TECHNOLOGY CENTRE CAS

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Zuzana Čapková, MSCA and ERC NCP

Information Day on MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships
under Horizon Europe, 21 May 2021

Objectives

- To familiarize participants with new rules under HE
- To guide them through award criteria
- To get them ready for proposal writing and submission

Speakers:

- **Zuzana Čapková**, MSCA NCP, Technology Centre CAS
- **Petra Fedorová**, Technology Centre CAS

Agenda

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Introduction on MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

2

How should your proposal be structured?

3

How to write a competitive MSCA PF proposal?

4

Support to applicants (national and institutional)

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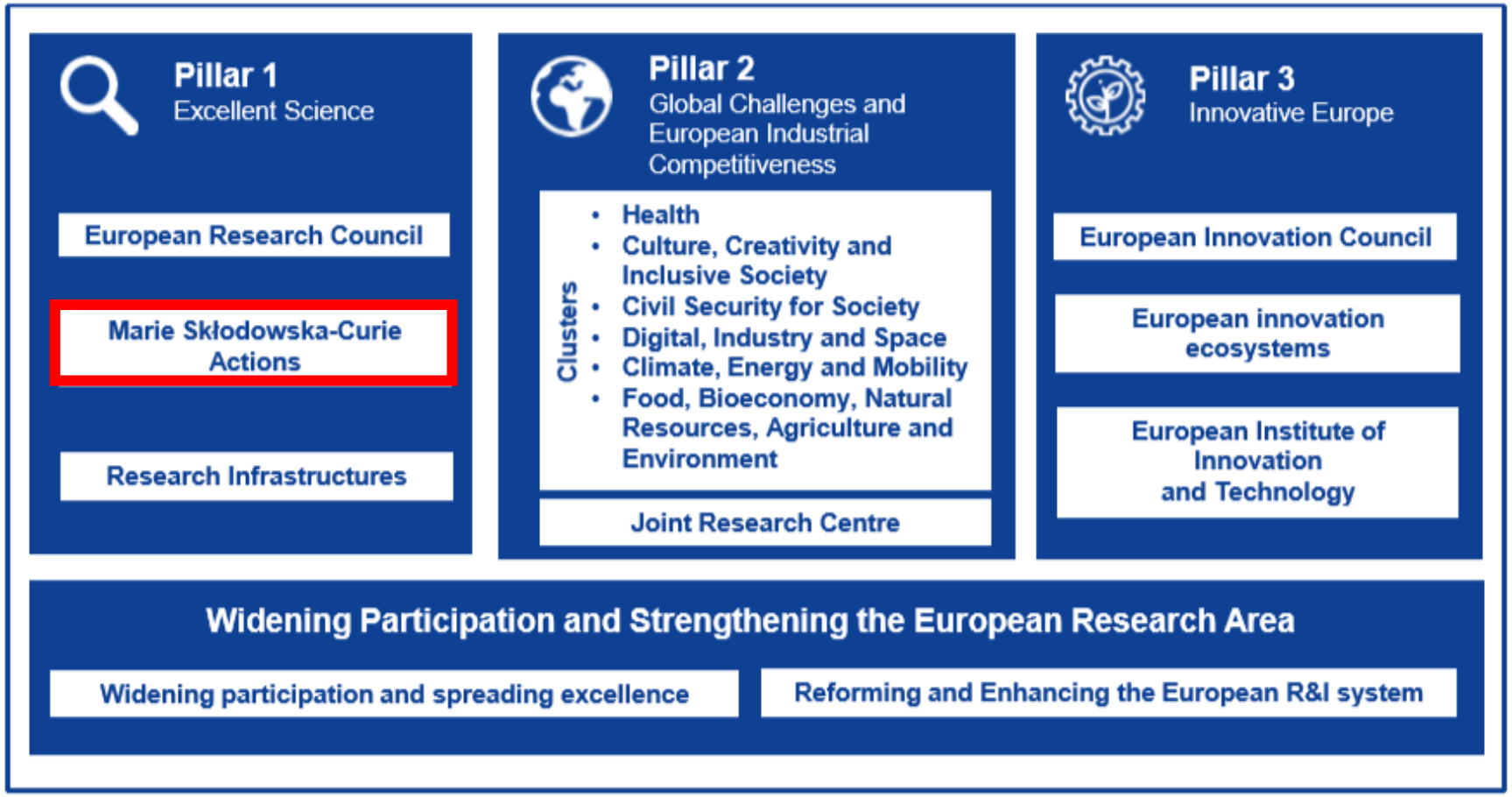
INTRODUCTION ON MSCA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

MSCA in Horizon Europe

New Framework Programme (2021-2027)

MSCA support researchers' mobility, training and career development



HE budget (2021-2027)

Horizon Europe Budget: €95.5 billion (2021-2027)

(including €5.4 billion from NGEU – Next Generation Europe – programme of EU for Recovery from COVID-19 crisis)

Terminology I

Participating countries:

- **EU Member States** (MS)
- **Associated Countries** (AC) = third country which is party to an international agreement with the EU
- **Third Countries** (TC) = not associated to Horizon Europe, the rest of the world

2 categories of researchers according to scientific age:

- **Doctoral Candidates** = not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment.
- **Postdoctoral Researchers** = at the date of the call deadline in a possession of a doctoral degree, defined as a successfully defended doctoral thesis, even if the doctoral degree has yet to be awarded.

- **Interdisciplinarity** = integration of information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts or theories from two or more scientific disciplines.

Terminology II

Academic sector

- Public or private higher education establishments
- Public or private non-profit research organisations
- International European Research Organisations

Non-academic sector

- Any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector

Key features of the MSCA

MSCA PF in Horizon Europe

Horizon 2020 (2014-2020)	Horizon Europe (2021-2027)	Who?
Innovative Training Networks (ITN)	Doctoral Networks (DN)	Doctoral Candidates
Individual Fellowships (IF)	Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)	Postdoctoral Researchers
Research and Innovation Staff Exchanges (RISE)	Staff Exchanges (SE)	Any type of research-related staff
Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)	COFUND (COFUND)	Doctoral Candidates, Postdoctoral Researchers
European Researchers' Night (NIGHT)	MSCA and Citizens (CITIZENS)	Public

QUESTIONS?

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INTRODUCTION ON MSCA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

Lessons learned from MSCA IF under H2020

MSCA IF under Horizon 2020: Summary

MSCA-IF-2020 (overall results):

- 11 573 submitted proposals (↑ 1 698, 17%)
- 1630 proposed for funding
- Success rate: 14,98 %

MSCA-IF-2020 (CZ):

- 21 out of 142 submitted proposals were funded
- Success rate: 14,79 % (2019: 8,13 %)

MSCA-IF-2020: Cut-off scores

Number of eligible proposals	632 proposals	707 proposals	230 proposals	1230 proposals	175 proposals	1188 proposals	1052 proposals	1929 proposals	194 proposals	993 proposals	2105 proposals	62 proposals	16 proposals	109 proposals	144 proposals	137 proposals	12 proposals	71 proposals	396 proposals
Cut off score for funding*	90,0	92,4	88,6	93,0	95,0	94,0	93,6	94,4	93,8	92,4	93,4	90,2	93,0	92,2	91,8	90,8	93,8	92,6	90,4
Score equal to or above	CAR	RI	SE	ST-CHE	ST-ECO	ST-ENG	ST-ENV	ST-LIF	ST-MAT	ST-PHY	ST-SOC	GF-CHE	GF-ECO	GF-ENG	GF-ENV	GF-LIF	GF-MAT	GF-PHY	GF-SOC
100	0,00%	0,14%	0,43%	0,16%	0,57%	0,25%	0,29%	0,41%	0,00%	0,00%	0,29%	0,00%	0,00%	1,83%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,25%
99	0,16%	1,13%	1,30%	0,24%	1,14%	0,76%	1,05%	0,98%	0,00%	0,30%	0,95%	1,61%	6,25%	1,83%	1,39%	2,19%	0,00%	0,00%	0,25%
98	1,11%	3,68%	2,61%	1,46%	4,00%	1,68%	2,09%	3,47%	1,55%	1,51%	2,85%	3,23%	12,50%	6,42%	2,08%	5,11%	0,00%	2,82%	1,77%
97	2,53%	5,09%	3,04%	2,93%	6,86%	2,95%	4,75%	5,70%	2,06%	2,52%	3,90%	4,84%	12,50%	7,34%	5,56%	8,03%	0,00%	8,45%	2,78%
96	4,43%	8,06%	6,52%	4,55%	9,14%	5,64%	6,37%	8,14%	5,67%	3,93%	5,94%	8,06%	12,50%	9,17%	10,42%	8,76%	8,33%	8,45%	5,05%
95	6,01%	12,31%	8,70%	7,56%	13,14%	9,60%	8,94%	11,30%	7,73%	5,64%	8,12%	8,06%	18,75%	11,93%	13,89%	8,76%	16,67%	11,27%	8,59%
94	7,91%	15,84%	10,43%	9,76%	13,71%	12,37%	11,31%	14,46%	10,82%	7,75%	11,16%	11,29%	18,75%	14,68%	15,97%	9,49%	16,67%	12,68%	12,12%
93	9,81%	18,10%	13,04%	12,44%	14,86%	15,07%	14,92%	17,68%	14,43%	11,18%	13,78%	12,90%	25,00%	21,10%	18,06%	13,14%	25,00%	18,31%	14,39%
92	13,13%	21,78%	15,65%	15,12%	18,86%	17,76%	18,54%	19,85%	19,07%	14,70%	16,25%	16,13%	25,00%	26,61%	20,83%	15,33%	25,00%	26,76%	16,92%
91	16,61%	26,03%	18,26%	18,94%	20,57%	21,97%	22,24%	22,50%	19,59%	17,42%	19,57%	20,97%	25,00%	31,19%	25,00%	21,17%	25,00%	29,58%	21,21%
90	18,83%	30,27%	20,87%	22,85%	22,86%	25,59%	25,67%	25,51%	21,65%	20,44%	22,33%	22,58%	31,25%	37,61%	28,47%	27,01%	25,00%	30,99%	24,75%
89	22,15%	33,95%	21,30%	25,85%	27,43%	28,96%	29,75%	28,82%	26,29%	24,17%	25,46%	30,65%	31,25%	40,37%	31,25%	33,58%	33,33%	38,03%	26,77%
88	24,05%	39,32%	24,78%	30,33%	29,14%	32,07%	32,70%	31,73%	31,44%	28,70%	28,36%	32,26%	31,25%	43,12%	36,11%	37,96%	50,00%	40,85%	29,55%
87	26,42%	43,00%	26,96%	33,74%	30,86%	35,52%	35,08%	35,10%	33,51%	32,73%	30,40%	38,71%	37,50%	47,71%	40,97%	40,88%	50,00%	45,07%	32,58%
86	29,43%	47,52%	28,70%	37,32%	32,00%	38,05%	38,21%	38,31%	37,63%	38,07%	33,06%	46,77%	37,50%	47,71%	43,75%	45,26%	50,00%	49,30%	35,10%
85	31,65%	51,06%	30,87%	40,16%	34,29%	41,33%	41,06%	41,01%	40,72%	42,30%	35,63%	50,00%	37,50%	49,54%	51,39%	48,18%	50,00%	50,70%	38,64%
84	34,49%	54,88%	33,91%	43,82%	36,57%	44,53%	46,20%	44,69%	46,39%	45,12%	38,24%	54,84%	37,50%	53,21%	53,47%	48,91%	50,00%	53,52%	41,16%
83	36,39%	57,14%	36,09%	46,50%	37,14%	46,97%	50,29%	49,20%	48,97%	49,75%	41,09%	58,06%	43,75%	55,05%	56,94%	49,64%	50,00%	57,75%	42,68%
82	39,87%	60,68%	39,57%	50,89%	39,43%	50,17%	53,71%	52,20%	52,06%	52,87%	44,23%	62,90%	56,25%	55,96%	63,19%	51,82%	58,33%	59,15%	44,95%
81	42,56%	63,51%	43,91%	55,04%	40,57%	52,53%	56,46%	55,05%	60,31%	55,99%	46,51%	66,13%	56,25%	58,72%	65,97%	57,66%	66,67%	61,97%	48,48%
80	44,94%	66,34%	47,83%	58,54%	42,29%	56,06%	60,27%	57,80%	61,86%	59,52%	49,12%	70,97%	56,25%	61,47%	68,06%	62,04%	66,67%	63,38%	51,26%
79	48,10%	69,17%	51,74%	61,54%	44,57%	58,25%	63,31%	60,86%	65,46%	63,34%	51,59%	74,19%	56,25%	65,14%	68,75%	65,69%	66,67%	64,79%	53,28%
78	50,63%	70,86%	56,09%	64,63%	50,86%	60,69%	65,49%	63,56%	68,04%	65,76%	54,25%	79,03%	56,25%	66,97%	70,83%	68,61%	66,67%	71,83%	55,56%
77	53,48%	73,27%	57,83%	67,40%	52,57%	62,79%	67,59%	66,51%	69,07%	67,98%	57,01%	83,87%	56,25%	68,81%	75,00%	70,80%	75,00%	74,65%	57,83%
76	56,65%	76,10%	60,43%	70,16%	54,29%	65,32%	70,06%	69,26%	71,13%	71,20%	59,57%	87,10%	56,25%	70,64%	77,78%	72,99%	75,00%	80,28%	60,10%
75	59,34%	77,37%	63,04%	72,44%	56,00%	67,42%	71,58%	71,59%	73,20%	75,23%	62,14%	88,71%	56,25%	75,23%	80,56%	73,72%	75,00%	80,28%	62,88%
74	61,55%	78,78%	64,78%	74,07%	58,86%	69,78%	74,05%	73,77%	74,74%	77,14%	63,71%	90,32%	56,25%	77,06%	82,64%	75,91%	83,33%	81,69%	64,65%
73	63,29%	81,47%	68,26%	76,02%	60,00%	71,30%	75,95%	75,48%	77,84%	79,15%	65,84%	91,94%	62,50%	79,82%	83,33%	76,64%	83,33%	83,10%	67,17%
72	65,82%	82,89%	68,70%	78,70%	63,43%	73,06%	77,66%	77,66%	78,87%	79,96%	67,51%	91,94%	68,75%	79,82%	83,33%	78,83%	91,67%	83,10%	69,95%
71	67,88%	83,59%	70,87%	80,73%	65,14%	74,58%	79,75%	79,52%	79,90%	81,77%	69,83%	93,55%	75,00%	82,57%	84,72%	78,83%	91,67%	84,51%	71,97%
70	69,94%	85,01%	72,61%	82,60%	66,86%	76,01%	80,99%	81,44%	82,47%	84,79%	71,59%	93,55%	75,00%	84,40%	85,42%	81,02%	91,67%	85,92%	72,73%
Percentage of proposals below threshold (<70)	*30,06%*	*14,99%*	*27,39%*	*17,40%*	*33,14%*	*23,99%*	*19,01%*	*18,56%*	*17,53%*	*15,21%*	*28,41%*	*6,45%*	*25,00%*	*15,60%*	*14,58%*	*18,98%*	*8,33%*	*14,08%*	*27,27%*

Czech participation in MSCA IF (WF) calls under H2020

Call	Funded projects
H2020-MSCA-IF-2020	21
H2020-MSCA-IF-2019	10
H2020-MSCA-IF-2018	6
H2020-MSCA-IF-2017	3
H2020-MSCA-IF-2016	8
H2020-MSCA-IF-2015	5
H2020-MSCA-IF-2014	3

Widening Fellowships (2018-2020)	Funded projects (total)*
H2020-WF-01-2018	3 (35)
H2020-WF-02-2019	7 (38)
H2020-WF-03-2020	3 (46)

Call	Funded projects
MSCA-IF-EF-ST	41
MSCA-IF-EF-RI	7
MSCA-IF-GF	7
MSCA-IF-EF-CAR	1

Panel	Funded projects
LIF	17
PHY	10
CHE	9
SOC	8
ENG	6
ENV	6

Institution	Funded projects
VYSOKE UCENI TECHNICKE V BRNE	9
FYZIKALNI USTAV AV CR	7
MASARYKOVA UNIVERZITA	7
UNIVERZITA KARLOVA	7
BIOLOGICKE CENTRUM AV CR	3
UNIVERZITA PALACKEHO V OLOMOUCI	3
USTAV ORGANICKE CHEMIE A BIOCHEMIE AV CR	3
VYSOKA SKOLA CHEMICKO-TECHNOLOGICKA V PRAZE	3
JIHOCESKA UNIVERZITA V CESKYCH BUDEJOVICICH	2
UNIVERZITA PARDUBICE	2
USTAV EXPERIMENTALNI BOTANIKY AV CR	2
USTAV MOLEKULARNI GENETIKY AV CR	2
BIOTECHNOLOGICKY USTAV AV CR	1
BOTANICKY USTAV AV CR	1
FAKULTNI NEMOCNICE U SV. ANNY V BRNE	1
MIKROBIOLOGICKY USTAV AV CR	1
USTAV FYZIKALNI CHEMIE J. HEYROVSKEHO AV CR	1
USTAV PRO SOUDOBE DEJINY AV CR	1
Total	56

QUESTIONS?

