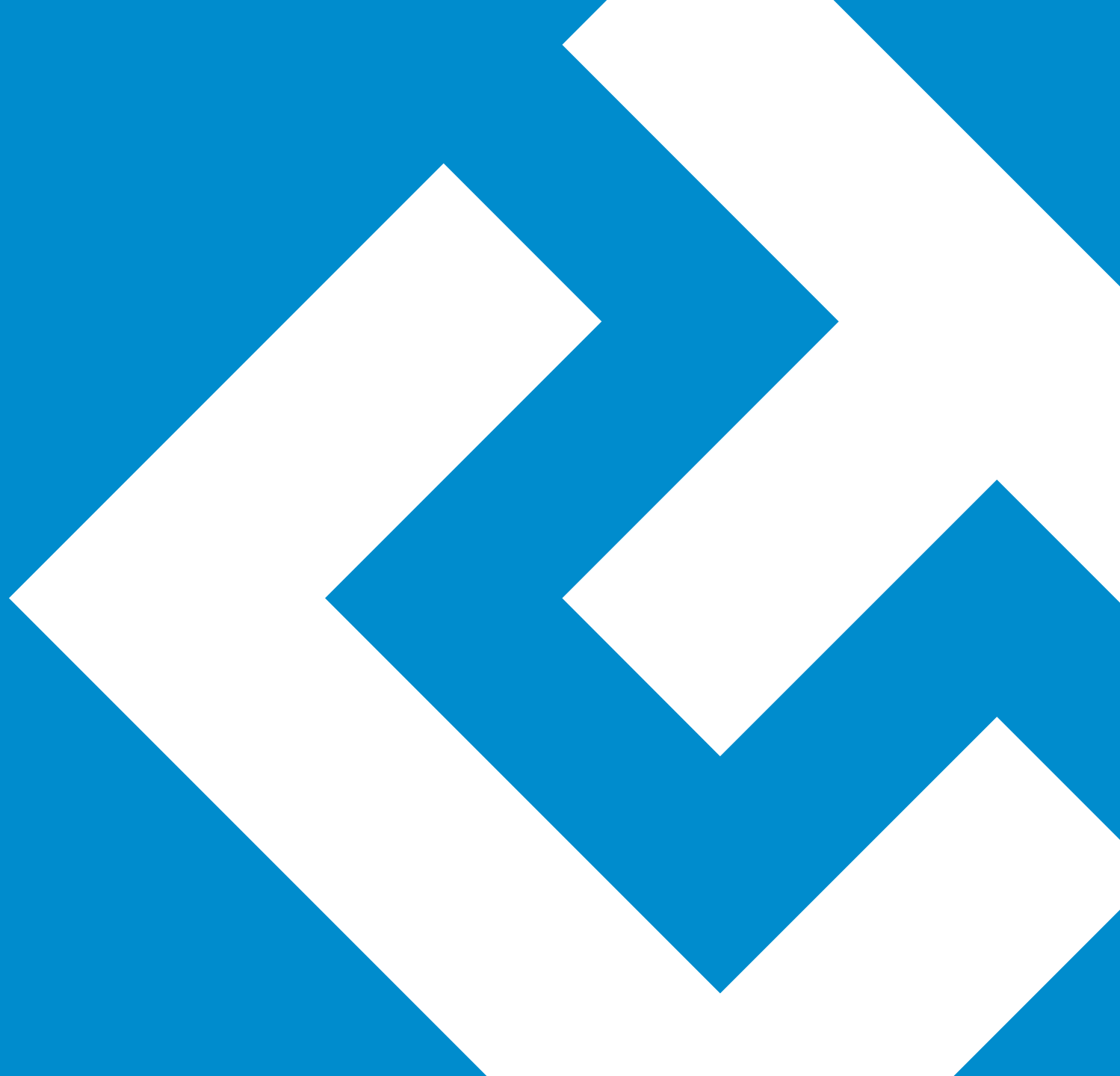
ERA FELLOWSHIPS

- *Alternative funding*
- A specific support to researchers of any nationality who plan to undertake their fellowship in a widening country.
- The aim is to help spread excellence and contribute to fostering balanced brain circulation in widening countries. The target group are host organisations located in Widening Countries.
- **No separate application** or evaluation → In the application MSCA-PF you indicate that if not selected for funding, you want to apply for the ERA Fellowship (Automatic resubmission)
- Only for **European Postdoctoral Fellowships**
- The Proposals must fulfil the admissibility and eligibility conditions of the MSCA PF 2026 and pass all the thresholds for that call. Only proposals scoring over 70% in the PF Call will be considered.



