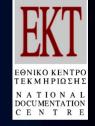
### Short introduction to IDEAS Programme



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Technical Manager of EU Projects



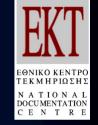
### Overview



- Evolution of an idea
- The Scientific Council's ERC strategy
- The ERC Work Programme 2007



# ERC's Central Strategy: <a href="http://erc.europa.eu">http://erc.europa.eu</a> First Call of Proposals



Source: European Commission

ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grant (ERC Starting Grant)

- The only programme funded in 2007
- Ca. 200 new investigators/year in any field; funded ca. 1.5 M€ up to 5 yrs
- Sole selection criterion: Excellence of person & proposal
- Eligibility:
  - (a) 2-9 years since PhD (at submission deadline) (could be up to 12 years according to specific circumstances)
- (b) Newly established in research or educational position
  - (or offer of position), within EU or associated States
- (c) No nationality criterion: The 3 Rs:
- Recruit, Repatriate, Retain TOP TALENT (ca 1200 positions in 7 years)

## ERC Advanced Investigator Grant (ERC Advanced Grant)



- Start up expected in 2nd year
- Annual budget minus ERC Starting Grants
- From ca. 250 M to > 1 billion €/year (ca. 3M€ / proposal) → ca. 200 grants committed / each year
- Sole selection criterion: Excellence of proposal & track record
- Eligibility: investigators at all career stages; no age limit; 3 Rs



### **ERC** budget 2007-2013

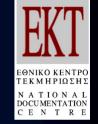


- ► Total (FP7 Ideas budget): € ≈7.5 bn
  - ✓≈ 15 % of FP7 budget
  - ✓≈1/3 Starting Grants, ≈ 2/3 Advanced Grants
  - ✓ Less than 5% for operational ERC management
- ▶1st Call
  - ✓ StG only, Jan 2007, 

    € 300 Mio.
- >2nd Call
  - ✓ AdG only, August 2007, € 550 Mio.
- >3rd call onwards:
  - ✓StG + AdG ≈ € 1.0 bn per year



### **Applying for ERC Grants (I)**



- Two-step application procedure (risk of oversubscription)
  - 1st stage Outline Proposal: max 8 Pages (3+4+1)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> stage Full Proposal: max 16 Pages (4+10+2).
- Proposal Components
  - a) CV + self-evaluation of the Pl's research achievements + funding ID
  - b) Brief Description of scientific and technical aspects of the project
  - c) Description of the scientific environment and resources
- Electronic Submission only (via EPSS)
- Pre-registration (via EPSS) indication of number /area of proposals



### **Applying for ERC Grants (II)**



Source: European Commission

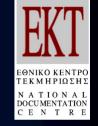
### Eligibility (ERC Starting Grant)

- >PI
  - 2-9 years since completion of PhD: Special circumstances will be taken into account, such as maternity/paternity leave, military/civil service (+2 years max.)
- Pl and contributing investigators (team members)
  - Any nationality
  - One ERC Grant per investigator only may be active at any one time
- Hosting institution
  - Located in a EU member state or associated country
  - Intra-European grant portability allowed



### Evaluation criteria (I)

Scientific Excellence is the sole Criterion Source: European Commission



### 1. Potential of applicant

- 2. Quality of project
- 3. Research Environment

- Referees and panels evaluate and score criteria under Heading 1 and Heading 2 numerically which will result in the ranking of the projects
- Criteria under Heading 3 will be considered as "pass/fail" and commented but not scored



### Evaluation criteria (II) ERC Starting Grant



Source: European Commission

# 1. Principal Investigator: Potential to become a world class research leader

#### a. Quality of research output

- Has the Principal Investigator published in high quality peer reviewed journals or the equivalent?
- To what extent are these publications ground-breaking and demonstrative of independent creative thinking and capacity to go significantly beyond the state of the art?

#### b. Intellectual capacity and creativity

To what extent does the Principal Investigator's record of research, collaborations, project conception, supervision of students and publications demonstrate that he/she is able to confront major research challenges in the field, and to initiate new productive lines of thinking?



### Evaluation criteria (III) ERC Starting Grant



Source: European Commission

### 2. Quality of the research proposal

- a. Ground-breaking nature of the research
- b. Potential impact
- c. Methodology
- Stage 1: Is the outlined scientific approach (including the activities to be undertaken by the individual team members) feasible?
- Stage 2: Is the proposed research methodology (including when pertinent the use of instrumentation, other type of infrastructures etc.) comprehensive and appropriate for to the project? Will it enable the goals of the project convincingly to be achieved within the timescales and resources proposed and the level of risk associated with a challenging research project?



### Evaluation criteria (IV) ERC Starting Grant



Source: European Commission

### 3. Research Environment

### a. Transition to independence

Will the proposed project enable the Principal Investigator to make or consolidate the transition to independence?

#### b. Host institution

Is it in a position to provide an appropriate intellectual environment and infrastructural support and to assist in achieving the ambitions for the project and the Principal Investigator?

### c. Participation of other legal entities

If it is proposed that other legal entities participate in the project, in addition to the applicant legal entity, is their participation fully justified by the scientific added value they bring to the project?



### **Funding rates**

Source: European Commission



100% of all direct eligible cost 20% for Indirect Cost



### Evaluation – Stage 1

EΘΝΙΚΟ ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΤΕΚΜΗΡΙΩΣΗΣ ΝΑΤΙΟΝΑ L DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

Source: European Commission

### Stage 1

- Submission and reception of proposal
- Allocation to relevant Panel(s)
- Assignment of best-matched Panel members by Panel Chair(s)
- Stage 1 panel meeting
- Outcome: Proposal rejected or retained for Stage 2



### Evaluation – Stage 2

EΘΝΙΚΟ KENTPO TEKM Η PIΩΣΗΣ N A TION A L DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

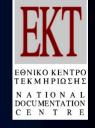
Source: European Commission

### Stage 2

- Submission of complete and updated proposal
- Panels may be assisted by:
  - Referees (remote Evaluation using "Rivet")
  - Interviews with applicants
- Stage 2 Panel meeting
- Outcome: Consolidated ranking list of retained proposals



#### Panel Structure



- 1. PHYSICAL SCIENCES, ENGINEERING SCIENCES, UNIVERSE AND EARTH SCIENCES (8 panels)
- 2. BIOLOGICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES (7 panels)
- 3. SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES (5 panels)
  - Each panel consists of one Panel Chair and approximately 10 panel members
  - Panel Chair oversees evaluation process for the proposals assigned to his/her panel in collaboration with the ERC staff
  - The Panel Chair gives high level stamp of credibility and visibility to the whole evaluation process



### Relevant Links





> IDEAS Programme: Home page

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ideas/home\_en.html

The Call for proposals

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.ldeasDetailsCallPage&call\_id=3

Electronic Proposal Submission Service (EPSS)

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/epss\_en.html

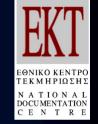




# Electronic Submission of the Proposals: EPSS

- Dead-line: 25 April 2007 (17.00 CET)
- > 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase: 17 September 2007





# Short introduction presentation based on the slides provided by the European Commission

Ευχαριστώ για την προσοχή σας