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INTRODUCTION ON MSCA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

New rules for participation in Horizon Europe

Main objectives

- Foster **excellence** through the implementation of a research project
- Enhance the creative and innovative **potential of researchers** holding a PhD (training on transferable skills and career development)
- Focus on i3 (**international**, **inter-sectoral**, **interdisciplinary**) **mobility**
- Bridges with and exposure to the **non-academic sector**

Typical Postdoctoral Fellowship

- **Individual research project**: training-through-research under direct supervision of a senior colleague
- Emphasis on **intersectoral or interdisciplinary** aspects
- **Two way transfer of knowledge** between researcher and host
- **Hands on training**: scientific skills (new techniques, instruments, etc.) and transferable skills (proposal preparation, patent applications, management of IPR, gender issues, Open Science, etc.)
- Optional stays **(secondments)** outside the host institution
- **Dissemination activities** aimed at communicating research results with peers
- **Communication (outreach) activities** aimed at creating awareness among the general public about the project

Only two types of fellowships

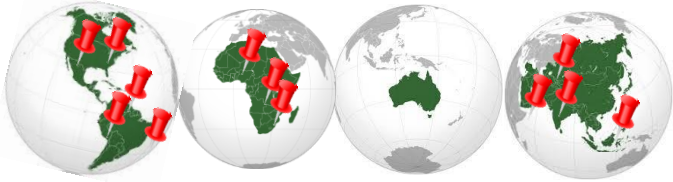
EUROPEAN POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

Member State (MS)
Associated Country (AC)

- For fellows coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe
- Duration 12-24 months

ERA Fellowships (in Widening Countries)

GLOBAL POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS



Third Country (TC)

- For fellows from Europe going to third countries (12-24 months) = **outgoing phase** and returning to Europe (12 months), transfer of knowledge through a **return phase** to Europe is mandatory
- Total duration 24-36 months

No specific panels

New **Career Restart Panel** (CAR), **Reintegration Panel** (RI), **Society and Entreprise Panel** (SE) integrated into EF and GF (only two ranked lists in the evaluation process)

- **(CAR):** to be well explained in the Impact criterion (Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development)
- **(RI):** Reintegration:
  - Researchers wishing to reintegrate from a third country must either be based in a third country at the call deadline, or have moved directly from a third country to EU/AC within the last 12 months before the call deadline.
- **(SE):** choice of host institutions from non-academic sector is encouraged

Research areas and participating organisations

Research areas

- All scientific fields (bottom-up)

New

Including areas of research covered by the Euratom Programme 2021-2025

- You need to select only one out of 8 scientific areas (panels) in your proposal:

Participating organisations (mono-beneficiary action)

- Legal entity in an EU Member State (MS) or HE Associated country (AC) as beneficiary Institutions in third countries can be involved in outgoing phase of GF or during secondments
- Specific eligibility criteria for PFs supported by Euratom: legal entity established in an EU Member State or Euratom AC

Possible roles

	Beneficiary (EU/AC)	Associated partner (GF, secondment)
Signs grant agreement	✓	✗
Recruits researchers	✓	✗*
Trains/hosts researchers on secondment	✓	✓
Directly claims costs	✓	✗

- **Letter of commitment** – associated partner hosting the outgoing phase in GF or associated partner hosting the additional placement in the non-academic sector
- **Partnership Agreement** – beneficiary is encouraged to sign PA with associated partners to regulate the internal relationship between all participating organisations

*GF: additional employment contract with the researcher can be concluded in order to ensure adequate medical/social insurance

Eligibility conditions

- **Researchers of any nationality** (Global Fellowships: nationals or long-term residents* of MS or HE/Euratom AC)

New **In possession of PhD** at the call deadline (successfully defended doctoral thesis)

New **Up to 8 years research experience after PhD** (with exceptions: career breaks, work outside research, research outside Europe for reintegrating researchers,…)

- **Mobility rule**: applicants must have not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host institution (for European PFs) or the host institution for the outgoing phase (for Global PFs) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline.
- **Part-time commitment** of at least 50 % working time can be **requested** for personal/family reasons or for professional reasons (creating a company, pursuing another research, project etc.) **during the implementation**, REA´s approval needed

* continuous residence in MS/EU of at least 5 consecutive years. Periods of absence from the territory of EU/AC will be taken into account for the calculation of this period where they are shorter than six consecutive months and do not exceed in total ten months within this period.

8 years research experience after PhD

- Maternity: for each child born within the above mentioned eligibility period of 8 years, 18 months will be deducted from the experience in research unless the applicant can document a longer parental leave prior to the call deadline.
- Paternity: for each child born within the above mentioned eligibility period of 8 years, the documented time of parental leave taken until the call deadline will be deducted from the experience in research.
- Compulsory national service, short stays such as holidays and time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention are not taken into account.
- Career outside research / teaching = ‘Active in research’ means being employed or holding a scholarship in research (definition from H2020)

Secondments

- Worldwide in the academic or non-academic sector
- Must be meaningful and appropriate to the type of fellowship and research field
- It can be a single period or can be divided into shorter mobility periods. It can take place at one or more organisations, which can be located in the same country as the beneficiary
- Up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration, or outgoing phase of GF
- For GF, a maximum of three months can be spent at the start of the project at the beneficiary (or any other organisation mentioned in the description of the action), secondments cannot take place during the mandatory return period to the host organisation in EU/AC
- No letter of commitment is required

New **Optional additional placement** of up to 6 months in a non-academia (duration of your project extended)

  - aims at promoting career moves between sectors and organisations and thereby stimulate innovation and knowledge transfer
  - fellows recruited in the non-academic sector, such a placement must be implemented at a different non-academic host organisation established in EU/AC
  - Integral part of the proposal, added-value for the project and for the career development of the researcher must be explained
  - a letter of commitment from the European non-academic organisation

First calls in HE

2021:

Changed

Opening: 22 June

Deadline: 12 October

- Budget: EUR 242 million + indicative: EUR 1 million for Euratom

2022:

- Opening: 14 April
- Deadline: 14 September
- Budget: EUR 257 million

New

Resubmission restrictions applying as of 2022 for applications receiving a score below 70% in the previous call

ERA Fellowships

- For specific countries = Widening Countries – available in Work Programme

Widening countries (tbc)

Member States: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, **Czech Republic**, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Greece, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia

Associated Countries: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine

Outermost Regions: (FR) Martinique, Mayotte, Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Réunion, Saint-Martin; (PT) Madeira and the Azores; (ES) Canary Islands

- Budget in 2021: EUR 10 million
- **No separate application or evaluation** – integral part of the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships call application form (you indicate willingness to participate in this call in the “call specific question” section)
- Only for European Fellowships, Global Fellowships do not qualify
- Only proposals scoring over 70% in the PF call will be considered
- Timing aligned with PF call

International mobility of researchers „MSCA PF CZ“

- Operational Programme John Amos Comenius (OP JAC) 2021
- Provider: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS)
- Proposals which obtained a high score in the MSCA PF call (at least 70%) but were not funded under that call
- Support for arrivals to the Czech Republic and departures from the Czech Republic
- First OP JAC MSCA PF call will be open also for proposals from MSCA IF Horizon 2020 calls from previous years
- MEYS is exploring possibility of funding MSCA Global Fellowships with return phase in the Czech Republic

QUESTIONS?

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INTRODUCTION ON MSCA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

Financial aspects of MSCA PF

Budget structure

- **100 % reimbursement rate** – automatically calculated by the EC (Part A of the MSCA proposal) based on the duration of your fellowship
- **Simplified model for financing = unit contributions**
- What is the unit? 1 Person-month = 1 person working for 1 month FTE (full-time equivalent)

Contributions for the recruited researcher per person-month					Institutional unit contributions 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 5 080*	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit x (1/number of months)**	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

Contributions for recruited researchers

Contributions for the recruited researcher per person-month					Institutional unit contributions 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 5 080	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

Contributions for recruited researchers

- They have to be fully paid to the researcher
- LIVING ALLOWANCE
  - Paid to the researcher in his/her monthly salary
  - Super-gross figure (include all social and health contributions or taxes payed both by the employer and the employee) ⇾ the net amount will be lower
  - Adjusted through the country correction coefficient (in the Work Programme)
  - Applied according to your host institution; CZ - 79.1%
  - GF: outgoing phase = CCC of the country of the associated partner, return phase = CCC of the beneficiary
- MOBILITY ALLOWANCE
  - To cover costs incurred in relation to the researcher´s personal travel and accommodation costs (NOT: business trips, conference fees, etc., covered by research, training and networking contribution)

Contributions for recruited researchers

- FAMILY ALLOWANCE
  - Applicable to researchers with a family (persons linked to the researcher by mariage, or equivalent status, and dependent children)

New accessible to all, even if their parental status changes during the duration of the project

New LONG-TERM LEAVE ALLOWANCE

  - contributes to the beneficiary's pay obligations related to researchers' leave, including maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave, longer than 30 consecutive days

- SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE
  - additional costs of staff members with disabilities (long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments), their participation in the action may not be possible without the acquisition of special needs items or services
  - the pre-defined categories are as follows: 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

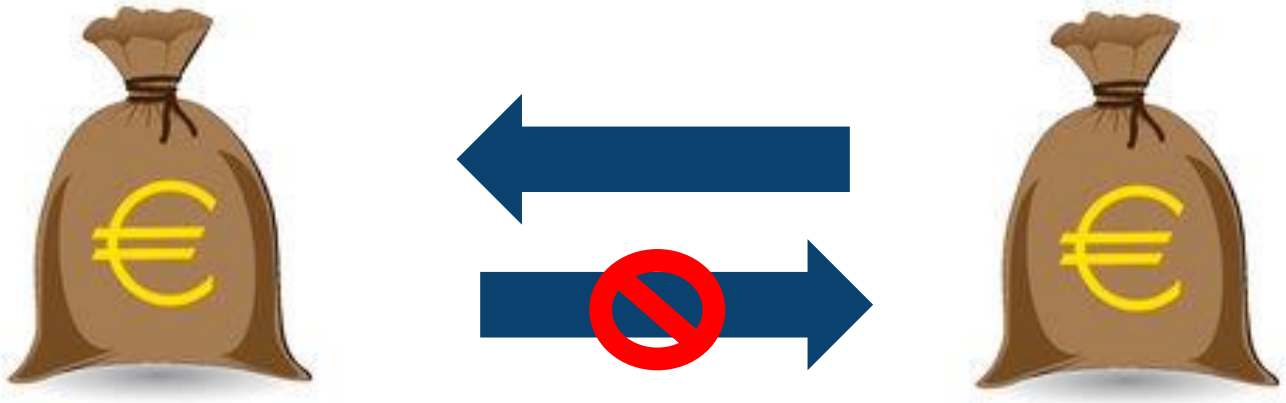
Institutional unit contributions

Contributions for the recruited researcher per person-month					Institutional unit contributions 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 5 080*	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit x (1/number of months)**	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

Institutional unit contributions

- Their eligibility depends on the eligibility of researcher´s unit costs
- RESEARCH, TRAINING AND NETWORKING COSTS
  - Career development of the researcher, research expenses – e.g. conference fees, library fees, business trips, visa-related fees, etc.
  - Unused amounts may be used to the benefit of the researcher
- MANAGEMENT AND INDIRECT COSTS
  - For the beneficiary´s additional costs in connection with the action
  - Unused amounts may be used to the benefit of the researcher, but a consortium (GF) may redistribute the institutional costs according to their needs!

Budget transfers?



CONTRIBUTIONS FOR RECRUITED RESEARCHERS

INSTITUTIONAL UNIT CONTRIBUTIONS

Do you have any specific questions?

Legal and Financial Aspects

Financial and Administrative Aspects :
Lenka Chvojková, Aneta Kašlíková, Milena Lojková

Legal Aspects:
Jiří Kotouček

- Contacts

QUESTIONS?

sli.do
CODE: PF2021

SHORT BREAK

Agenda

1

Introduction on MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

2

How should your proposal be structured?

3

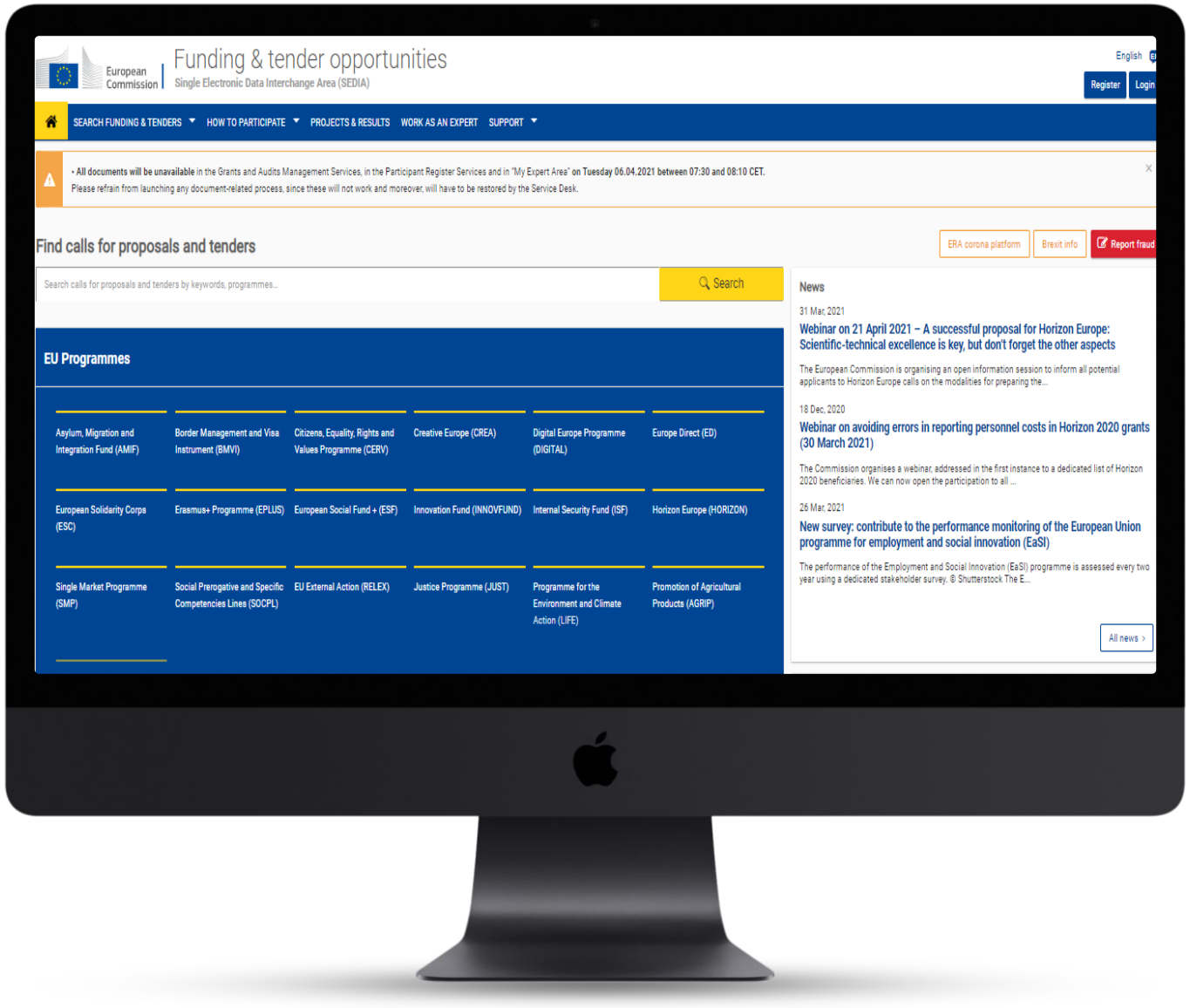
How to write a competitive MSCA PF proposal?

4

Support to applicants (national and institutional)

HOW SHOULD YOUR PROPOSAL BE STRUCTURED?

