The European Research Council, or ERC, was established in 2007. Grants are awarded from the European Union budget to support excellent science in all fields.

The ERC does not support networks or international consortia, but individual Principal Investigators (PI) and their research teams. The investigator can be of any nationality, but the host institution must be in an EU Member State or in a country associated with the EU Framework Programme. The only evaluation criterion is scientific excellence - both of the project and of the investigator. This includes previous achievements in the field but also requires an entirely new revolutionary idea that is not a mere continuation of previous achievements, and that can significantly influence the field, push its boundaries or open up new research perspectives.

For more information on the ERC and how it works, visit erc.europa.eu.

ERC in numbers

Budget €16 billion (2021-2027), i.e. 17% of the total Horizon Europe budget.

Over 12,000 projects have been funded since 2007, with 10,000 researchers and more than 100,000 research proposals have been evaluated.

Each ERC grantee employs on average 7 team members. Currently, more than 75,000 postdocs, PhD students and other staff work in research teams.

ERC projects have so far led to more than 2,200 patents and other IPR applications and ERC grantees have founded/co-founded more than 400 start-ups.

Over 200,000 articles published in scientific journals.

12 Nobel Prizes, 6 Fields Medals, 11 Wolf Prizes and dozens of other major awards given to ERC grantees.

ERC grantees host more than 850 research institutions.

Types of grants

Starting Grants (StG)
Supporting the independent careers of outstanding young scientists in the phase of setting up their own research teams or programmes.

50% time on the project, 50% time in EU/AC

2-7 years after PhD defence.
€1.5 million for 5 years

Consolidator Grants (CoG)
Supporting the independent careers of outstanding young scientists in the consolidation phase of their own research teams or programmes.

40% time on the project, 50% time in EU/AC

>7-12 years after PhD.
€2 million for 5 years

Advanced Grants (AdG)
Supporting internationally recognized, independent experts who have already established themselves in the field and made a demonstrable impact.

30% time on the project, 50% time in EU/AC

10-year results
**€2.5 million** over 5 years  
Synergy Grants (SyG)  
Support for ambitious ideas that cannot be solved individually by individual PIs - unique complementarity of expertise, resources, equipment, etc.

30% time on the project, 50% time in EU/AC

**2-4 PIs and Co-PIs**  
**€10 million** for 6 years  
Proof of Concept (PoC)  
Support for the exploration of the potential for commercial or societal exploitation of ERC project outputs for ERC researchers only.

**€150k** for a maximum of 18 months

Would you like to know more about any of the grants?  
Take a look at the overall overview of "ERC funding opportunities" we have prepared for you.

SEE DOCUMENT

Source: [ERC](#), Horizont Evropa, brochure Vademecum: Granty ERC (only in Czech)