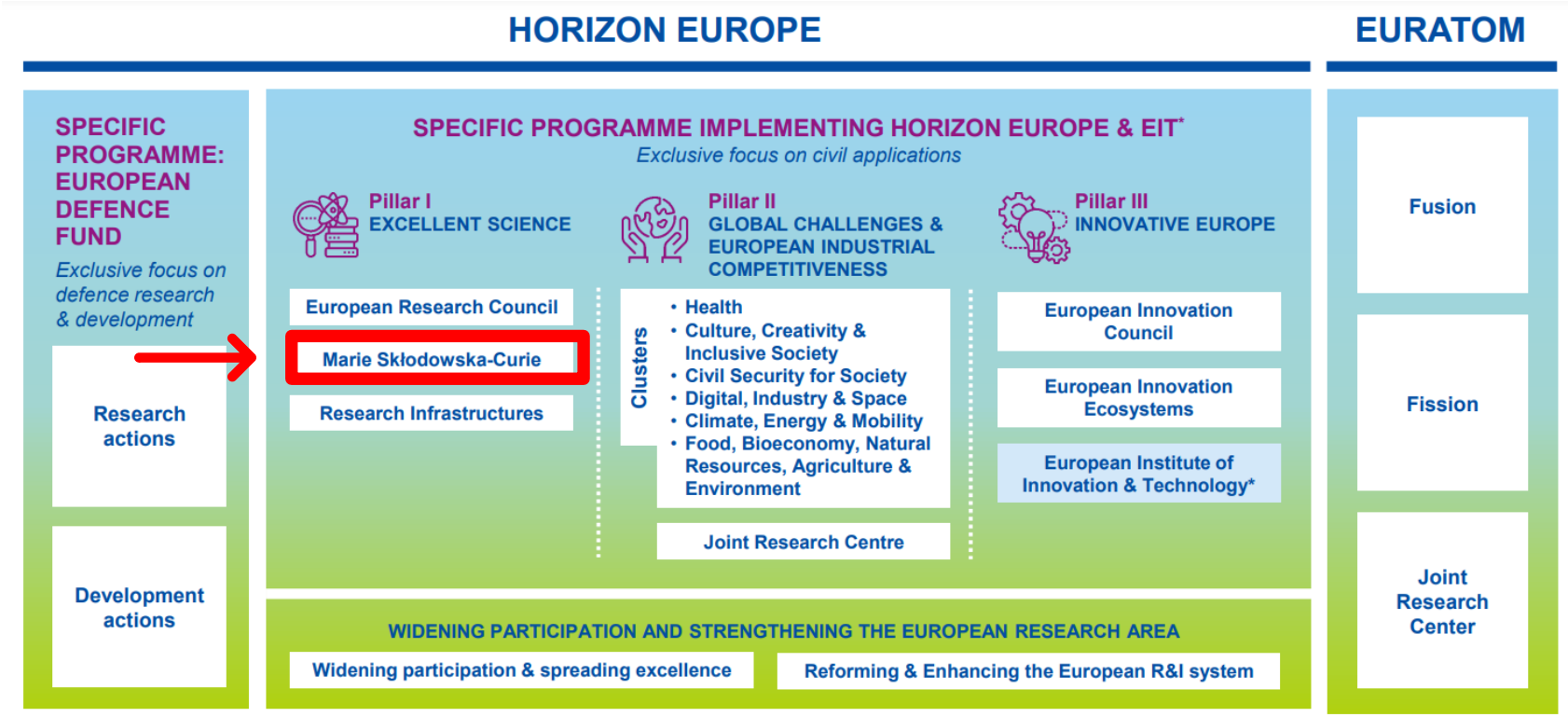
TECHNOLOGY CENTRE PRAGUE

RESEARCHER MOBILITY & WIDENING PARTICIPATION IN HORIZON EUROPE

Petra Fedorová, ERC and WIDERA (Widening) NCP
3 November, 2026, RAFA 2026 – Workshop on Opportunities to collaborate in a European research and innovation area

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS (MSCA)
EU'S MOBILITY AND TRAINING PROGRAMME



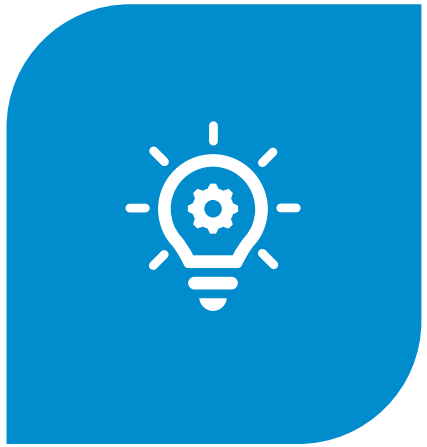
€6.6 bn

MSCA budget
2021–2027

7 %

of the Horizon Europe budget
(€95.5 bn in total)

WHAT SETS MSCA APART



BOTTOM-UP



MOBILITY*



TRAINING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT



INTERSECTORAL COOPERATION

***Mobility rule:** Researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the (recruiting) beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline (PF)/their recruitment date (DN).