Proposal submission

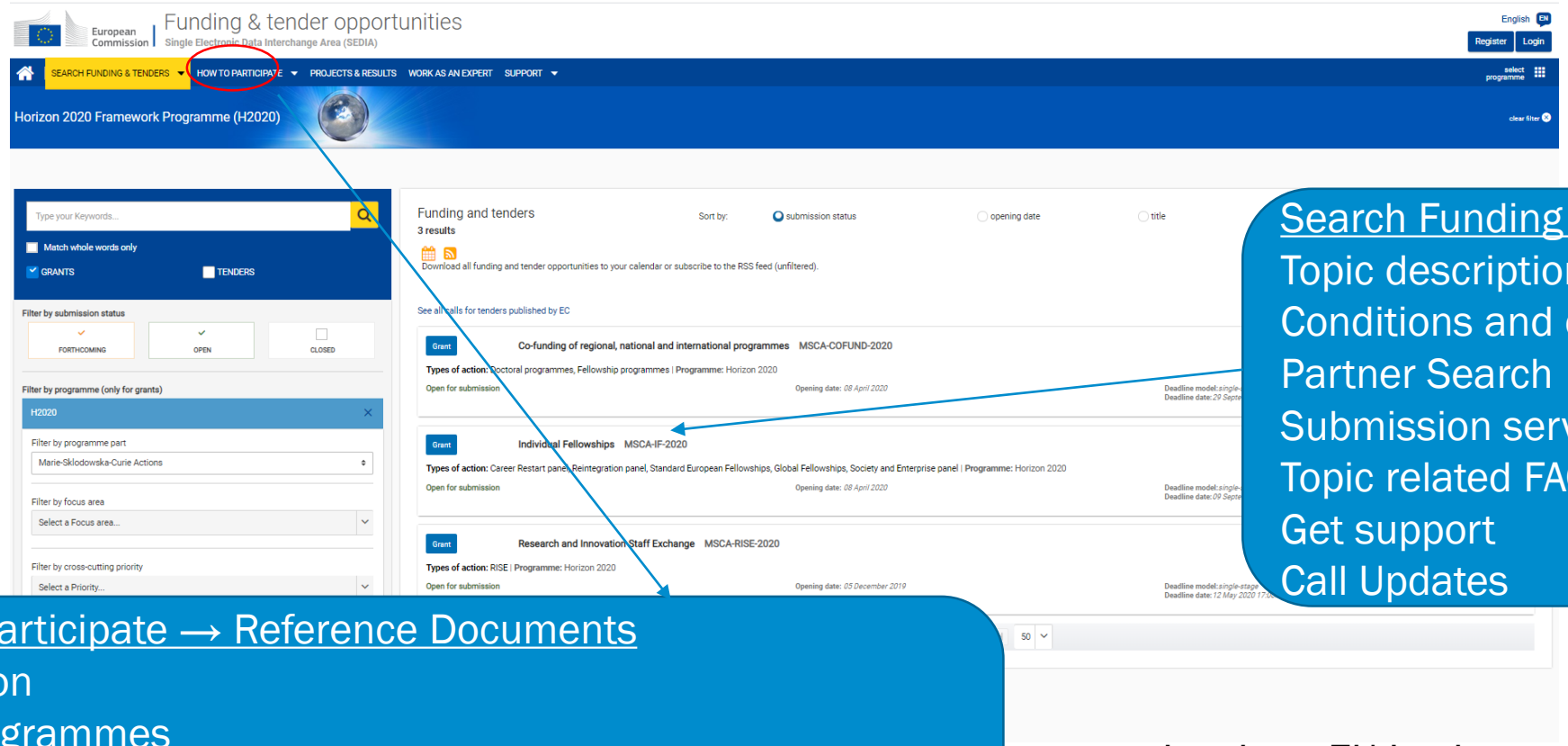


Funding & Tender Opportunities

Portal for applicants to the EU programmes:

- Information on calls
- Supporting documents, manuals
- Partner search
- Dashboard
- Experts: you can register to get experience as evaluator!!
- Support
- https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/

Funding & tender opportunities portal

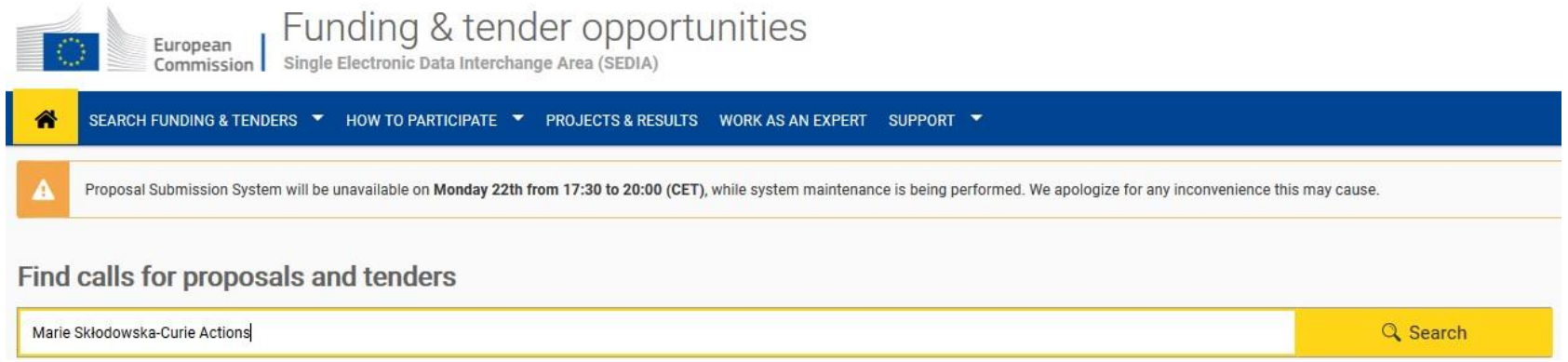


Search Funding & Tenders:
Topic description
Conditions and documents
Partner Search
Submission service
Topic related FAQ
Get support
Call Updates

How to Participate ⟶ Reference Documents
Legislation
Work Programmes
Grant agreements, contracts and rules of contest
Guidance
Templates & forms
Expert names (annual lists)

- Log in to EU Login
- Choose the type of Action
- Click on **Start submission**

How to apply?



Part A
(structured data)

Part B
(description of action)

10 page limit
Read all **guidance documents**

How to create a proposal?

For pre-registration, you need to provide:

- PIC of your organisation
- Acronym
- Short abstract – limit of 2000 characters
- Scientific discipline

Part A – Administrative Forms to be filled in on-line

Part B – Main part of the proposal submitted as a pdf file – TEMPLATE in doc needs to be downloaded from the Portal

Proposal structure*

Part A - administrative forms

Part B – the proposal

Part A (electronically)

General Information about the Proposal including Abstract (max. 2 000 characters), Administrative data on participating organisations, Budget, Ethics issues table, Call specific questions

Part B1 (PDF upload)

- **Excellence**
- **Impact**
- **Implementation**

- **10 pages** total
- No section page limit
- excess pages will automatically be disregarded

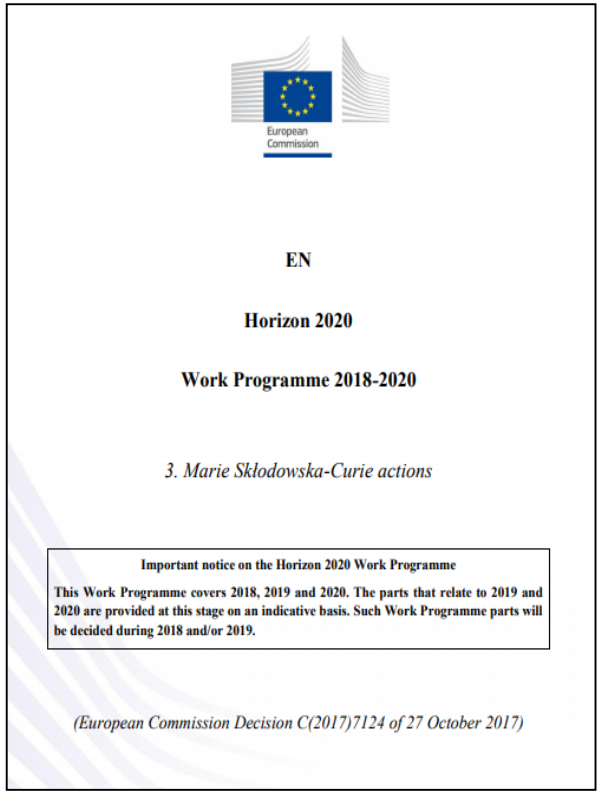
Part B2 (PDF upload)

No overall page limit applied

- **CV** (indicative length: 5 pages)
- **Capacities of the participating organisations**
- **Ethical aspects**
- **Letter of commitment**

* Pending the opening of MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships call under Horizon Europe

Supporting documents



MSCA Work Programme

Guide for Applicants

Handbook prepared by Net4Mobility+

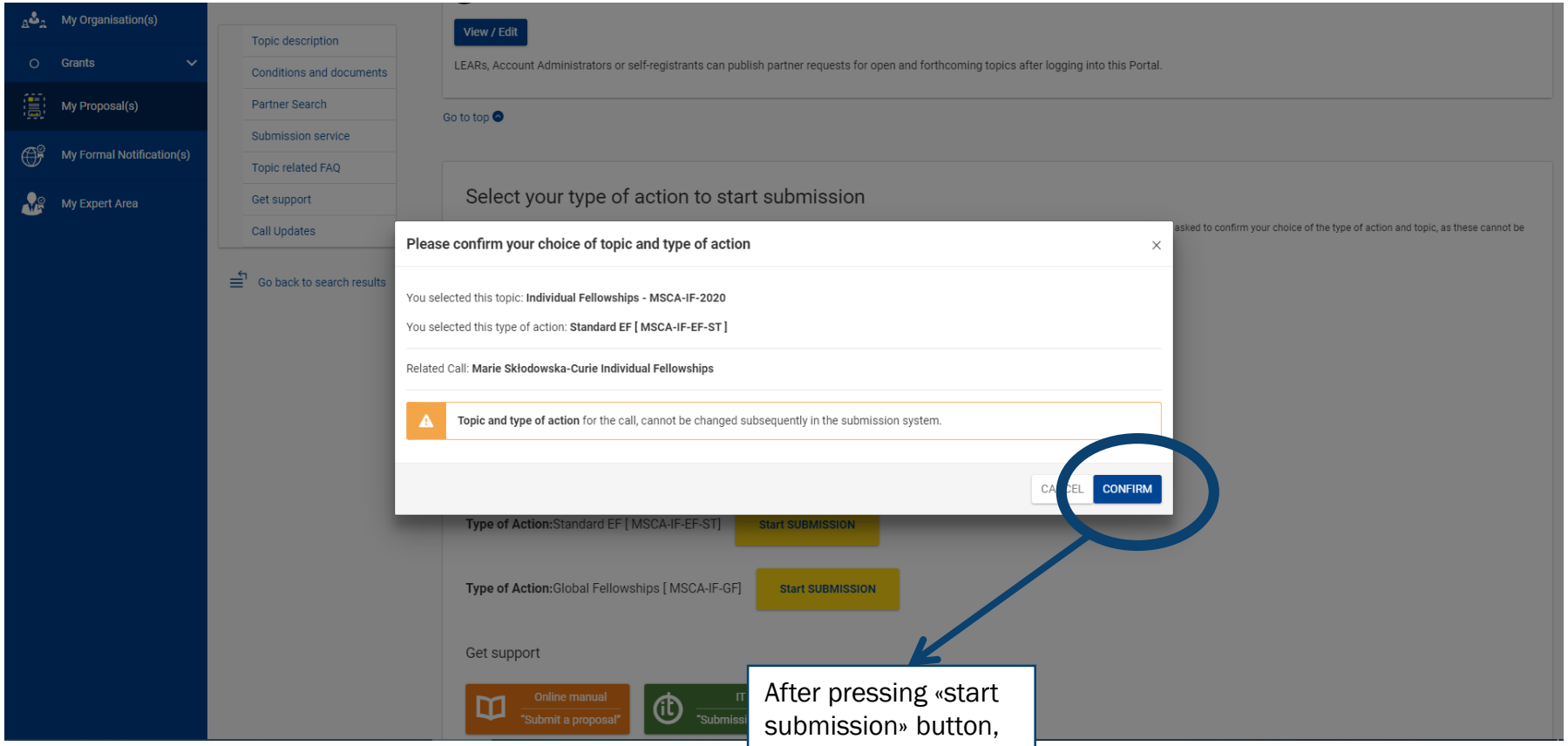
Layout of the proposal*

Min. 11 points (Arial, TNR), Gantt chart and tables (min 8)

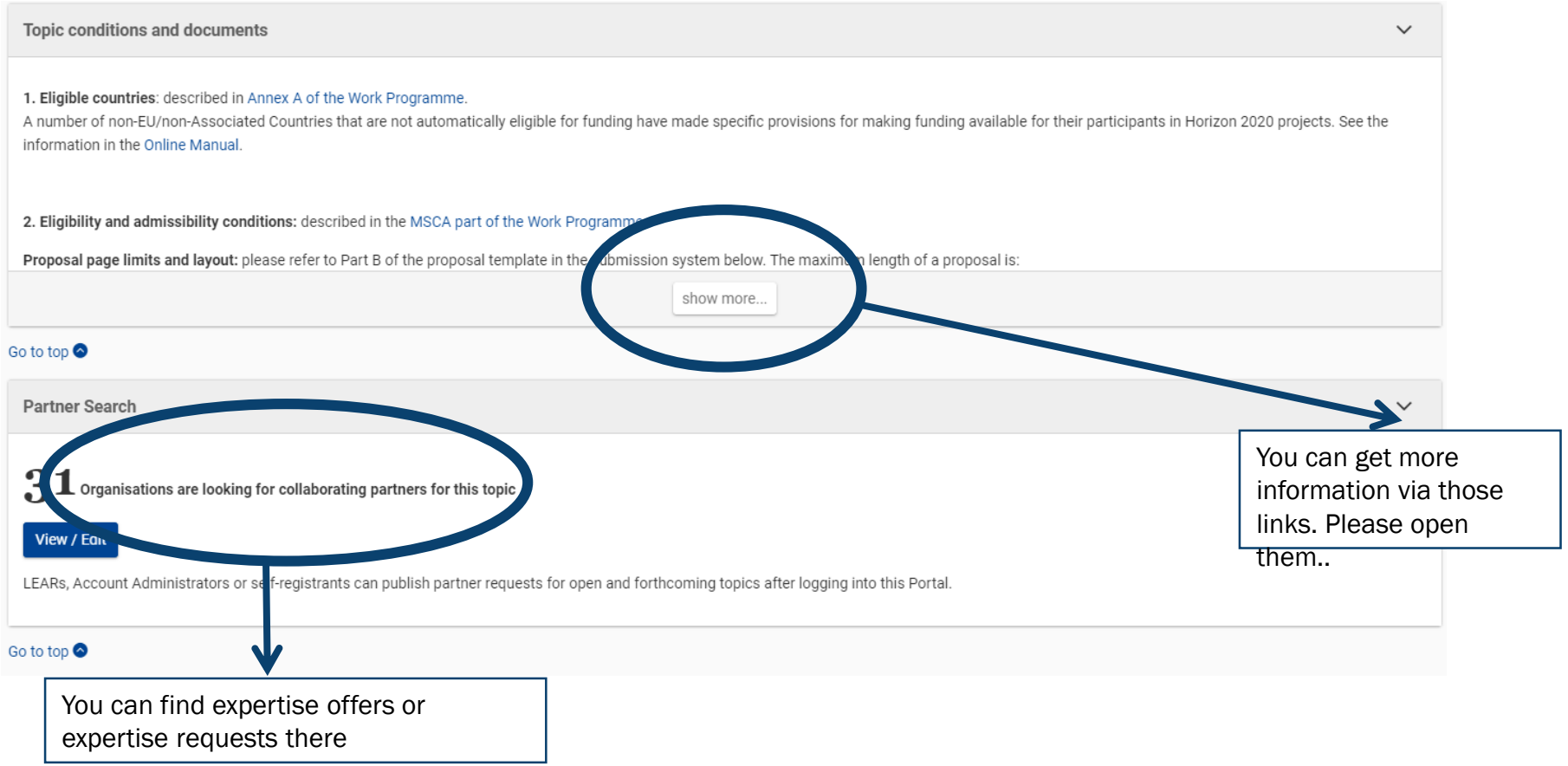
Template	Format	Language
Use correct Template	Use charts, diagrams, tables, text boxes, figures	Avoid jargon, long sentences
Use the Template sub-headings (provides good structure)	Use appropriate font size, single line spacing, page margins (min 1,5 cm)	Simple clear text (explain any abbreviations)
Use the full page limit	Ensure any colour diagrams etc. are understandable when printed in black and white	Get rid of repetitions (refer to other parts of proposal if necessary)
Put the proposal acronym in the Header + fellowship type	Use highlighting where appropriate (bold, underline, italics) but don´t overdo it!	Be consistent with language (UK/US English) and terms (1st or 3rd person)
Put page numbers (format page X of Y) in the footer	Footnote: only for literature references (font 8), counts towards page limit!	Don´t copy text from other documents or websites