MSCA DOCTORAL NETWORKS

MSCA DN



MSCA DN IN A NUTSHELL

- International, multi-partner, innovative PhD training programme with a clear **European added value** that provides an **overarching thematic framework for individual doctoral projects**
- Aims to train a new generation of PhD researchers through both **research and transferable-skills training** at the local level as well as network-wide
- PhD candidates are expected to undertake international mobility and can also have **secondments** in other organisations/sectors



Standard Doctoral Networks

- 💰 540 PM
- ⌚ Project duration: max. 48 months
- 🏆 Individual fellowship: 3 – 36 months
- 🌐 Secondment: up to 50% (NEW from 2026)

Industrial Doctorates

- PhD programme with at least 50% of the time spent in the non-academic sector
- Joint supervision (academic and non-academic) required
- 💰 540 PM
- ⌚ Project duration: max. 48 months
- 🏆 Individual fellowship: 3 – 36 months
- 🌐 Secondment: no limitation

Joint Doctorates

- PhD programme leading to a joint/double/multiple doctoral degree
- Joint admission, selection, training, supervision and governance
- 💰 540 PM
- ⌚ Project duration: max. 60 months
- 🏆 Individual fellowship: 3 – 48 months
- 🌐 Secondment: no limitation

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

- Consortium-based project:
 - Min. **3 independent legal entities** from an EU MS/HE AC, with at least 1 beneficiary from an EU MS
 - Not more than **40% of the budget** can go to the same country or a single international organisation
 - Each beneficiary must recruit **at least 1 DC**
- Beneficiaries (i.e. **recruiting entities**) can be **from the academic as well as non-academic sector**
 - If none of beneficiaries can award the PhD degree, a university which can must be added in the consortium as an associated partner (or an associated partner linked to a beneficiary)
- Beneficiaries:
 - EU MS
 - HE associated countries (to Pillar I !)
 - Low- and middle-income third countries
 - Exceptional funding possible if the participation of a high-income third country is deemed essential (must be requested in the proposal)



ELIGIBLE RESEARCHERS

■ HOW?