MSCA SCHEMES AT A GLANCE



Postdoctoral Fellowships

PF · POSTDOCS

Individual research projects



Doctoral Networks

DN · PHD CANDIDATES

Doctoral programmes, incl. joint and industrial doctorates



Staff Exchanges

SE · R&I STAFF

Secondments across sectors and borders



COFUND

PHD CANDIDATES

Co-funding of doctoral programmes



Choose Europe for Science

CEFS · POSTDOCS

Long-term employment beyond the project



MSCA and Citizens

GENERAL PUBLIC

European Researchers' Night and Researchers at Schools

MSCA 2027 CALLS

Source: MSCA Work Programme 2026–2027 (adopted 29 September 2026)

CALL	OPENS	DEADLINE
COFUND	8 Dec 2026	6 Apr 2027
Choose Europe for Science	8 Dec 2026	6 Apr 2027
Staff Exchanges	15 Dec 2026	15 Apr 2027
MSCA and Citizens	9 Mar 2027	8 Jun 2027
Postdoctoral Fellowships	7 Apr 2027	8 Sep 2027
Doctoral Networks	26 May 2027	23 Nov 2027

DOCTORAL NETWORKS

DN · PhD candidates

- **International, multi-partner, innovative PhD training programme** with clear European added value
- **Min. 3 independent institutions** from 3 different EU MS/AC (at least one in an EU MS)
- Each recruiting at least one doctoral candidate; max. 40% of the budget per country
- Each PhD candidate must be enrolled in a PhD programme
- **Academic and non-academic beneficiaries**
- **Open, merit-based, transparent recruitment** via EURAXESS (any nationality; mobility rule applies)



A Standard DN

- Max. **540 person-months**
- Project: max. **48 months**
- Fellowships: **3–36 months**
- **Secondments: up to 50%** (new from 2026)

B Industrial Doctorates

- **≥ 50% of time** in the non-academic sector
- **Joint academic and non-academic supervision**
- Max. **540 PM**; project max. **48 months**
- Fellowships **3–36 months**; no secondment limit

C Joint Doctorates

- **Joint, double or multiple degree**
- Joint admission, selection, supervision and governance
- Max. 540 PM; project max. **60 months**
- Fellowships **3–48 months**; no secondment limit

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

PF · Postdocs

- **Individual training-through-research project** abroad, supervised by an experienced researcher (**mobility rule** applies)
- For postdocs with **max. 8 years** of research experience from the date of award of the first doctoral degree
- **Research and transferable skills** to boost the fellow's employability
- **Two-way knowledge transfer** between the fellow and the host institution
- **Optional secondment or non-academic placement** outside the host

A European Fellowship



- Host in an EU MS/AC
- Duration: **12–24 months**
- Applicants of **any nationality**

B Global Fellowship

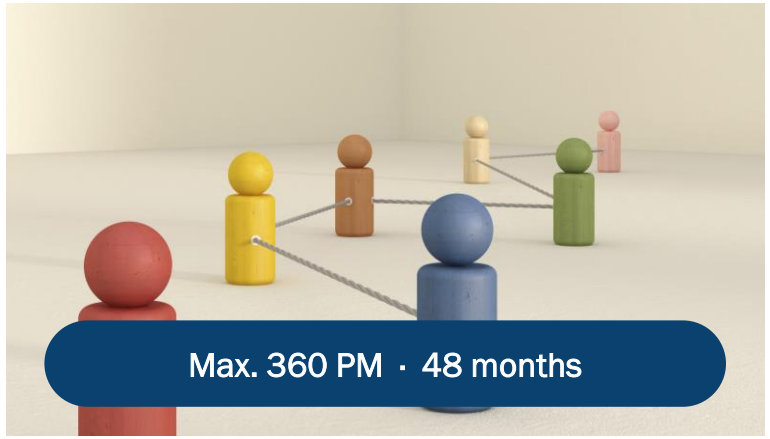


- Outgoing phase: **12–24 months** in a third country
- Mandatory **12-month return phase** in an EU MS/AC
- Duration: **24–36 months**
- **EU/AC nationals or long-term residents** only