* To be checked in the updated Guide for Applicants

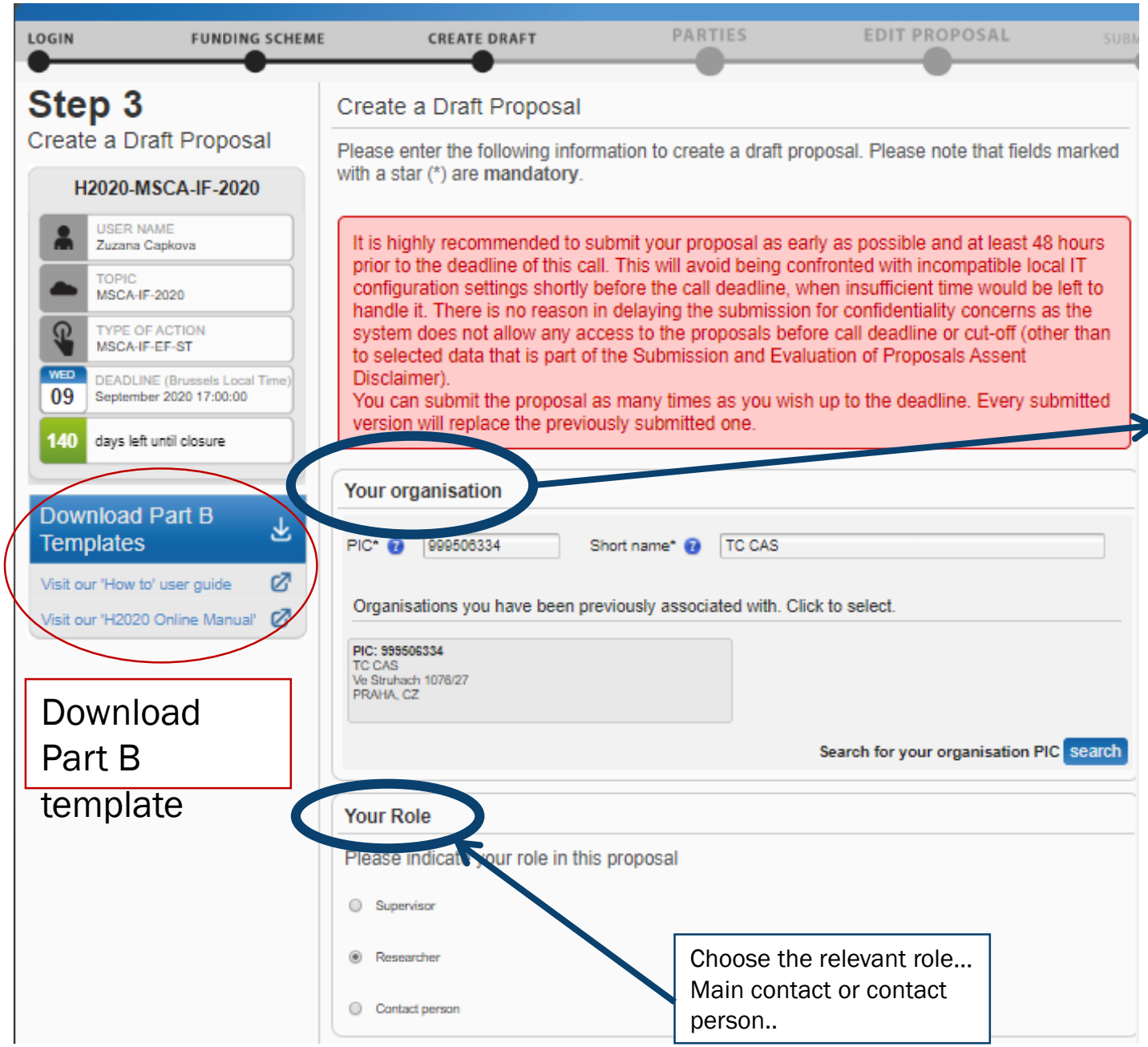
Confirm the type of action



Partner search



Create a draft proposal



Download Part B template

Please enter the short name of your host institution

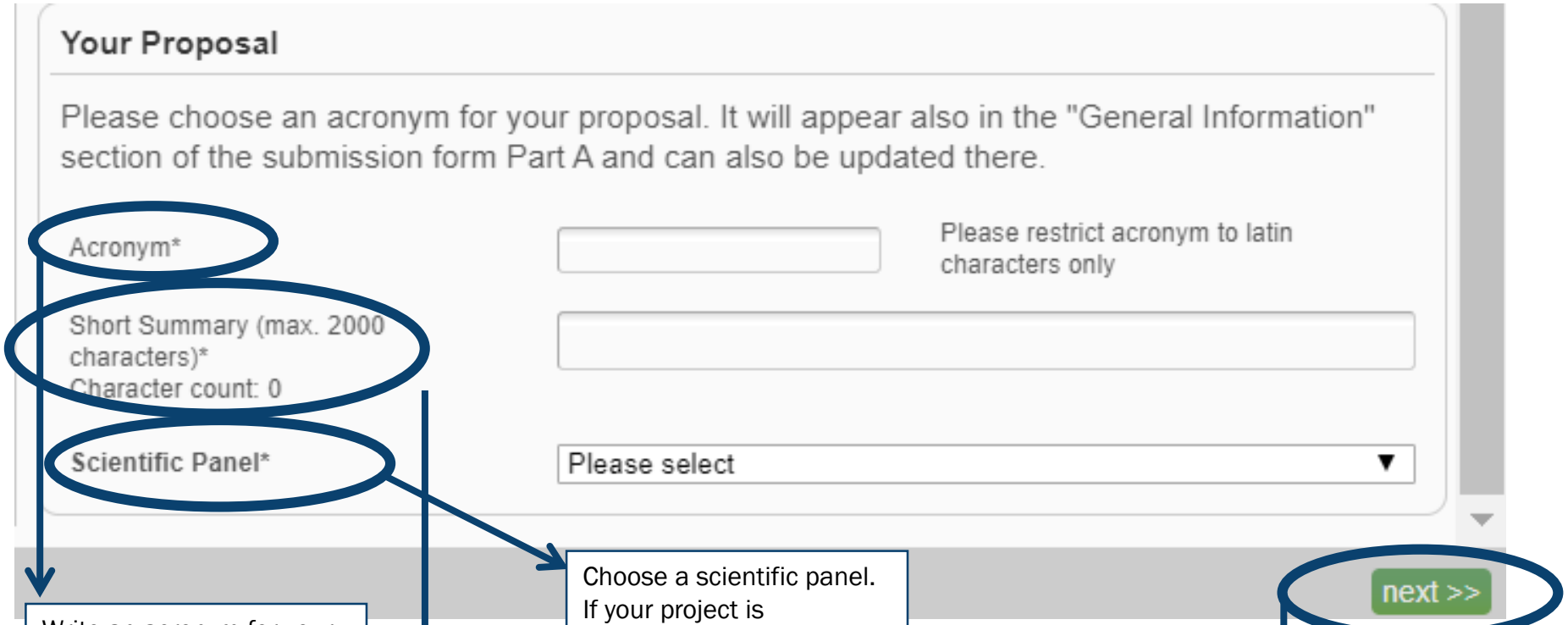
Then click «search»

Try to find a validated PIC Code.
If not available please contact the administrative office of your hosting institution.

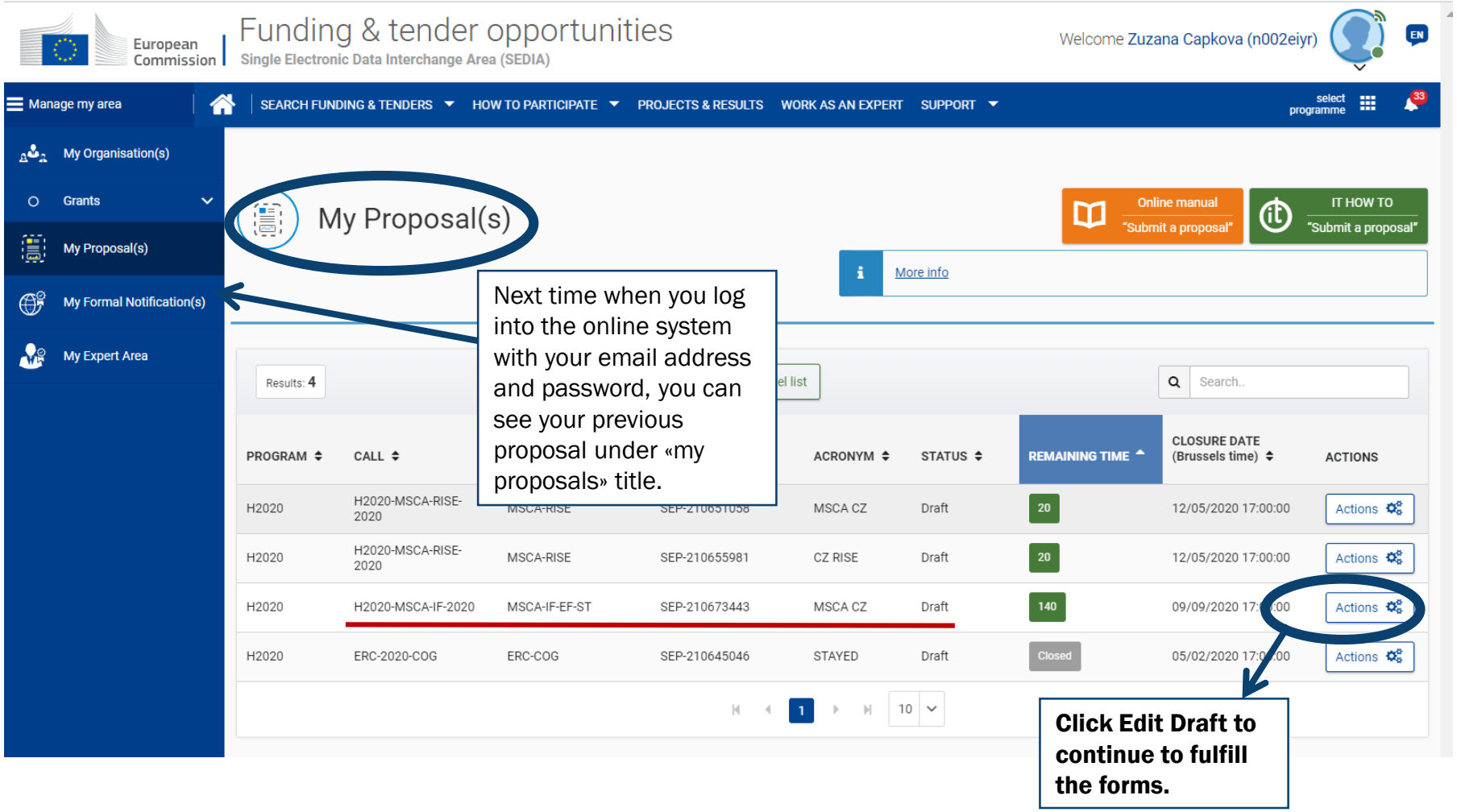
They can direct you to the right PIC number.

Choose the relevant role… Main contact or contact person..

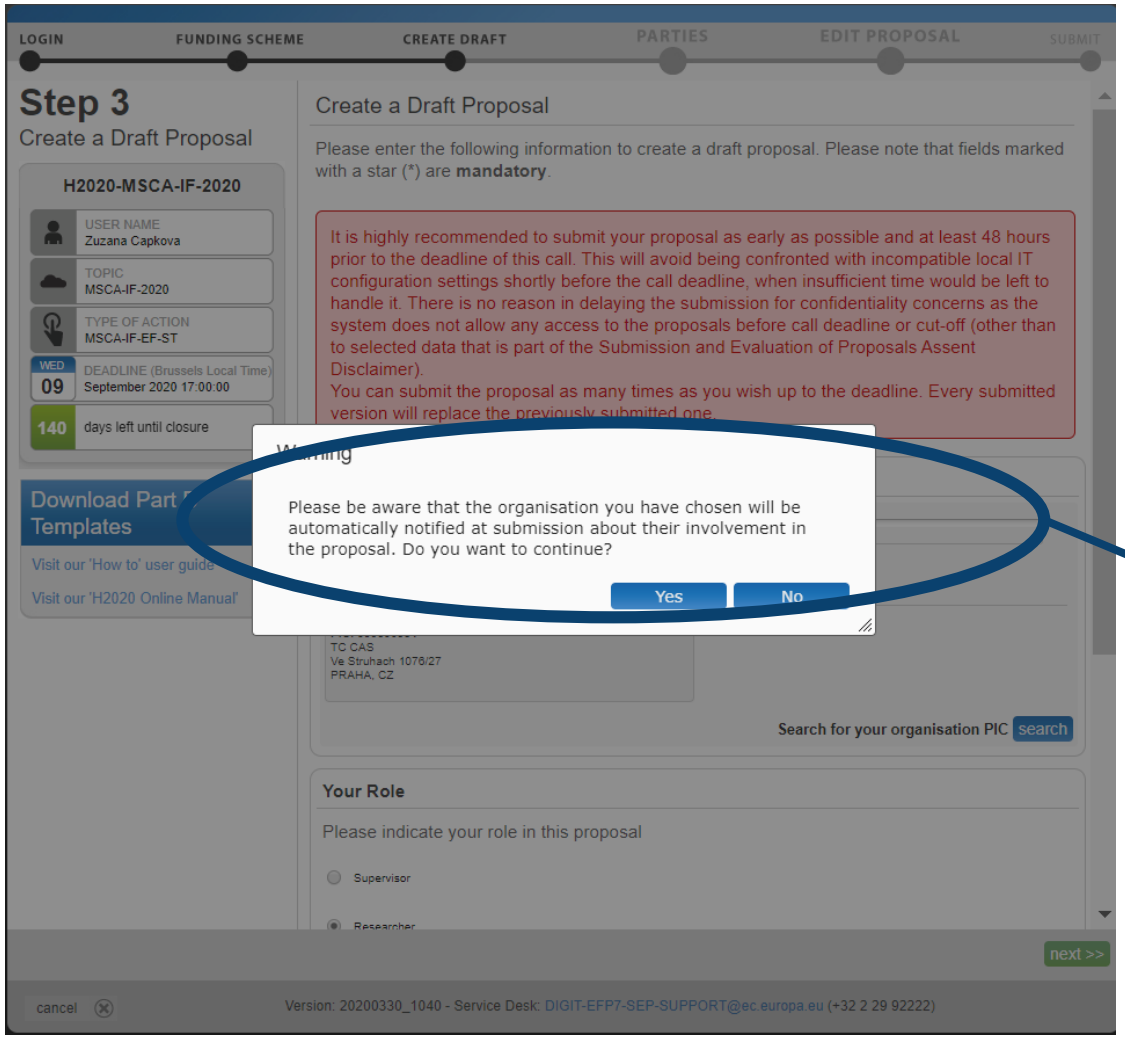
Your proposal



My proposals

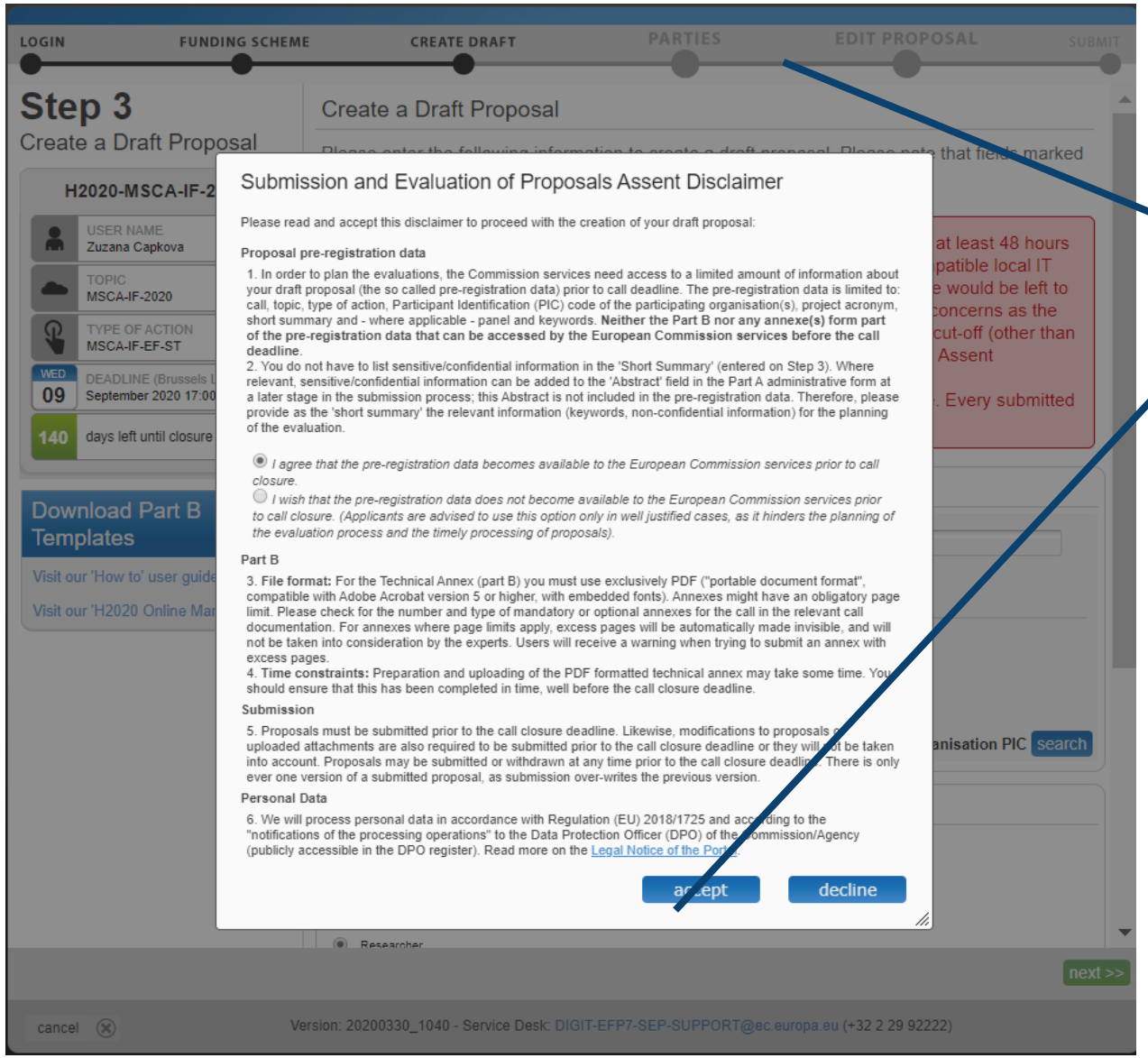


Automatic notification



LEAR of the institution you have mentioned will be emailed at this point..