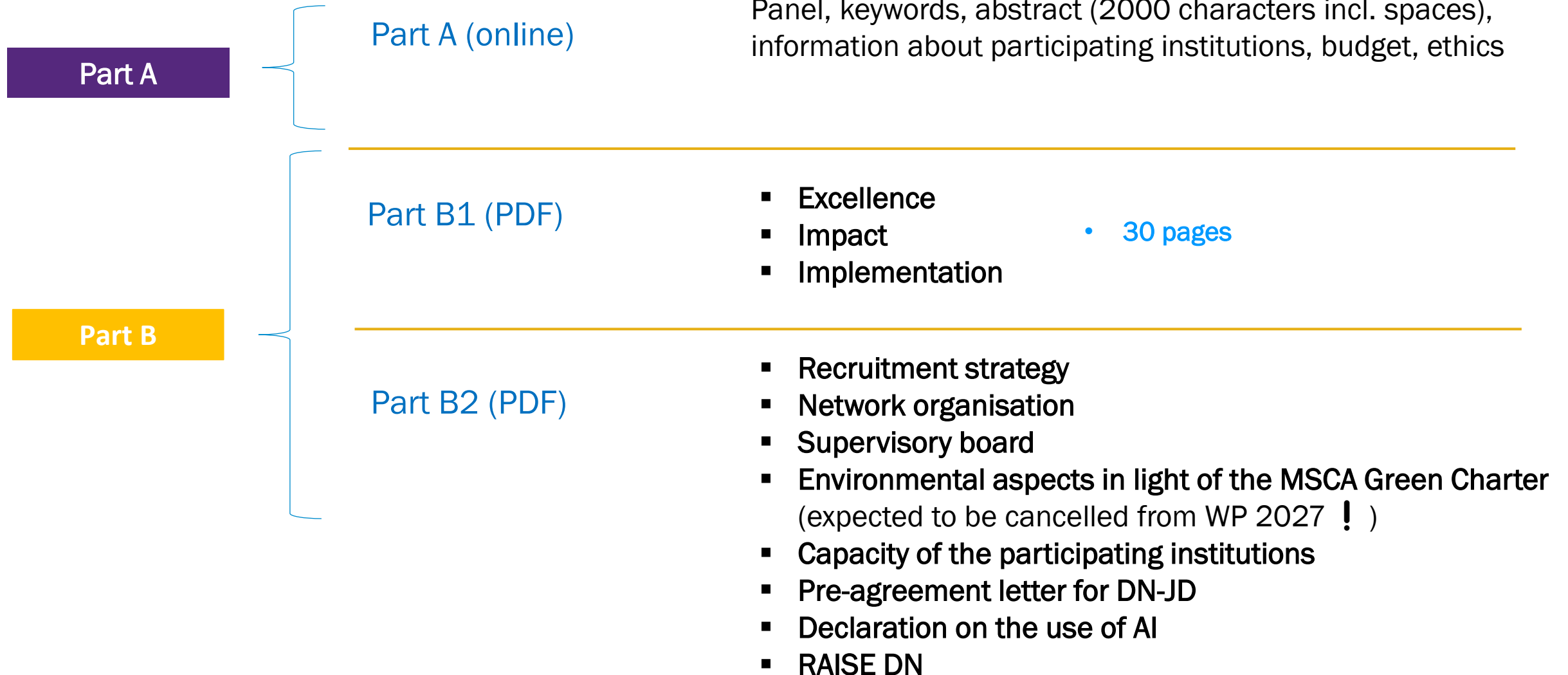
- Following an open, merit-based and transparent recruitment
- Positions must be advertised internationally, at least at the EURAXESS portal
- Obligatory enrollment in a PhD programme
 - Researchers must be enrolled in a doctoral programme leading to the award of a doctoral degree in at least one EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.
 - By way of **exception**, where researchers are recruited by beneficiaries established in non-associated third countries, enrolment may take place solely in a doctoral programme offered in the country of the beneficiary. (NEW from 2026)

■ WHO?

- Doctoral candidates (i.e. not already possessing a PhD degree at the date of recruitment)
- Any nationality
- **Mobility rule** – in case of multiple recruitment, the rule applies only to the first beneficiary



PROJECT STRUCTURE



EVALUATION

- Evaluation panels

CHE	SOC	ECO	ENG	ENV	LIF	MAT	PHY
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

- Evaluation criteria

1. Excellence (50%)
2. Impact (30%)
3. Quality and Efficiency of Implementation (20%)

- A min. **threshold** of **3** per criterion must be surpassed (**NEW from 2026**)
- A min. **score** of **70%** to be considered for funding
- **Resubmission restriction**: 70% or more of the same recruiting organisations as in a previous proposal that received a score of less than 80%

Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Contribution to structuring doctoral training at the European level and to strengthening European innovation capacity, including the potential for: a) meaningful contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral training, as appropriate to the implementation mode and research field b) developing sustainable elements of doctoral programmes	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of researchers and contribution to their skills development	Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the consortium <u>as a whole brings together the necessary expertise</u>
Quality and credibility of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary inter-sectoral and gender as well as other diversity aspects)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	
Quality of the supervision (including mandatory joint supervision for industrial and joint doctorate projects)		
50%	30%	20%

Subcriterion 2.4
 (The magnitude and importance of
 the project's contribution to the
 expected scientific, societal and
 economic impacts)
 deleted !
 (applicable from the WP 2027)



FUNDING

- Unit costs, 1 unit = 1 person-month of an eligible DC, 100% reimbursement rate

Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month						Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Budget category	Living allowance*	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance** (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
Amount	EUR 4 250	EUR 710	EUR 660	EUR 4 960 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 600	EUR 1 200

- * Country Correction Coefficient (CZ: 97,4%)
- ** Pre-defined categories: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

ELEMENTS OF A STRONG DN

- ✓ Important research challenge with complementary PhD projects (research that requires a network rather than a collection of independent PhDs)
- ✓ Training needs should reflect the actual needs of the doctoral candidates and their future careers
- ✓ Meaningful international and inter-sectoral mobility
- ✓ Clearly defined supervisory structures and responsibilities with complementary expertise among supervisors
- ✓ Network structure uniquely positioned to provide such a novel training
- ✓ Convincing and coherent narrative throughout



NCP SUPPORT

—
How can we help?