STAFF EXCHANGES

SE · R&I staff

- **Joint R&I projects** implemented through staff exchanges
- **"Staff" in a broad sense:** researchers at any career stage and technical, administrative & managerial staff involved in R&I
- **Lasting cooperation** between sectors and continents – not a one-off exchange



A Consortium

- **At least 3 independent entities** in 3 different countries (at least 2 in different EU MS/AC)
- **Mix of academic and non-academic partners** (compulsory)

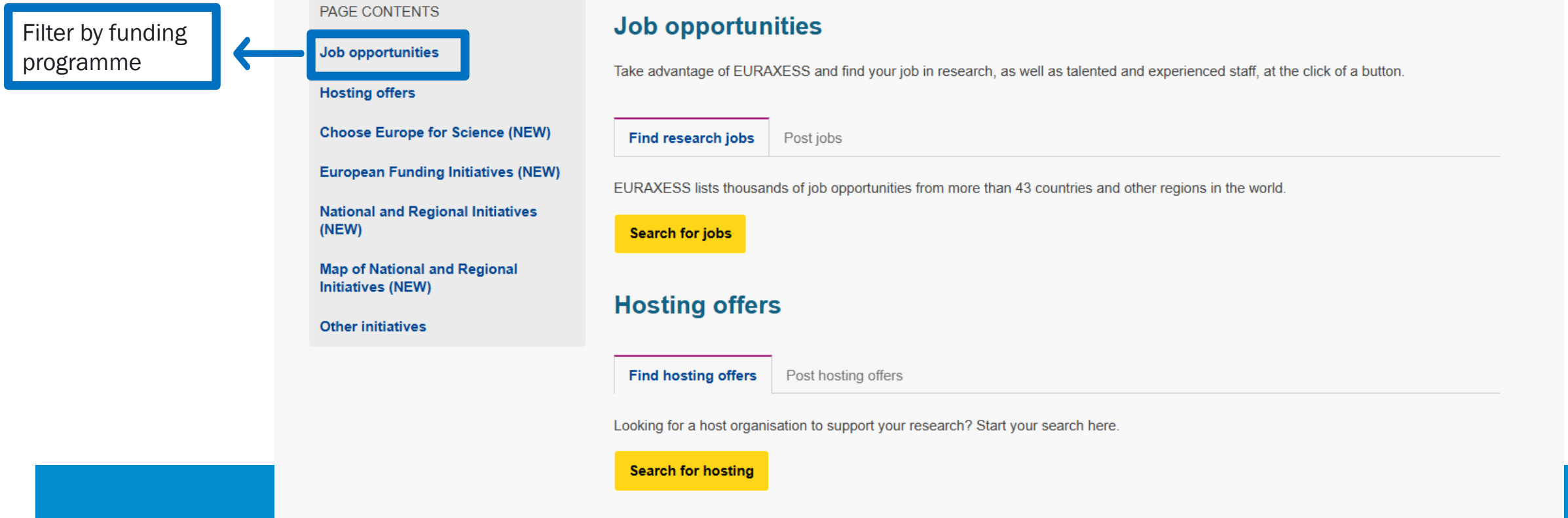
B Secondments

- **Full-time, exclusive** dedication
- **1–12 months** per person (can be split)
- **International only**; not within one country or between third countries
- Third-country entities funded only from low- and middle-income countries

C Budget

- Seconded staff **keep their regular salary** from their employer
- **Top-up allowance** covers travel, accommodation, and subsistence only