Disclaimer

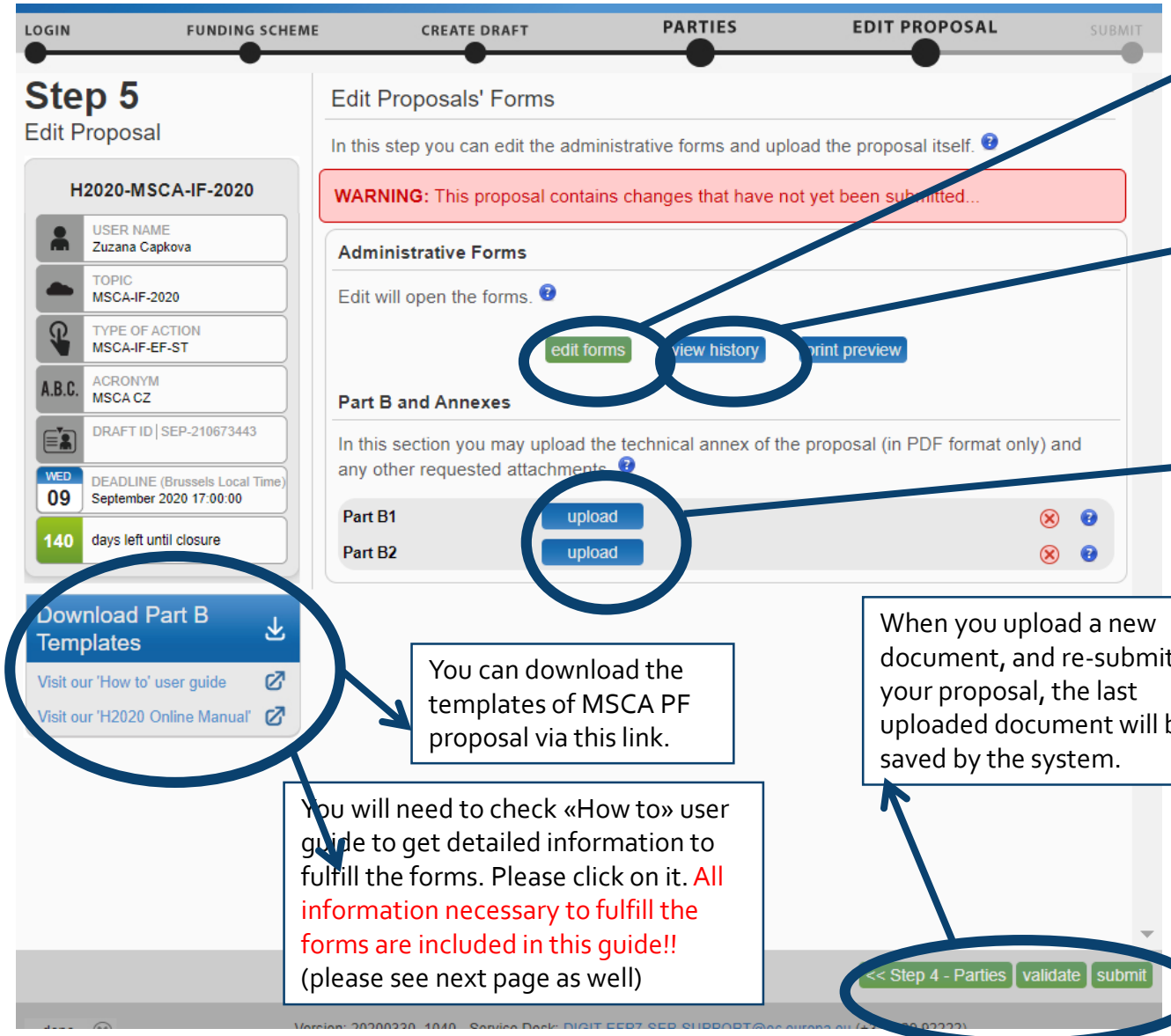


Read and accept..

(click on the sentence «I agree…» or «I wish…»)

This choice will not affect positively or negatively your application.

Edit proposals´ forms



Please click here to reach the A forms to fulfill.

You can see the history of your steps on this application process.

You must use the MSCA PF proposal 2021 template to write your proposal. You can download them from the left menu if you don't have them yet. When you write your proposal as a «word» document (B1 and B2 separately), you will turn them into PdF (both documents separately) and upload here.

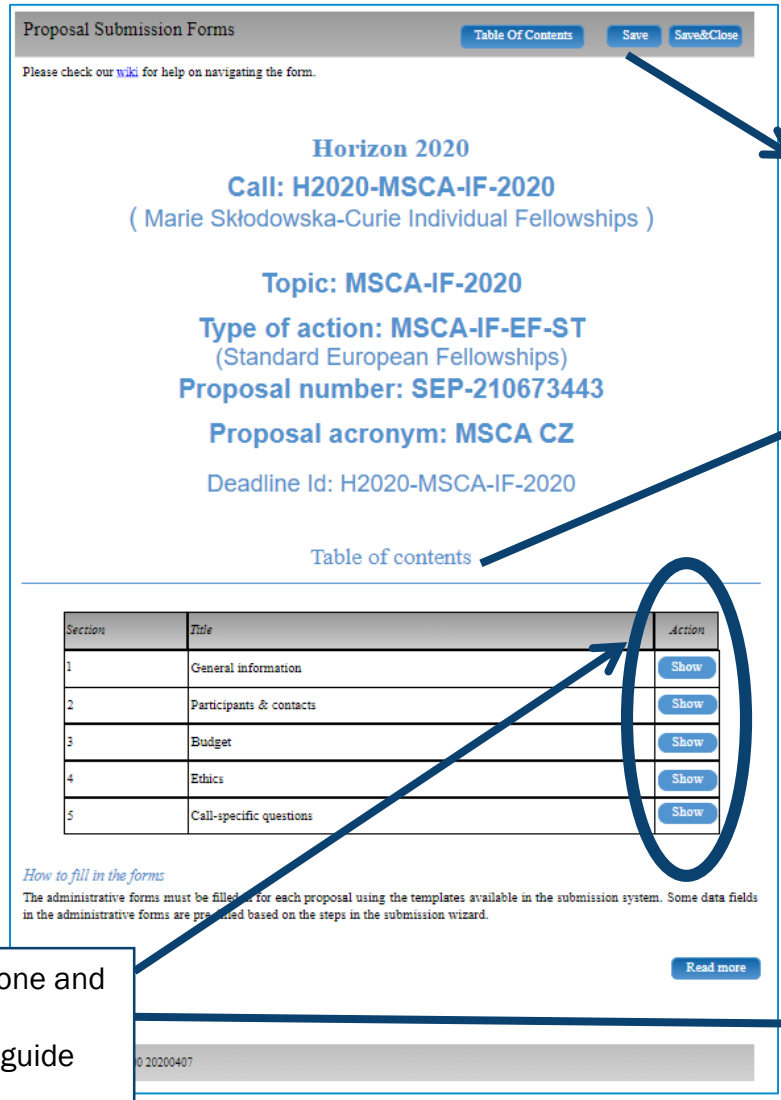
When you upload a new document, and re-submit your proposal, the last uploaded document will be saved by the system.

You can download the templates of MSCA PF proposal via this link.

You will need to check «How to» user guide to get detailed information to fulfill the forms. Please click on it. All information necessary to fulfill the forms are included in this guide!! (please see next page as well)

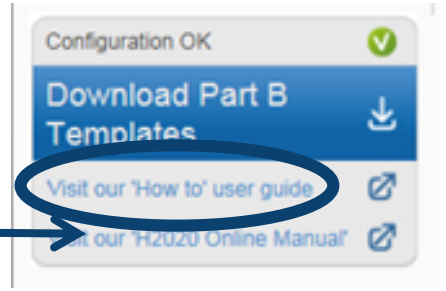
You can turn back to step 4 and 3 to correct any info. You can make validation to see any missing info. If nothing missing, you can submit your proposal. RE-submissions are possible till the deadline.

Proposal



You can save the information you entered to the form. You don't need to fulfill all information as soon as you open the portal. You have time till the deadline.

This is the «table of contents» of the forms.

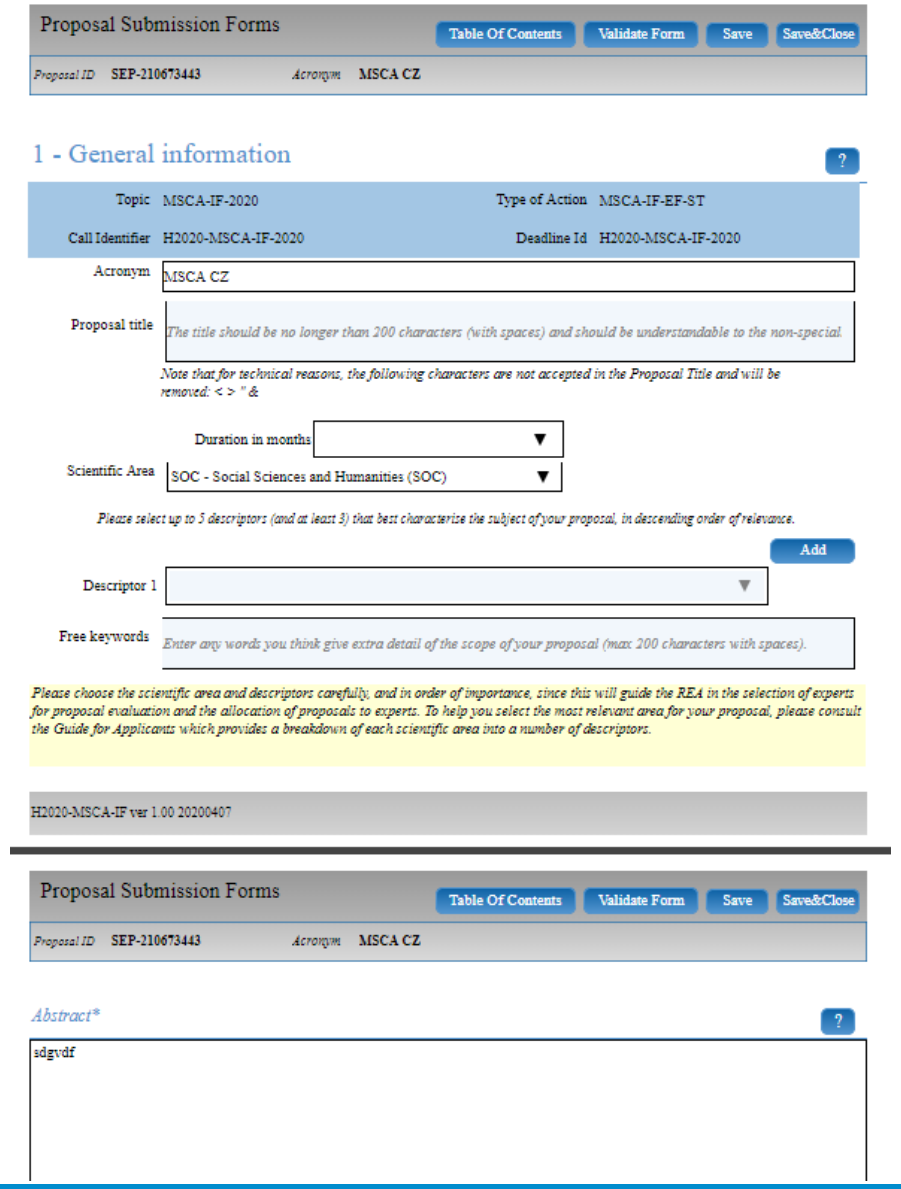


You must open each section one by one and fulfill all information.
Please follow the instructions of the guide you have opened on previous page.

Each time do not forget to «save» the changes you made on the form.

After saving the changes, you can pass to the other page of the forms..

When you click on every title under table of contents…

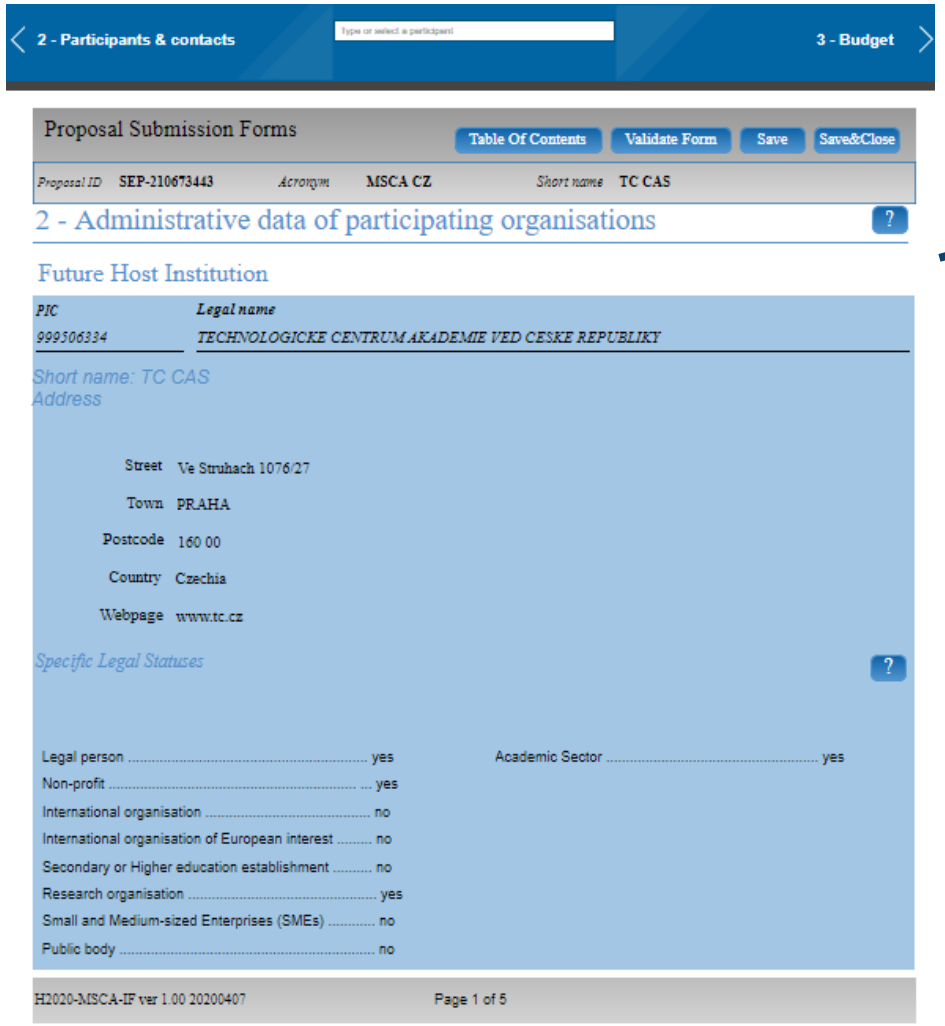


The information you entered about Acronym, Panel, Abstract at first step will be seen here…

Also fulfill the rest:
Proposal Title
Duration of your project in months

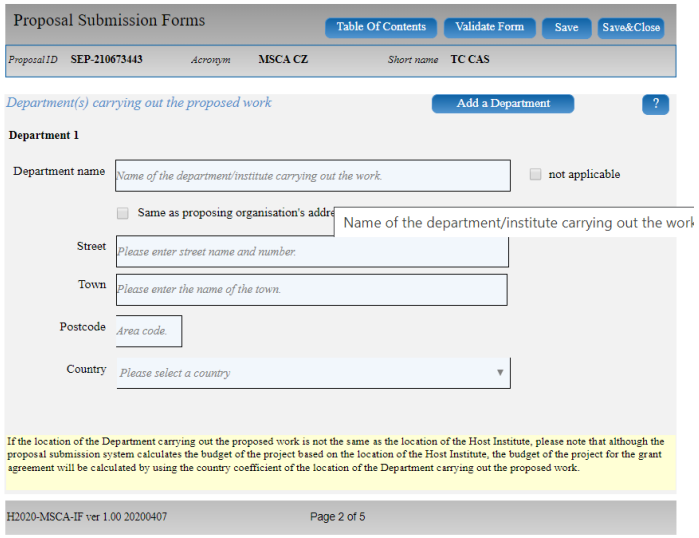
Descriptor /Free keywords: They are important because the 3 evaluators for your proposal will be choosen according to this information you give.

Administrative data

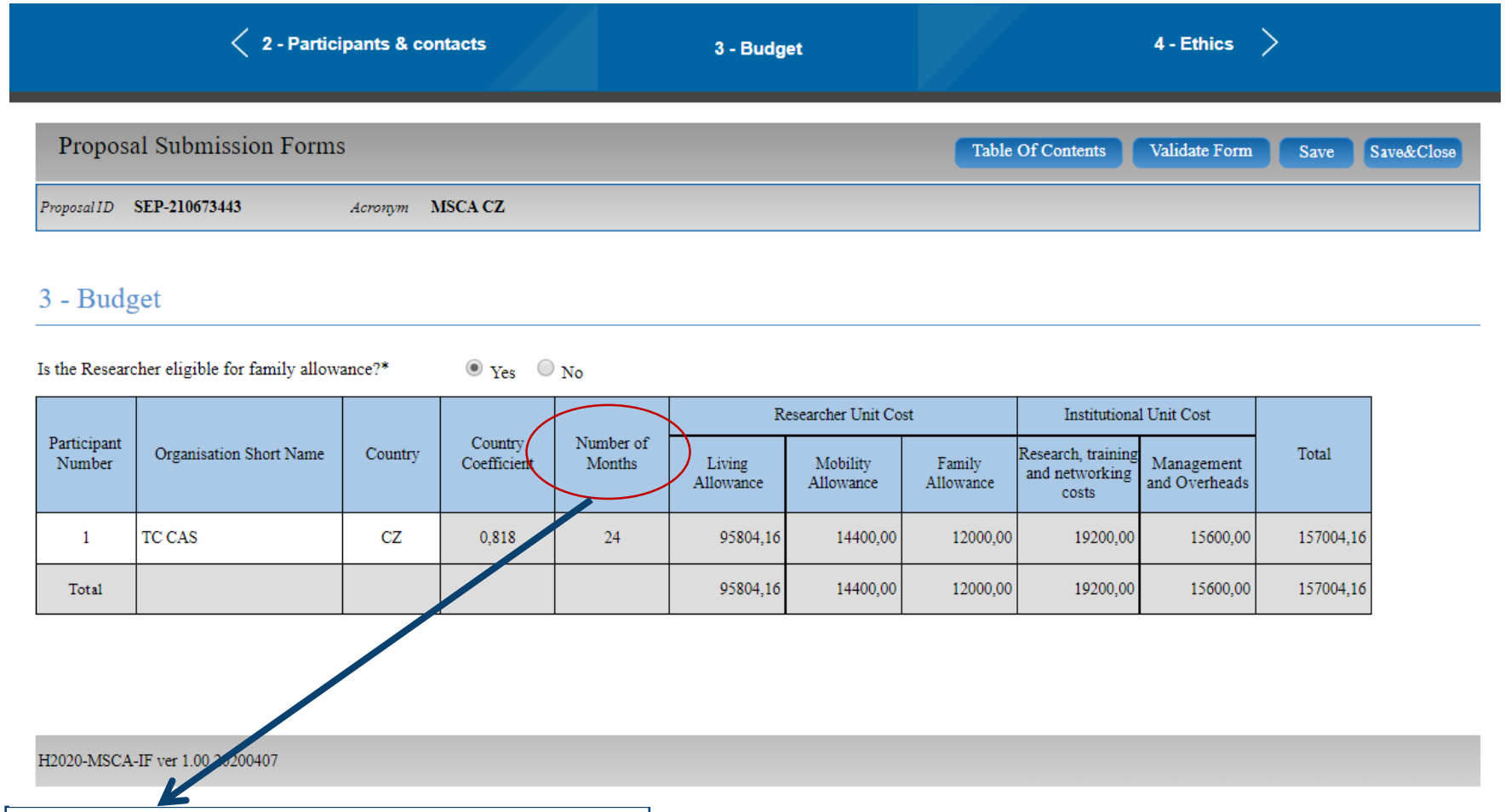


Thanks to the PIC code you selected/entered at first step, most of the information will be automatically seen here.