Postdoctoral Fellowship Handbook Call 2026

NETWORK OF THE NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS FOR THE MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

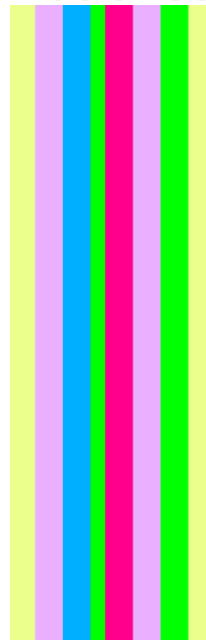
Task 3.1 Handbooks and Submission
Guides
Issued by: DLR (DE)
Issued date: 01 June 2026
Work Package Leader: RANNIS (IS)



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

HANDBOOKS & SUBMISSION GUIDES

Radiancē^{MSCA}



How to submit your MSCA – Postdoctoral Fellowships – 2026 project proposal

NETWORK OF THE MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS
NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS

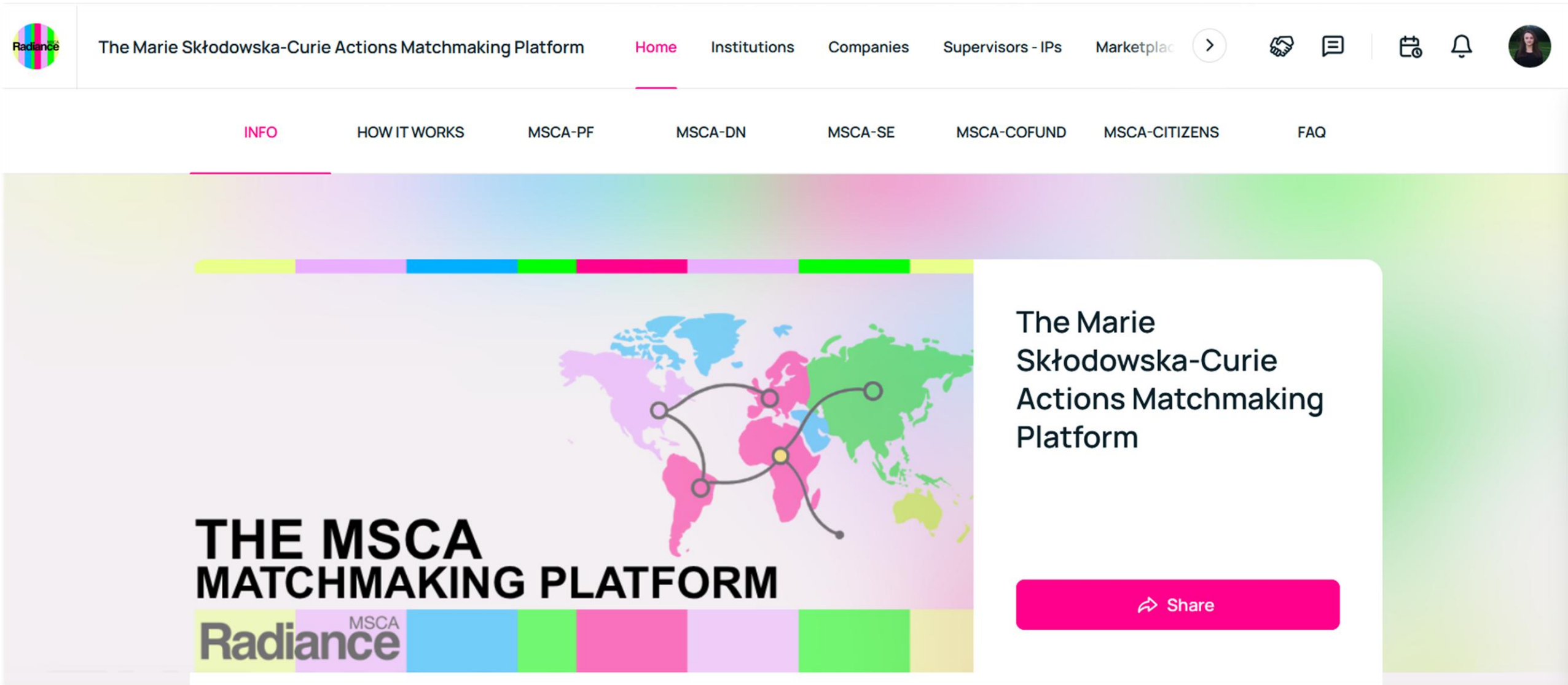
Task 3.1 Submission Guides
Issued by: TUBITAK, Türkiye
Issued date: 15 June 2026
Work Package Leader: RANNIS (IS)