COFUND & CHOOSE EUROPE FOR SCIENCE



Filter by funding programme

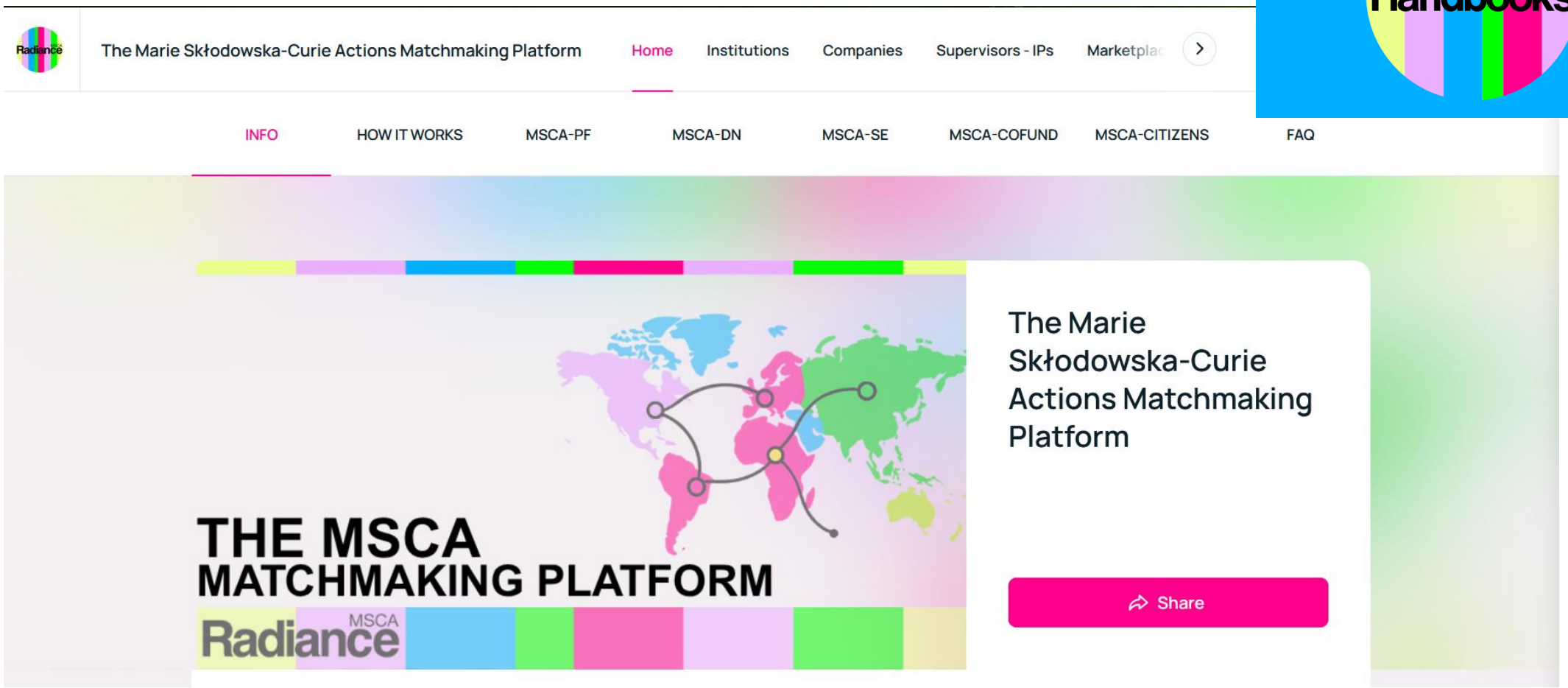
FUNDING RATES AT A GLANCE

Monthly unit contributions per person-month (EUR)

	Contributions for the researcher				Institutional contributions	
Scheme	Living allowance	Mobility	Family	Long-term leave**	Research, training & networking	Management & indirect
Postdoctoral Fellowships	€6 350*	€710	€660	€7 060	€1 000	€650
Doctoral Networks	€4 250*	€710	€660	€4 960	€1 600	€1 200
Staff Exchanges	€2 870 (top-up)	–	–	–	€1 300	€1 000
COFUND	€3 500 (COFUND)	–	–	€3 500	–	–
Choose Europe for Science	€6 350*	€710	€660	€7 060	€1 000	€650