Please fulfill the missing parts only.



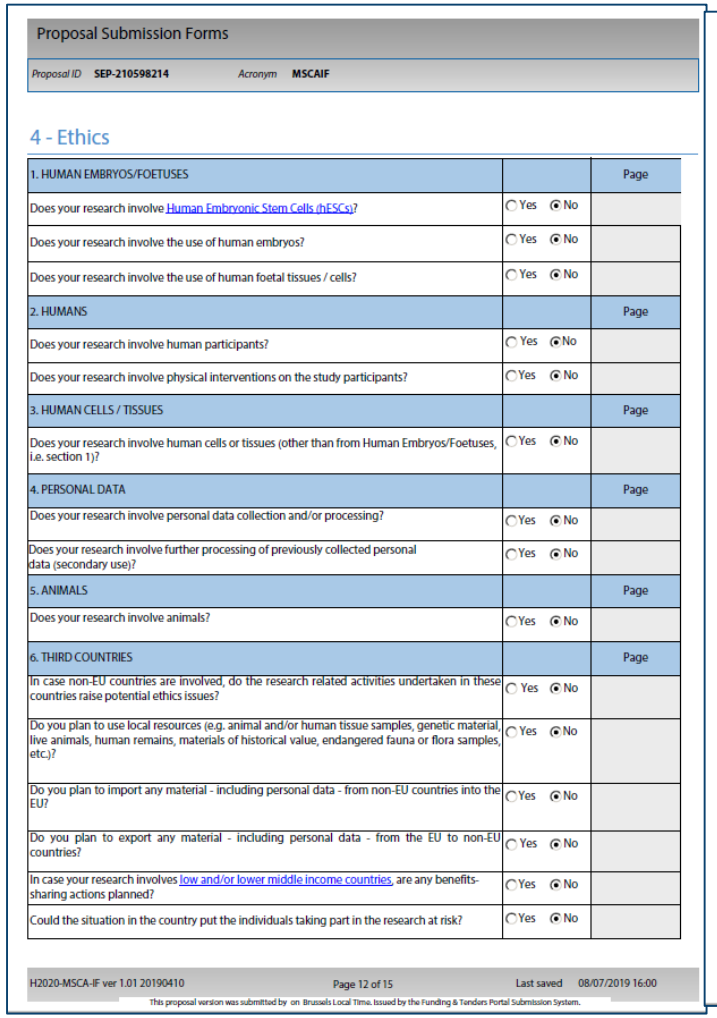
Budget



Budget of your proposal will be automatically created based on the number of months indicated . You do not need to calculate anything..

Ethics

All applicants are required to complete an **Ethics Issues Table (EIT)** in the Part A of the proposal. Applicants who flag ethical issues in the EIT also have to complete a more in depth **Ethics Self-Assessment** in Part B.



Proposal Submission Forms

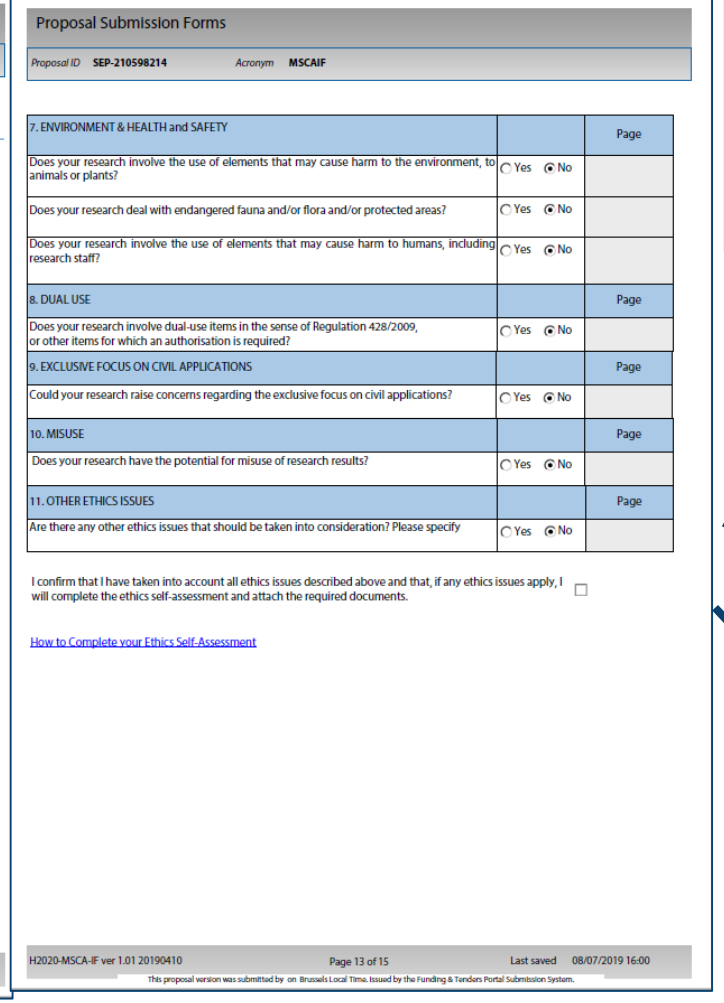
Proposal ID **SEP-210598214** *Acronym* **MSCAIF**

4 - Ethics

1. HUMAN EMBRYOS/FOETUSES		Page
Does your research involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Does your research involve the use of human embryos?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Does your research involve the use of human foetal tissues / cells?	○ Yes ◉ No	
2. HUMANS		**Page**
Does your research involve human participants?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Does your research involve physical interventions on the study participants?	○ Yes ◉ No	
3. HUMAN CELLS / TISSUES		**Page**
Does your research involve human cells or tissues (other than from Human Embryos/Foetuses, i.e. section 1)?	○ Yes ◉ No	
4. PERSONAL DATA		**Page**
Does your research involve personal data collection and/or processing?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Does your research involve further processing of previously collected personal data (secondary use)?	○ Yes ◉ No	
5. ANIMALS		**Page**
Does your research involve animals?	○ Yes ◉ No	
6. THIRD COUNTRIES		**Page**
In case non-EU countries are involved, do the research related activities undertaken in these countries raise potential ethics issues?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Do you plan to use local resources (e.g. animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Do you plan to import any material - including personal data - from non-EU countries into the EU?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Do you plan to export any material - including personal data - from the EU to non-EU countries?	○ Yes ◉ No	
In case your research involves low and/or lower middle income countries, are any benefits-sharing actions planned?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Could the situation in the country put the individuals taking part in the research at risk?	○ Yes ◉ No	

H2020-MSCA-IF ver 1.01 20190410 Page 12 of 15 Last saved 08/07/2019 16:00

This proposal version was submitted by on Brussels Local Time. Issued by the Funding & Tenders Portal Submission System.



Proposal Submission Forms

Proposal ID **SEP-210598214** *Acronym* **MSCAIF**

7. ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH and SAFETY		Page
Does your research involve the use of elements that may cause harm to the environment, to animals or plants?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Does your research deal with endangered fauna and/or flora and/or protected areas?	○ Yes ◉ No	
Does your research involve the use of elements that may cause harm to humans, including research staff?	○ Yes ◉ No	
8. DUAL USE		**Page**
Does your research involve dual-use items in the sense of Regulation 428/2009, or other items for which an authorisation is required?	○ Yes ◉ No	
9. EXCLUSIVE FOCUS ON CIVIL APPLICATIONS		**Page**
Could your research raise concerns regarding the exclusive focus on civil applications?	○ Yes ◉ No	
10. MISUSE		**Page**
Does your research have the potential for misuse of research results?	○ Yes ◉ No	
11. OTHER ETHICS ISSUES		**Page**
Are there any other ethics issues that should be taken into consideration? Please specify	○ Yes ◉ No	

I confirm that I have taken into account all ethics issues described above and that, if any ethics issues apply, I will complete the ethics self-assessment and attach the required documents. ☐

How to Complete your Ethics Self-Assessment

H2020-MSCA-IF ver 1.01 20190410 Page 13 of 15 Last saved 08/07/2019 16:00

This proposal version was submitted by on Brussels Local Time. Issued by the Funding & Tenders Portal Submission System.

Please fulfill the whole table.
Do not hesitate to say «yes» if any question needs to be replied as «yes». You will need to make explanation in Part B2 as well.

Please also check the link below the page: How to Complete your Ethics Self-Assessment: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf

Call-specific questions

Proposal Submission Forms

Table Of Contents | Validate Form | Save | Save&Close

Proposal ID SEP-210673443 *Acronym* MSCA CZ

5 - Call specific questions

Eligibility Researcher (future fellow)

1. Were you in the last 5 years in military service? Yes No

2. Did you spend time on procedures for obtaining refugee status (according to the 1951 Geneva Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol) in a Member State or Associated Country? Yes No

Other Questions

1. For communication purposes only, the European Commission REA asks for permission to publish the name of the researcher (future fellow) should the proposal be retained for funding. Does the researcher (future fellow) give this permission? Yes No

2. Some national and regional public research funding authorities run schemes to fund MSCA applicants that score highly in the MSCA evaluation but which cannot be funded by the MSCA due to their limited budget. In case this proposal could not be selected for funding by the MSCA, do the researcher and supervisor consent to the European Commission disclosing to such authorities the results of its evaluation (score and ranking range) together with their names and contact details, non-confidential proposal title and abstract, proposal acronym, and host organisation? Yes No

3. Do you wish to participate to the Widening Fellowships and thus increase your chances of being funded? Yes No

If you don't reply or if you maintain 'No' as your answer, be aware that your proposal will not benefit from an extra chance of being funded under the Widening Fellowships call in case it cannot be funded under the MSCA-Individual Fellowships call.

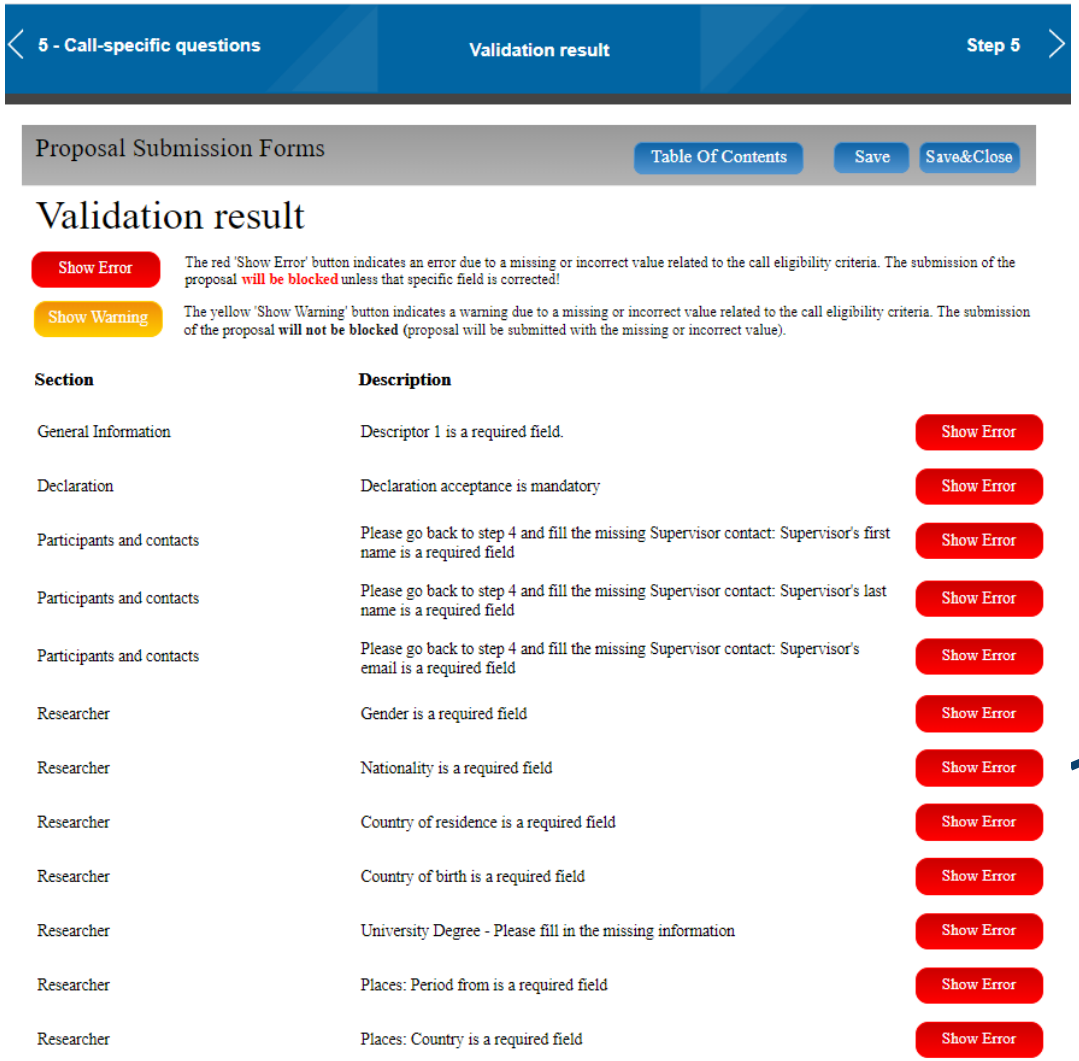
The country of the selected PIC belongs to the list of widening countries. A dedicated budget (EUR 7 million) has been set aside under the Work Programme "Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation" to fund EF proposals submitted to the MSCA-IF-2020 call but which cannot be funded under the EF lists of the MSCA-IF-2020 call due to a lack of budget. EF proposals where the host organisation is located in an eligible widening country will be automatically duplicated into the Widening call only if you express your wish to do so. Your decision not to participate in the Widening call will not affect your chances of being funded directly under the MSCA-IF-2020 call.