Funded by
the European Union.

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.





→ **B2MATCH.COM/E/RADIANCE-MSCA**



HORIZONT EVROPA

Tým Služby Aktuality Kalendář Úspěšné příběhy Výzvy Struktura Horizontu Evropa a ERA E-learning

Aktuality



Zájem o MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships opět láme rekordy

Žadatelé a žadatelky do výzvy MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025, která se včera uzavřela, individuální projekty přihlásilo celkem 17058 uchazečů a uchazeček. Mezzočně tak zájem

11.09.2025



Věda očima dětí: Popularizační soutěž MSCA

U příležitosti 30. let Akce Marie Skłodowska-Curie vyhlašuje Evropská komise unikátní soutěž, jejímž cílem je přiblížit excelentní vědu nejmladšímu publiku. Evropská komise hledá 20 autorů



Nové schéma MSCA k udržení talentů ve vědě

Dne 14. května 2025 byl přijat aktualizovaný Pracovní program MSCA pro rok 2025. Novinkou, MSCA Volte Evropu pro vědu (MSCA Choose Europe for Science). Hlavním cílem nového nástroje



Zviditelněte svůj výzkum na Falling Walls Lab MSCA 2025 pitch competition

Evropská komise hledá 18 komunikátorů a komunikátorek vědy napříč disciplínami, kteří mají gminutových pitches. Během krátkých proslavů musí fellows objasnit, jak jejich výzkum boří n



Expertní pre-evaluační projektových návrhů MSCA COFUND

Vážně uvažujete o podání projektového návrhu do výzvy MSCA COFUND 2025? Technologické žadatelství institucí nechť si projektový návrh okomentovat expertkou s bezprostřední zp



Staňte se MSCA fellow měsíce

Evropská komise spustila novou iniciativu k šíření povědomí o projektech MSCA a jejich dopadu. Měsíční výjde na webu Evropské komise rozhovor s některým z MSCA fellows o jejich osobních



Výsledky druhé výzvy MSCA4Ukraine

Byly oznámeny výsledky druhé výzvy MSCA4Ukraine na podporu ukrajinských vědců a vědkyň přesídlit do zahraničí. Na druhou výzvu alokovala EU rozpočet 10 mil. €. Tato částka umožnila



Hledáte zahraniční hostitelskou instituci pro postdoktorandskou stáž?

Při příležitosti blížícího se otevření výzvy MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025 (předpokládá instituci majících zájem hostit postdoktorandy, kteří se budou letos ucházet o grant MSCA PF



Ve výzvě MSCA COFUND 2024 uspěl další český koordinátor

Dne 14. února 2025 Evropská komise (EK) zveřejnila výsledky výzvy MSCA COFUND 2024, jejíž spolufinancování regionální, národní a mezinárodní programy, které mají do Evropy přilákat l

VADEMECUM

Horizont Evropa

2023

Akce Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Petra Fedorová

Jiří Kotouček

Milena Lojková

Zuzana Šimek

Lyudmyla Tysyachna





TECHNOLOGICKÉ

CENTRUM PRAHA

Want to have your project pre-screened before the submission?

→ Send us your complete proposal

3 weeks

before the call deadline at the latest



SAVE THE DATE !

Join us for a conference **‘30 Years of MSCA in Czechia: Lessons Learned and What’s Next?’**

- *‘From MSCA Fellows to Leaders – Individual Stories’*
- *‘MSCA’s Structuring Effects – Institutional Legacy and Future’*
- **WHEN:** 24 November 2026
- **WHERE:** TC Prague, in-person only



QUESTIONS?

www.tc.cz