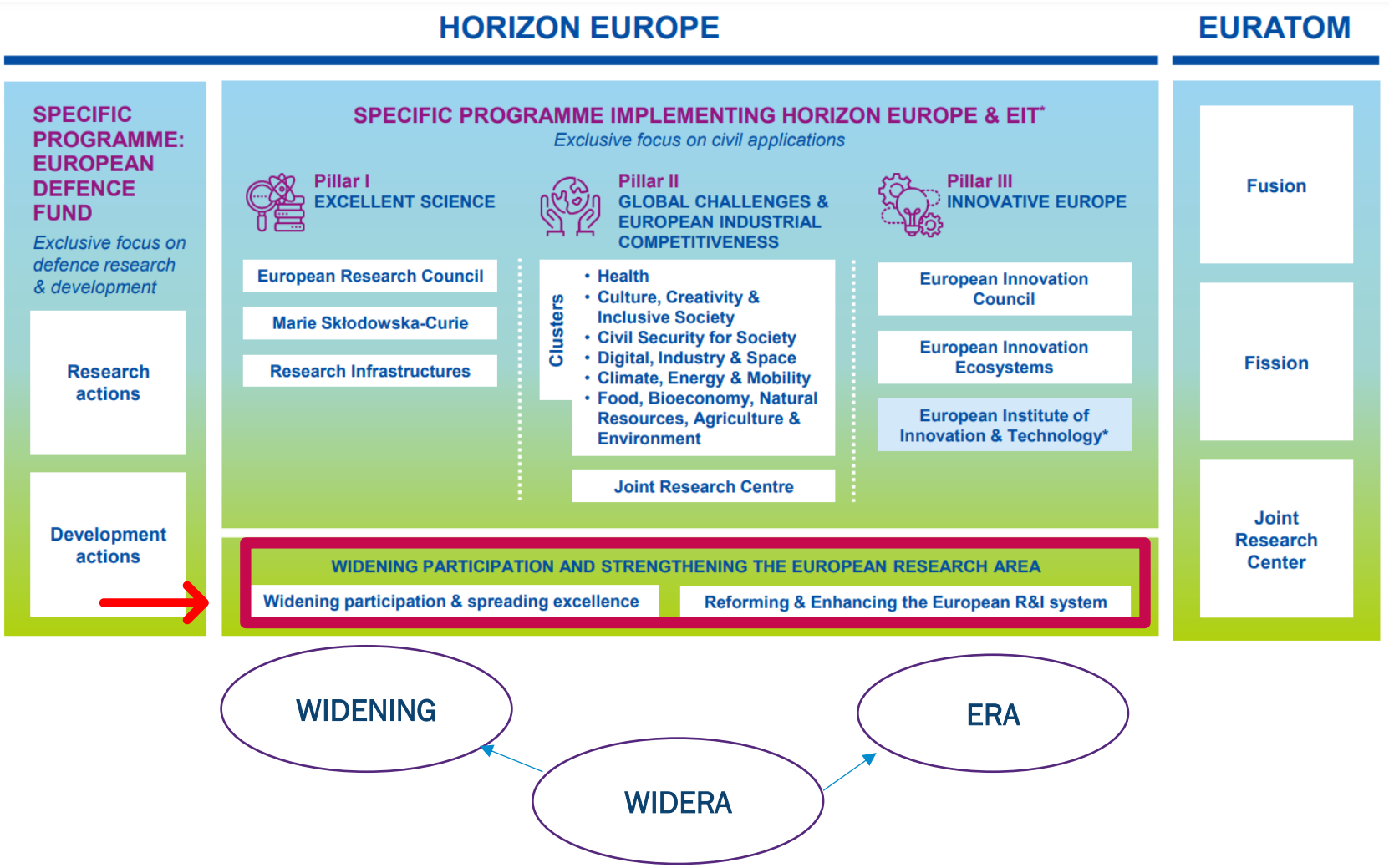
* Multiplied by the country correction coefficient (CCC) – 97.4% for Czechia.
** Multiplied by the % covered by the beneficiary. Special needs allowance (all schemes, if applicable): requested unit × 1/number of months.

MSCA MATCHMAKING PLATFORM



→ b2match.com/e/radiance-msca

WIDENING COMPONENT IN HORIZON EUROPE
CLOSING THE R&I DIVIDE IN EUROPE



€3.5 bn
WIDERA budget
2021–2027

3.6 %
of the Horizon Europe budget
(€95.5 bn in total)