4. Is there a secondment in Member States or Associated Countries envisaged in Part B of this proposal? Yes No

H2020-MSCA-IF ver 1.00 20200407

ERA Fellowships
Secondments

Validation result



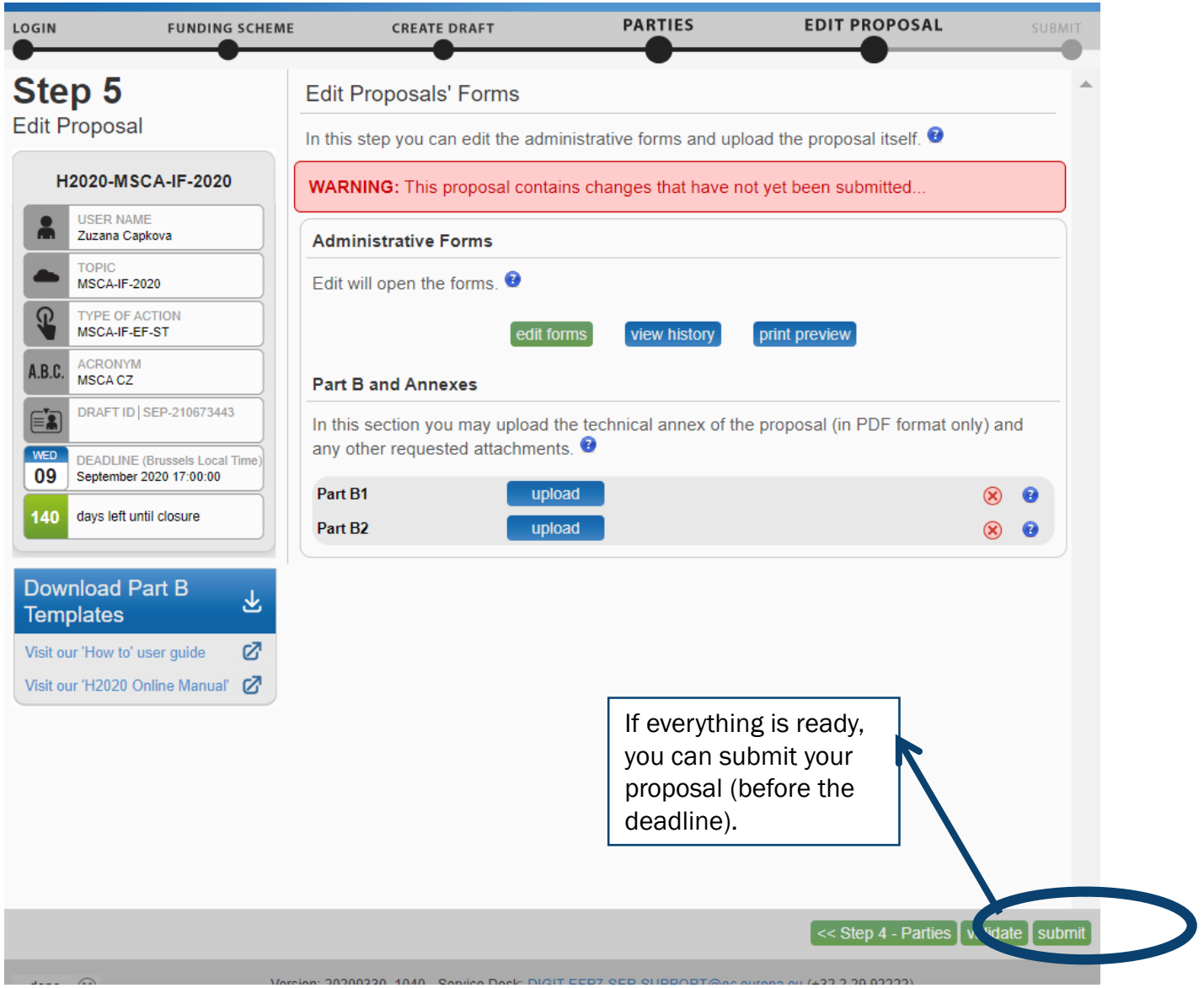
See the validation results.

When you fill all the information there will not be any validation errors..

If you didn't fill in every part of the form (obligatory parts) you can see the missing parts under validation results title.

You cannot submit your proposal before you remove all those errors.

Submission


LOGIN
FUNDING SCHEME
CREATE DRAFT
PARTIES
EDIT PROPOSAL
SUBMIT
Step 5
Edit Proposal
H2020-MSCA-IF-2020
USER NAME
Zuzana Capkova
TOPIC
MSCA-IF-2020
TYPE OF ACTION
MSCA-IF-EF-ST
ACRONYM
MSCA CZ
DRAFT ID | SEP-210673443
WED
09
DEADLINE (Brussels Local Time)
September 2020 17:00:00
140
days left until closure
Download Part B Templates
Visit our 'How to' user guide
Visit our 'H2020 Online Manual'
Edit Proposals' Forms
In this step you can edit the administrative forms and upload the proposal itself.
WARNING: This proposal contains changes that have not yet been submitted...
Administrative Forms
Edit will open the forms.
edit forms
view history
print preview
Part B and Annexes
In this section you may upload the technical annex of the proposal (in PDF format only) and any other requested attachments.
Part B1
upload
Part B2
upload
If everything is ready, you can submit your proposal (before the deadline).
<< Step 4 - Parties
submit

QUESTIONS?

sli.do
CODE: PF2021

TECHNOLOGY CENTRE CAS

MSCA PF: YOUR CV, ABSTRACT AND WORK PLAN

Petra Fedorová

On-line Information Day on Horizon Europe
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF), 21 May 2021

YOUR CV I

Not weighted, not part of the evaluation criteria but taken into account for the overall proposal content!

- ❑ Should include the **standard academic** & **research record**:
  - Name, education & professional experience (in reverse chronological order), main achievements.
  - Please check the standard proposal template or Guide for Applicants (GfA)!
- ❑ Must show the degree of your experience & your achievements.
- ❑ Highlight your **leadership qualities** & **independence!** What makes you different & interesting?
- ❑ You have to **match it with your career** & **training goals**!
- ❑ Be **consistent & critical** - leave things out if not **relevant** (not long lists)!

YOUR CV II

- ❑ Explain any **career gaps**.
- ❑ Be **specific**, provide **precise & verifiable data:**

  Funding ID & agency, amount in EUR (CZK in brackets), your role (PI/team member).

  Major collaborations and their **result(s)!**

  Selected out of …? Prize for what? Conference dates. How many students supervised? (put their names), How much teaching? etc.

- ❑ **Publications** - correct & full references, your name bold/underlined, more detailed information

  Briefly describe the best ones incl. **your own contribution**!

- ❑ Explain **anything unique** to your country (national prizes, GA ČR …).

ABSTRACT I

Abstract should grabb the evaluator's attention & be understandable to the „generalist(s)".

- ❑ The abstract and keywords are **used to select the evaluators**.
- ❑ Should sell your project – be enthusiastic & ambitious, show a **clear vision**.
- ❑ Look at **past examples** (e.g. at CORDIS*).
- ❑ Use **key words** and the common terminology.
- ❑ Avoid conditional, local terms, abbreviations, jargon & references.
- ❑ Max. length limit!
- ❑ **Ask colleagues** from different fields **to review it**.

Write it last!

* http://cordis.europa.eu/projects

ABSTRACT II

Stress novelty!
Must be simple, clear & comprehensive!

What?

- Challenge? 1-2 sentences that put your project into context.
- Objectives? What is the project about, what do I want to do?

How?

- How will the objectives be achieved?
- Which (novel) methods will be used?

Why?

- Relevance of the objectives to the work programme?
- Expected broader impact? European added value?

WORK PLAN I: BASIC TERMINOLOGY

Work packages (WP)

- ❑ are sub-parts (major subdivision) of the project,
- ❑ describe how the project objectives will be achieved,
- ❑ each WP has **resources, work tasks** (technical units of the project plan), **milestones & deliverables.**

Deliverable (D)

- ❑ a concrete **output** of the project - measurable & verifiable,
- ❑ contractual obligation: publication, conference, report, technical diagram, prototype, software …

Milestone (M)

- ❑ a **control point** that help to chart progress/a critical decision point for further development
- ❑ completion of key D, analysis of an experiment, establishment of CDP, in vitro study …

WORK PLAN II: GANTT CHART

Include a Gantt Chart containing:

- **Work Packages titles, (tasks),**
- Major **deliverables,**
- Major **milestones,**
- **Secondments**, if applicable.

✓ **Is the proposal designed in such a way to achieve the desired impact?**

✓ Is the **work plan coherent**?

✓ Is the **time allocated** to each project part **realistic?**

Important: credibility and feasibility, not overcomplicated.
Resonable number of WP, D and M (not a „shopping list“).

GANTT CHART – GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS 2020

REFLECTING WORK PACKAGES, SECONDMENTS, TRAINING EVENTS AND DISSEMINATION/COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

		Year 1											
Work Package	Title	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
WP1	Management						D1.1						
WP2	Data collection							M2.1					
WP3	Field work							M3.1					
WP4	Research part x												
WP5	Research part y												
WP6	Dissemination and communication					D6.1						D6.2	
WP7	Secondments												
...	...												

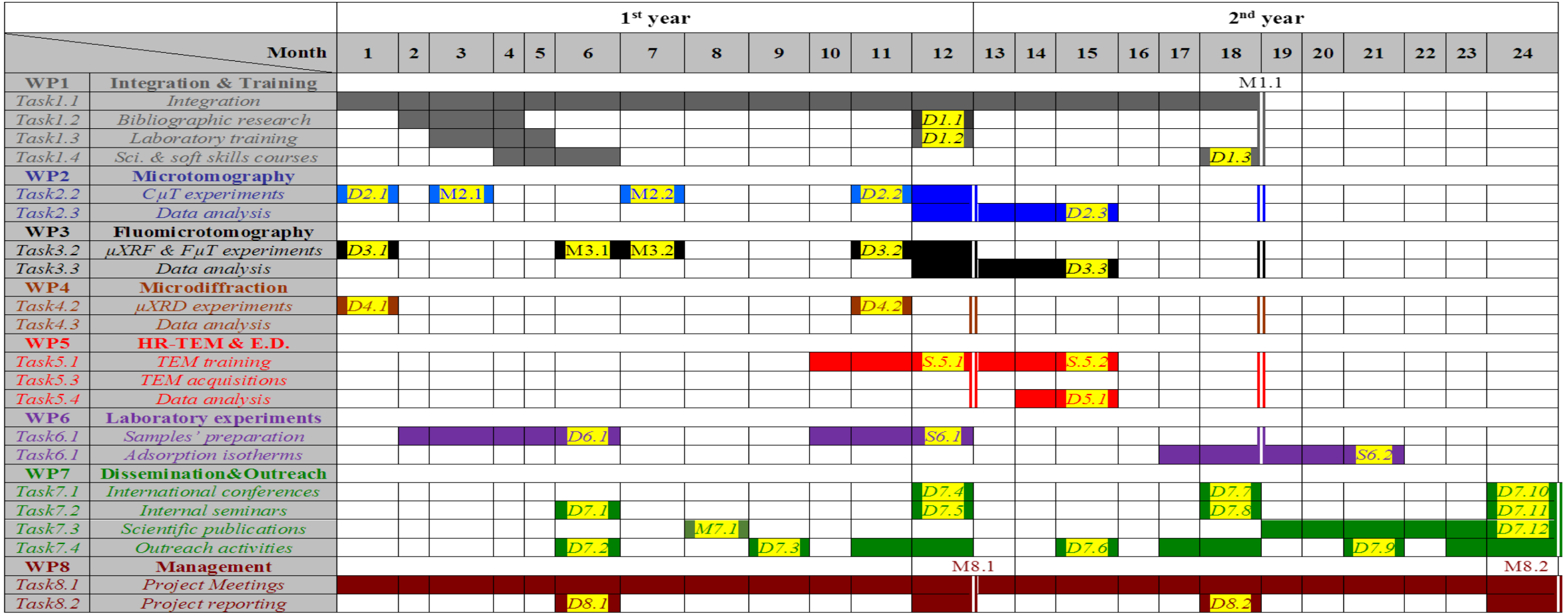
Deliverable/milestone numbers should be ordered according to delivery dates:

<WP number>.<number of deliverable/milestone within that WP>, e.g. D 6.1 = 1st deliverable from WP 6

GANTT CHART – REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE 1

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
WP2: Dissemination														
T2.1 Dissemination strategy			D2.1											
T2.2 Development of promotioanl kit								M2.1						
T2.3 Website						M2.2								
T2.4 Multi-stakeholder policy dialogue workshops										M2.3				
WP3: Stakeholder Outreach														
T3.1 Cooperation with Enterprise Europe Network						M3.1								
T3.2 Collaboration with other NCP networks													M3.2	
T3.3 Collaboration with networks/bilateral programmes					D3.3									
WP4: Enhance Partnering														
T4.1 Matching tool		M4.1		M4.2										
T4.2 SMEs as new clientele								D4.3						
T4.3 Trans-regional brokerage events									M4.7					

GANTT CHART – REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE 2



Source: http://biominab3d.altervista.org/schedule.html

WELCOME TO TC CAS & GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR PROPOSAL! ☺

Petra Fedorová

fedorova@tc.cz

SHORT BREAK

Agenda

1

Introduction on MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

2

How should your proposal be structured?

3

How to write a competitive MSCA PF proposal?

4

Support to applicants (national and institutional)

HOW TO WRITE A COMPETITIVE MSCA PF PROPOSAL?

Evaluation criteria

Award criteria

Each criterion is scored out of 5, proposals scoring equal to or above 70% are considered for funding

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%**
Weighting		

Award criteria (I)

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
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50%	**30%**	**20%**
Weighting		

Excellence

1.1 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)

- Introduction, discuss the state-of-the-art, specific objectives and give an overview of the action.
- Highlight the type of research / innovation activities proposed.
- Explain the originality and innovative aspects of the planned research as well as the contribution that the action is expected to make to advancements within the research field. Describe any novel concepts, approaches or methods that will be implemented.

IMPORTANT
✓Formulate an overarching aim of your project
✓Fine-tune the general goal through specific objective/aims/research questions
✓Ensure a good state of the art, focus on your topic
✓Original, ambitious but also feasible!

Excellence

1.2 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)

- Describe research methodology and approach. You should describe how the research will be carried out.
- Discuss the interdisciplinary aspects of the action in terms of research methodology, supervision, dissemination etc. (if relevant).
- Discuss the gender dimension in the research (if relevant). Demonstrate how you will analyse/take into account the possible differences between males and females, in the research and innovation content of your project.

IMPORTANT

✓ Prepare your proposal in compliance with underlying principles: Open Science, Responsible Research & Innovation

✓ New publishing platform and open peer review: https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/

Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)

A normative framework for RRI: six Policy Agendas

ETHICS
Ensuring research integrity, and science & society

GENDER EQUALITY
Promoting human resources in research for attaining gender balance

GOVERNANCE
Providing instruments to foster shared responsibility in R&I practices

OPEN ACCESS
Guaranteeing access to scientific knowledge to boost R&I

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
Fostering collaborative and multi-actor processes in R&I

SCIENCE EDUCATION
Increasing the knowledge and skills of citizens in order to promote scientific vocations and participation

Excellence

1.3 Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host

- Qualifications and experience of the supervisor(s). See MSCA guidelines on supervision New
- How you will be integrated (nature and quality of the research group/environment, integration in different areas of expertise, disciplines, indicate the international networking opportunities of the host…).
- Outline how a two-way transfer of knowledge will occur between the researcher and the host institution(s):
  - Explain how you will gain new knowledge during the fellowship at the hosting organisation(s).
  - Outline what you will bring to the host (previously acquired knowledge and skills).
- For Global Fellowships explain how the newly acquired skills and knowledge in the Third Country will be transferred back to the host institution in Europe (the beneficiary) during the incoming phase.

Excellence

1.3 Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host

IMPORTANT

- ✓ Demonstrate that the supervisors are experts in their areas (include track record and **international collaborations**, **experience in supervising**/training especially at advanced level (PhD, postdoctoral researchers), participation in projects, publications, patents, etc.)
- ✓Explain the training objectives (list them, make a table, timing, duration…)
- ✓Indicate the activities to be carried out during secondments (if any)
- ✓Include the preparation and use of a **Personal Career Development Plan (PCDP)**: must be submitted at the beginning of the project (no later than 6 months after its start) and updated if needed throughout the project)

Excellence

Examples of advanced research skills:

- Training in new techniques, instruments, equipments..
- Open Science
- Big data
- Scientific writing
- Experimental design
- Quantitative and Qualitative methods
- User design….

Examples of Transferable Skills:

- Entrepreneurship and innovation
- Grant writing
- Patent applications
- IPR Management and Patenting
- Leadership / Influencing courses
- Project Management
- Gender training (gender isues /gender innovation)
- Presentation Skills
- Communication training of research to non-specialists
- Ethics in Research (RRI)
- CV presentation, interview skills….

Examples taken from the MSCA IF Handbook 2020 (Net4mobility+ project)

Excellence

1.4 Quality and appropriateness of the researcher's professional experience, competences and skills

- Researchers should demonstrate how their existing professional experience, talents and the proposed research will contribute to their development as independent/mature researchers, during the fellowship.
- Explain the new competences and skills that will be acquired and how they relate to the researcher's existing professional experience.

IMPORTANT

- ✓ Include all the relevant experience (teaching, consultancy, supervision,etc.): show your leadership /independent thinking skills…
- ✓ Evaluators have to be convinced that you are the right person to carry out the activities planned and you will still gain new skills/knowledge
- ✓ This section needs to be coherent with your CV

Award criteria

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50%	**30%**	**20%**
Weighting		

Impact

2.1 Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development

- Articulate clearly the advantages of this fellowship for your personal career development.
- Demonstrate to what extent competences acquired during the fellowship (described in Excellence), including any secondments, will maximise the impact on your future career prospects = describing the impact they will have.

IMPORTANT

- ✓ Present the way in which the fellowship will contribute in the medium and long term to the development of your career.
- ✓ How the training received will help broaden – diversify your career and skillset.
- ✓ What's the next step in your career and what you will learn in the PF to get there.

Impact

2.2 Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities (to be submitted towards the end of the project)

What are the audiences we are addressing our messages to?

- **Scientific Community**
- **Stakeholders**
- **Policy makers**
- **Final Users**
- **Industry…**

DISSEMINATION
EXPLOITATION
(papers at conferences, publications in journals, open data…)

- **General Public / Society**

COMMUNICATION
OUTREACH
(press articles, researchers´night, blogs and videos…)

Impact

2.3 The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts

- Show the measures you will undertake to appropriately use your project's results – commercial vs. non-commercial
- Mention Open Access and open data strategy (DMP = Data Management Plan to be submitted within the first 6 months of the project)
- Outline plans to exploit any IP arising from the programme
- Keep an eye on potential IP issues, liaise with the technology transfer services (do not forget the secondment host)

Award criteria

Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
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Implementation

3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages

IMPORTANT

✓2-4 research packages only, consistent with Excellence section

✓WP Management: meetings with supervisor / reports to EU at the end of the PF

✓ WP Training (and knowledge transfer): consistent with activities in Excellence section

✓ WP Dissemination/Exploitation and Communication/Public Engagement: consistent with Impact section

✓Remark possible risks for project objectives and concrete contingency plan and mitigation actions

✓ Adapt to project!

✓ Make sure it is readable when printed

✓ Careful with colours

✓ Ask your Host Institution for support

Implementation

3.2 Quality and capacity of the host institutions and participating organisations, including hosting arrangements

Describe:

- Main tasks and commitments of the beneficiary and partner organization with the project. For GF also the role of partner organisations in Third Countries for the outgoing
- The infrastructure, logistics, facilities offered for the good implementation of your project, if your host institution has endorsed European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, include it into the proposal (HR Logo holders: https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/charter)
- The project organisation and management structure, including the financial management strategy and the progress monitoring mechanism

IMPORTANT

✓ Work together with your colleagues from Project Office or Tech Transfer Office.

✓ Section Capacities of the participating organizations is evaluated here.

Mandatory deliverables New

- **Mobility declaration** submitted within 20 days of the start of the research training activities and updated (if needed) via the Funding & Tenders Portal Continuous Reporting tool
- **Career development plan** of the recruited researcher, submitted at the beginning of the action (not later than 6 months after its start) and updated if needed throughout the project
- **Evaluation questionnaire** completed by the recruited researcher and submitted at the end of the research training activity; a **follow-up questionnaire** submitted two years later
- **Data management plan** submitted within the first 6 months of the project
- **Plan for the dissemination and exploitation of results** submitted towards the end of the project

Ethical aspects

- Applicants should demonstrate proactively that they are aware of and will comply with European and national legislation and fundamental **ethical principles**
- Clearly identify potential ethical issues in the proposal and detail how these will be addressed!
- **Ethics Issues Table in Part A** → if ethical issue is flagged, **Ethics self-assessment** is necessary **in Part B**

  - Human embryonic stem cells and human embryos
  - Humans
  - Human cells or tissues
  - Personal data
  - Animals
  - Non-EU countries
  - Environment, health and safety
  - New Artificial intelligence
  - Other Ethics Issues
  - Crosscutting issue: potential misuse of results

- Contact Eva Hillerová hillerova@tc.cz

When preparing your proposal…

- **Search for right host and supervisor (perfect match)**
- **Search successful projects and profiles of their applicants** (get inspiration in CORDIS)
- **Read the Call Documents carefully:** Work Programme, Guide for Applicants, Handbook (by NCPs)
- **Language to be used:** Appealing and readable for different evaluator´s profiles
- **Use the official template:** Include the information where requested, use visuals
- **Get to know the specific evaluation criteria:** Be aware of all criteria weight, it is not all about Excellence!
- What is not written will not be evaluated
- **Ask for support:** Own institution, NCP, colleagues, funded proposals…
- **Do not leave it for the last minute!** (proposal writing / consultations with the host)

QUESTIONS?

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TECHNOLOGY CENTRE CAS

WHAT TO STRESS & WHAT TO AVOID

LESSONS LEARNED FROM HORIZON 2020 INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS

Petra Fedorová

On-line Information Day on Horizon Europe
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships, 21 May 2021

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HORIZON EUROPE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS (DRAFT) EVALUATION CRITERIA

- MSCA Work Programme 2021-22
- FP Guide for Applicants (GfA) 2021

EXCELLENCE/RESEARCH QUALITY

EXCELLENT MEANS NOVEL, NOT INCREMENTAL!

The research is highly significant, linked to science, society and industry …

Project is timely and relevant, integration of multidisciplinary aspects.

Clear objectives of the research.

The S-O-T-A research methodology is credible and described in detail.

EXCELLENCE/RESEARCH QUALITY

TIMELY & RELEVANT, AMBITIOUS & INNOVATIVE, YET FEASIBLE …

Project not really excellent or innovative

Research activities incremental with respect to the S-O-T-A …

Project is a follow up of previous work carried out in the host lab …

Project follows traditional theoretical approach.

Project is explained in too general terms.

Interdisciplinary aspects are not sufficiently expressed.

Preliminary results would be needed

to assess the chance of success of this high-risk project.

MSCAs ARE NOT MERE RESEARCH PROJECTS

EXCELLENT SUPERVISION, TRAINING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT …

Project supervisor is of very good quality.

Detailed information on track record incl. high-rank publications, collaborative scientific activities at international level, grants received, experience in supervising/training of PhDs and postdocs …

The two-way transfer of knowledge is clearly outlined.

Host institution is very good place to work on the project.

The researcher has a good CV and promises to be able to reach a very good level of maturity and independence.

PERFECT MATCH BETWEEN THE PROJECT, FELLOW PROFILE, HOST/SUPERVISOR …

- Limited or missing information on the supervisor's qualifications.
- The proposed training programme is not sufficiently ambitious/does not match the project needs.
- The additional training in transferable skills is not fully elaborated.
- Expertise of the researcher & the hosting group are the same.
- Specific contribution of the project in promoting the researcher’s independence not appropriately described/unclear
  (the applicant has a tenured position at the University …)

IMPACT

(WHY) DO YOU (WE) NEED IT? LINK THE PROJECT TO YOUR CAREER

The project will contribute to the career development of the applicant, acquiring new competencies in a specific field.

IF will bring experience back to Europe & promote an area of science that currently does not exist in the applicant's home country.

Plan to disseminate research results is effectively outlined, incl. active participation in international congresses, publication in high-IF journals with particular emphasis on open access.

Outreach activities targeting school children & broad public audiences, initiatives to promote women in science very well outlined. The researcher has significant experience in presenting complex research to multinational audiences from several conferences.

Important field of research for Europe, high practical value of the project.

IMPACT
AVOID GENERIC BUT EMPTY STATEMENTS

The career goals of the researcher not clearly specified.
Measures to disseminate the action results beyond conventional measures such as academic publications are presented in a very generic way.
Proposal does not clearly specify in which possible journals the papers could be published, or how many articles are expected to be produced.
Outreach activities at international level & their impact not explicitly mentioned.
Plans to exploit the research outcomes in terms of intellectual property & possible commercialisation not properly described.

IMPLEMENTATION

MAKE A CLEAR, REALISTIC & COHERENT WORK PLAN INCL. A PLAN B, INCLUDE HOSTING ARRANGEMENTS

All infrastructure needed for the completion of the project available.

A well elaborated and feasible work plan with appropriate milestones.

The host institution has an International Center

which ensures support with local administration, paperwork, obtaining permits, schools, housing …

IMPLEMENTATION

BE CONSISTENT AND DO NOT THINK EVALUATORS KNOW!

The work plan, the milestones & the deliverables are not clearly elaborated.
Milestones provided are too general to allow proper project monitoring.
Work plan is not fully coherent as management activities not sufficiently addressed & dissemination/communication tasks not clearly structured in the Gantt chart.
Publication of 8 scholarly articles during 2 years is overly ambitious & quite unrealistic./ Project is overambitious for 1 person in a 2-year time.
Public engagement activities are planned for the very end of the fellowship.
High risky project with uncertain outcome, contigency plan is lacking …

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HORIZON EUROPE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS (DRAFT) EVALUATION CRITERIA

- MSCA Work Programme 2021-22
- FP Guide for Applicants (GfA) 2021

Get to know the specific **evaluation criteria** and follow the template in the GfA!

Put **right information at right place!**

GOOD LUCK
WITH YOUR PROPOSAL ! ☺

Petra Fedorová

fedorova@tc.cz

QUESTIONS?

sli.do
CODE: PF2021

SHORT BREAK

Agenda

1

Introduction on MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

2

How should your proposal be structured?

3

How to write a competitive MSCA PF proposal?

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Support to applicants (national and institutional)

National Contact Points (NCPs)

- International network of National Contact Point has been created by the European Commission and countries participating in the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation to support potential applicants and project beneficiaries
- NCPs constitute the main interface between the programme, European Commission and the Research & Innovation community in Europe and beyond
- Guidance, advice, training and assistance
- CZ: NCP activities are funded (2021-2027) within the project CZERA

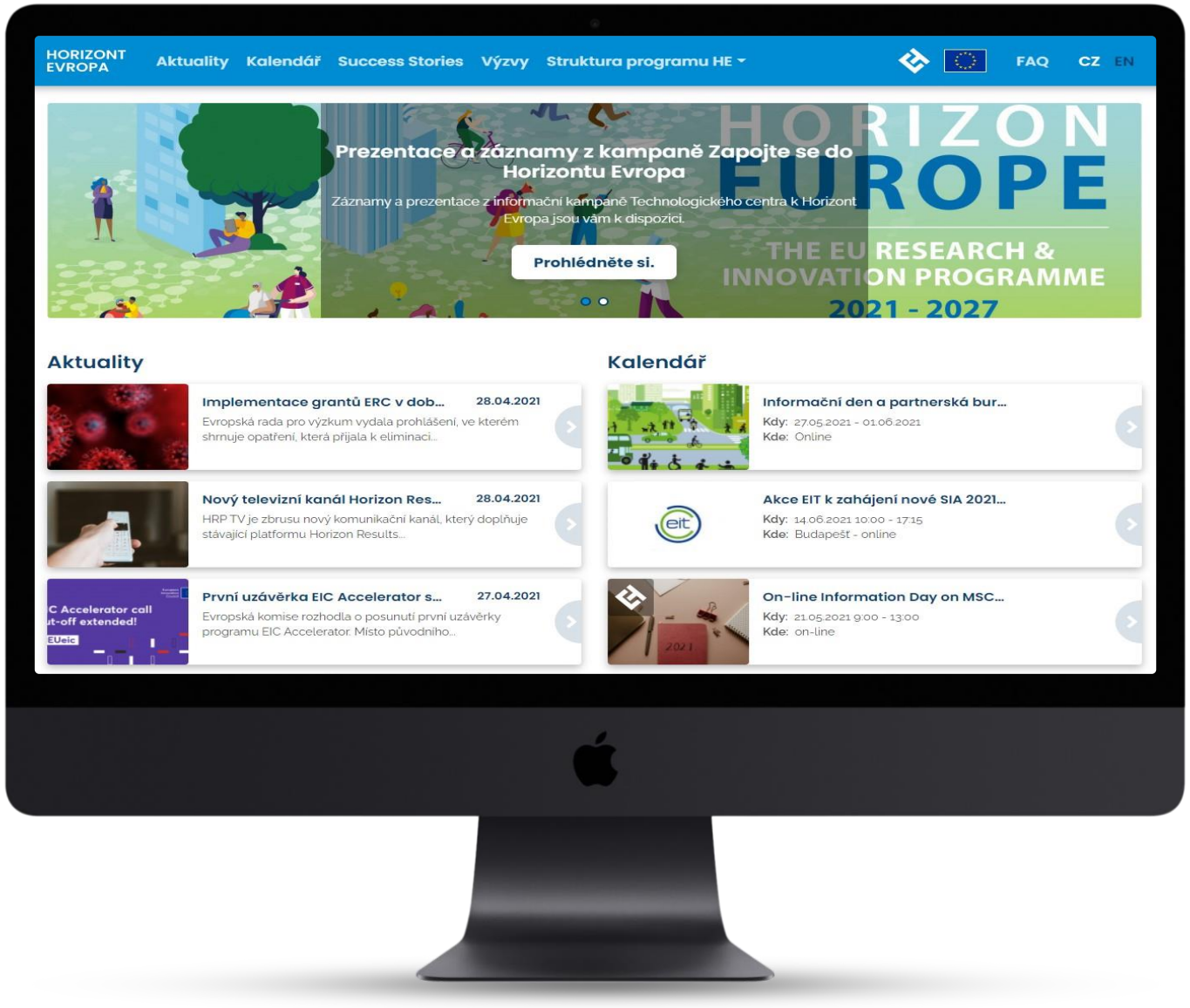
Czech MSCA NCP:
Zuzana Čapková

Petra Fedorová
(maternity leave)

List of NCPs available on Funding and Tenders Portal

Technology Centre CAS

National Information Centre for European Research



National Portal Horizon Europe

New webpage (Czech/English version)

horizontevropa.cz

- News
- Calendar
- Success stories
- Calls
- Newsletter (subscribe)
- **MSCA under Excellent Science**

@TC_AVCR

National support to MSCA applicants

Information events:

- **National Information Day** (this year within the campaign Join HE, 8 March 2021)
- **Information Days on specific Action**
- **Applicants´ workshops** (intensive training in proposal writing)
- Events on demand, specific trainings

- Brochure on MSCA to be updated in summer (Vademecum)
- Individual consulting and proposal pre-screening (non-scientific issues), e-mails, phone calls, personal/virtual meetings

→ **Collaboration with key stakeholders**: Marie Curie fellows and evaluators …

Changed

15 September 2021:

- Deadline for sending MSCA PF proposals for pre-screening
- We accept only complete version of your proposals!

Institutional support to MSCA applicants

- Close cooperation with your supervisor
- Contact your future host institution in time to get the consent
  - Implementation criterion
  - Capacities of participating institutions
  - Letter of commitment
- Your current institution might be also willing to help
- Before sending us your proposal for pre-creening, use the support at institutional level

Applicants´ workshop on MSCA PF?

- Webpage of the workshop HERE
- Get familiar with the rules before the WS (presentations and recording from the Infoday will be available)
- CVs and abstracts to be send to luzumova@tc.cz by 6 June 2021 in one word file
- Three sessions according to scientific areas:
  - **24 June (8:30-12:30)** Chemistry, Information Science and Engineering, Mathematics, Physics
  - **24 June (13:00-17:00)** Environment and Geosciences, Life Sciences
  - **25 June (8:30-12:30)** Social Sciences and Humanities, Economic Sciences
- Programme of each session:
  - Feedback from the evaluator on CVs and abstracts
  - Interactive part: evaluating an MSCA proposal
  - MSCA grant holder´s story
  - Q&A, discussion

We are preparing a workshop on MSCA PF for project managers

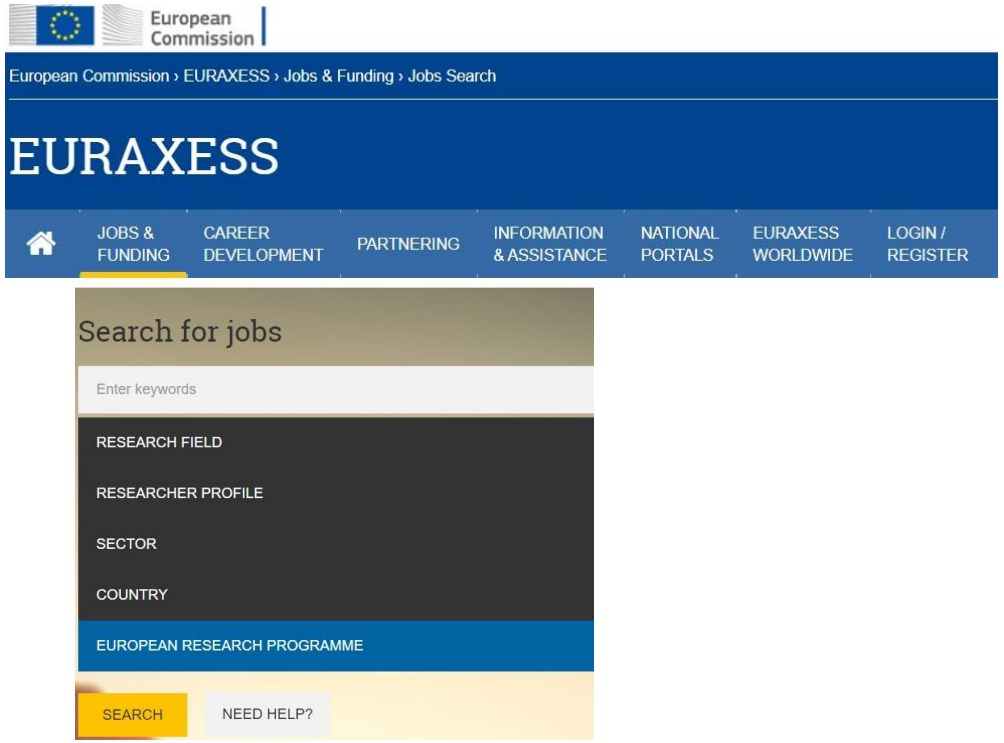
Planned events – INVITATION

Date	Venue	Event*
8 March 2021	on-line	Národní informační kampaň ZAPOJTE SE DO HORIZONTU EVROPA
23 March 2021	on-line	Infoday on MSCA under Horizon Europe – for the research community (by European Commission)
21 May 2021	on-line	Information day on MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships
2 June 2021	on-line	Information day on MSCA Doctoral Networks
3 June 2021	on-line	Information day on MSCA COFUND
24-25 June 2021	on-line	Module 6: Applicants´ workshop on MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships
September 2021	tbc	Applicants´ workshop on MSCA Staff Exchanges, 2. Networking setkání projektů MSCA RISE
October 2021	tbc	Applicants´ workshop on MSCA COFUND

* Titles according to the language of the event

USEFUL LINKS

- Marie Curie Actions Website
- Research Executive Agency
- FTO Portal (applications, documents)
- CORDIS (funded projects)
- Net4Mobility+ (MSCA NCP project)
- Euraxess Portal (vacancies, COFUND Programmes)
- Research Enquiry Service
- MSCA Green Charter
- Guidelines on Supervision



QUESTIONS?

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YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS.

YOU WILL FIND THE PRESENTATIONS IN YOUR MAILBOX.

SOURCES: European Commission, Net4Mobility+

DISCLAIMER: The information is pending the adoption of the MSCA Work Programme 2021-2022.

Thank you for your attention.

Zuzana Čapková

MSCA and ERC NCP, Technology Centre CAS

+420 702 179 875

capkova@tc.cz