WHAT SETS WIDENING PROJECTS APART



COORDINATION AND
SUPPORT ACTIONS



R&I COMPONENT
10–40 % OF THE GRANT



BOTTOM-UP

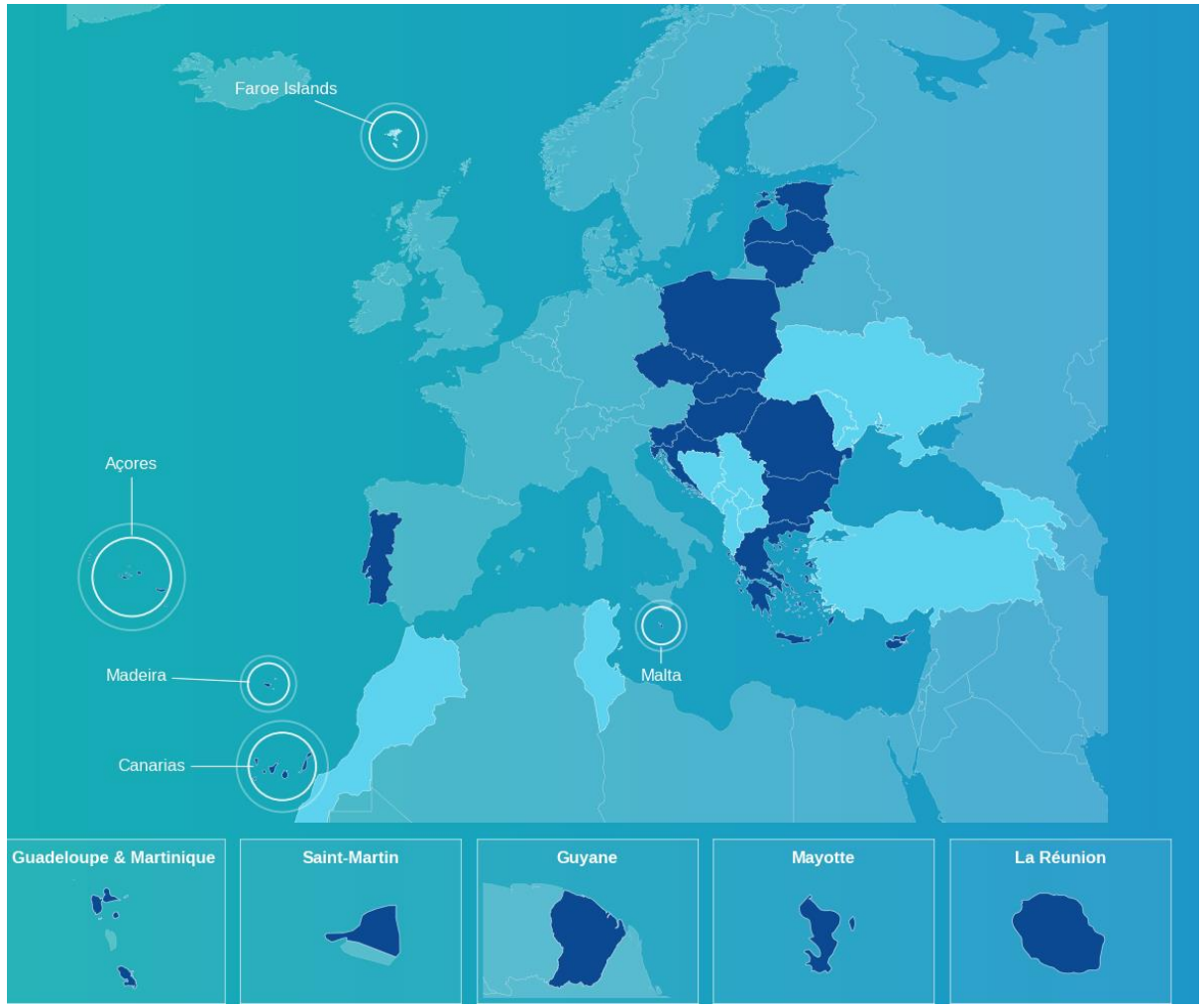


COORDINATORS FROM
WIDENING COUNTRIES*

***Eligibility condition**: Participation as coordinators is limited to legal entities established in Widening countries.

WIDENING COUNTRIES IN HE

- **15 Member States:** Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.
- **14 countries associated to the HE** (as of 01/09/2026): Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, and Morocco (once associated).
- **9 EU Outermost regions** (as defined in Art. 349 TFEU) - French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, Réunion, Saint-Martin, The Azores, Madeira, Canary Islands.



Source: AI generated image (Claude)

WIDENING 2027 CALLS

Source: WIDERA Work Programme 2026–2027 (adopted 29 September 2026)

CALL	PROJECTS	OPENS	DEADLINE
Excellence Hubs	up to 30	2 Sep 2026	4 Mar 2027
ERA Chairs	up to 80	6 Apr 2027	14 Sep 2027
ERA Research Managers	up to 30 NEW	6 Apr 2027	14 Sep 2027
ERA Fellowships	up to 50	7 Apr 2027	8 Sep 2027
EIC Pre-Accelerator	up to 100	5 May 2027	18 Nov 2027



EXCELLENCE HUBS

MAIN OBJECTIVE – to bridge the innovation divide by connecting the innovation ecosystems in Widening countries (and beyond if necessary) based on the **quadruple helix principle** (academia – business - government – society).

ELIGIBILITY

- Proposals must involve **at least two R&I ecosystems from two different Widening countries.**
- Each Widening country R&I ecosystem must comprise **four different categories of actors**:

  a) academic institutions,
  b) business entities,
  c) public authorities or authorised agencies operating at regional or local level,
  d) societal actors (civil society organisations, citizens, end users, media, cultural actors).

Type of action: CSA
Funding rate: 70%
Project duration: up to 5 years
Indicative number of projects: 30
Call budget: 100 M€
Project budget: 1,5 – 4,5 M€
Call opening: 2. 9. 2026
Call closing: 4. 3. 2027



Type of action: CSA (mono-beneficiary) beneficiary must be an SME from a HE Widening country

Funding rate: 70%

Type of funding: lump sum

Project duration: up to 2 years

Indicative number of projects: 60

Call budget: 40 M€

Project budget: 0,5-1,0 M€

Call opening: 5. 5. 2027

Call closing: 18. 11. 2027

EIC PRE-ACCELERATOR

MAIN OBJECTIVE – increase the innovation potential of early-stage deep-tech startups in the Widening countries, in order to:

- ✓ enable them to better attract private investments and scale up,
- ✓ increase business, investor, and technology readiness,
- ✓ develop their innovations further (from TRL 4 to TRL 5/6*).

Funded projects will have **free access to EIC Business Acceleration Services** (coaching …) & **access to the EIC Accelerator Fast Track for submissions to the Accelerator programme.**

* technology validated/demonstrated in a relevant environment



ERA CHAIRS

MAIN OBJECTIVE – to attract outstanding scientists and innovators to universities, research organisations, and infrastructures in Widening countries.

- ✓ Choosing a **promising or cross-cutting area of research.**
- ✓ Establishment of a **permanent, high-quality research group.**
- ✓ Until M36, a **permanent** research group leader should be appointed through **an open recruitment process** monitored by the EC; the ERA Chair holder may apply.
- ✓ At least 50% FTE until M36; after the appointment of a permanent research leader, at least 20%.

Type of action: CSA (mono-beneficiary)

Funding rate: 100%

Type of funding: lump sum

Project duration: 5 years

Indicative number of projects: 80

Call budget: 175 M€

Project budget: 1,5 – 2,5 M€

Call opening: 6. 4. 2027

Call closing: 14. 9. 2027



Type of action: CSA (mono-beneficiary)

Funding rate: 100%

Project duration: 5 years

Indicative number of projects: 30

Call budget: 65 M€

Project budget: 1,5 – 2,5 M€

Call opening: 6. 4. 2027

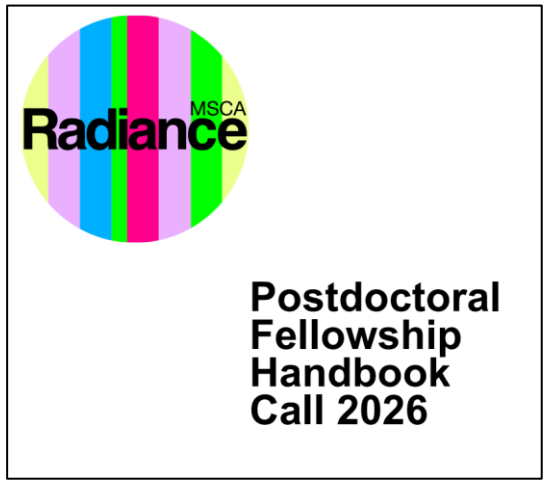
Call closing: 14. 9. 2027

ERA RESEARCH MANAGERS (RM)

MAIN OBJECTIVE – to attract an excellent research manager with international experience (RM Comp) to the institution to:

- ✓ strengthen research management capacities and establish a permanent, high-quality RM group,
- ✓ create the right conditions for excellent research management in line with ERA priorities.
- ✓ Until M36, a **permanent** research management leader should be appointed through **an open recruitment process** monitored by the EC; the ERA RM may apply.
- ✓ At least 50% FTE until M36.

Eligibility criterion: Only **one proposal per legal entity** can be submitted!



MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2027 (HORIZON-MSCA-PF-2027)

- 7/4 – 8/9/2027
- Call budget: 8 M€
- Projects to be funded: 50

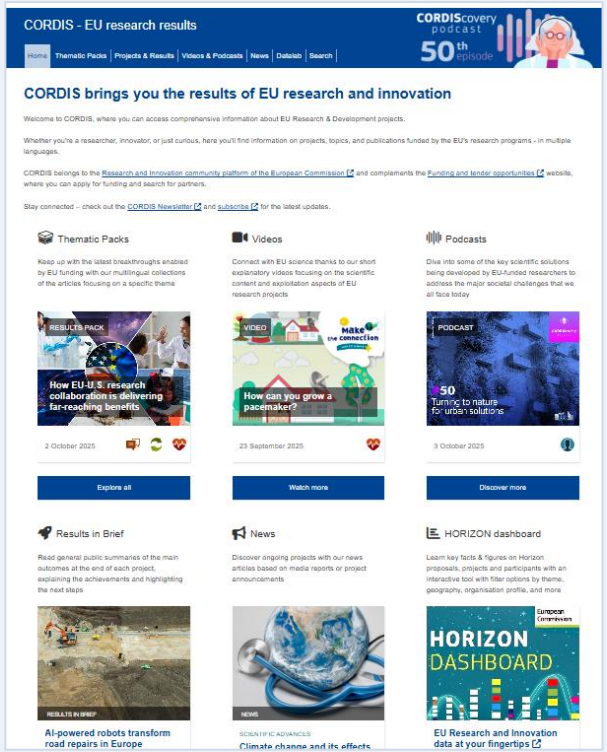
ERA FELLOWSHIPS

MAIN OBJECTIVE – individual grants for excellent researchers with a maximum of 8 years of research experience after their PhD, who wish to undertake cross-border mobility to an institution in a Widening country.

- ✓ Host organisation must be located in a Widening country.
- ✓ Applications are submitted to MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships calls.
- ✓ Automatically transferred to ERA Fellowships in case of not receiving the MSCA-PF grant.

USEFUL INFORMATION

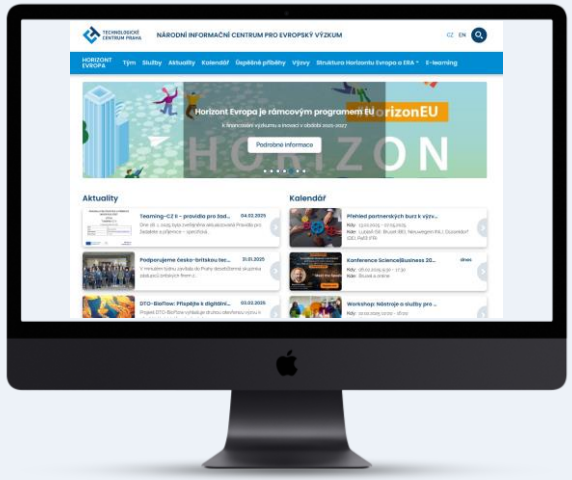
CORDIS – EU Research Results



cordis.europa.eu

Projects' basic data including abstracts and objectives, reporting and results

National Information Sources



Monthly Newsletter (in Czech)

National Portal
www.horizontevropa.cz/en

National Contact Points
http://www.horizontevropa.cz/en/national-contacts

TECHNOLOGY CENTRE PRAGUE

CZECH NATIONAL CONTACTS POINTS FOR HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME



LUDMILA TYSJAČNA
MSCA and ERC NCP



NAĎA KONÍČKOVÁ
CZECH NCP Coordinator
Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment NCP



PETRA FEDOROVÁ
ERC and WIDENING NCP



LUCIE STEWART
Research Infrastructure and MSCA NCP



JANA ČEJKOVÁ
Clima and Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment NCP



ALENA LARIONOVÁ
Legal NCP





MONIKA VRAJOVÁ
Health NCP



KLÁRA ČERNÁ
Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society NCP



PETR PRACNA
Industry NCP



MICHAELA VLKOVÁ
EIC, EIE and Mobility NCP



MILENA LOJKOVÁ
Financial NCP



LENKA CHVOJKOVÁ
Financial NCP



LENKA ŠVEJCAROVÁ
Security and Digital NCP



EVA HILLEROVÁ
Security NCP



KATEŘINA DOSTÁLOVÁ
Energy NCP



ONDŘEJ MIROVSKÝ
Space NCP



ANNA VOSEČKOVÁ
ERA and EIT NCP

Pillar 1
Excellent Science

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar 2
Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

Clusters
- Health
- Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry and Space
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Joint Research Centre

Pillar 3
Innovative Europe

- European Innovation Council
- European innovation ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

- Widening participation and spreading excellence
- Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

Cross-cutting aspects

QUESTIONS? DON´T HESITATE TO CONTACT US!

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