



## ***Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)***



### **PART 1 :**

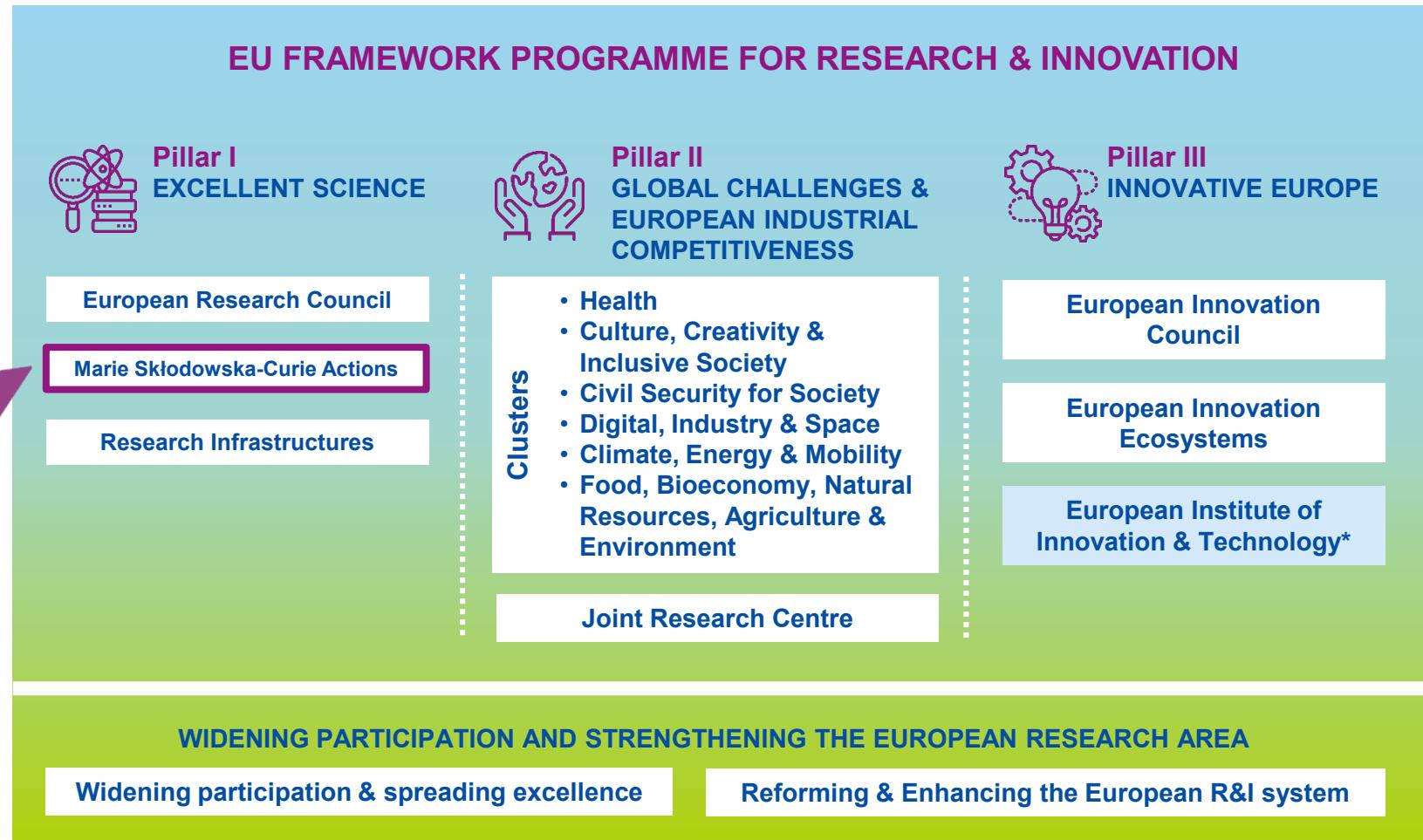
### **MSCA: Training, Mobility & Career Development Opportunities for Researchers**

***Sohail LUKA, PhD***  
European Commission  
DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture  
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Unit

***MSCA InfoDay, 26/01/2026, Online***

# Horizon Europe

EURATOM



Budget: EUR 95.5 billion



# Pillar I: Excellent Science

Reinforcing and extending the excellence of the Union's science base

## European Research Council

Frontier research by the best researchers and their teams

€16 billion

## Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions

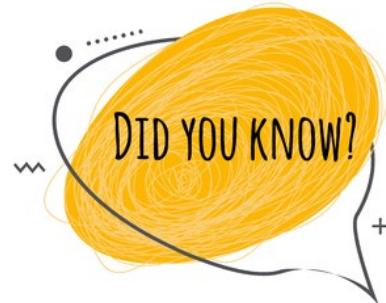
Equipping researchers with new knowledge and skills through mobility and training

€6.6 billion

## Research Infrastructures

Integrated and interconnected world-class research infrastructures

€2.4 billion



**23 Nobel Prize winners** either backed by or involved in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions between 2012 and 2025



# Key features



**Researchers' training, skills and career development (all stages of career)**



**Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)**



**International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility**



**Attractive working and employment conditions**



**Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes**



**Strong collaboration beyond academia**

# The Actions

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## Doctoral Networks

*Doctoral programmes in and outside academia incl. joint & industrial doctorates*

## Postdoctoral Fellowships

*Support to excellent postdoctoral researchers*

## Staff Exchanges

*Support for research and innovation staff exchanges*

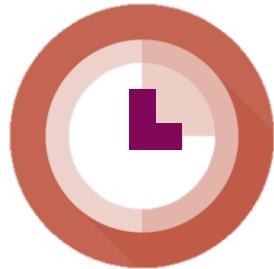
## COFUND

*Co-funding doctoral and postdoctoral programmes*

## MSCA and Citizens

*Public outreach events (Night)*

# MSCA Doctoral Networks



## DURATION

4 years (5 years  
for Joint  
Doctorates)



## COMPOSITION

Min 3 organisations  
in 3 different EU MS  
or HE AC (at least 1  
MS)



## FELLOWSHIP

Between 3 and 36  
months (3-48 months  
for Joint Doctorates)



## BUDGET

540 Person/Month

# Post-Doctoral Fellowships

## European Fellowship

For fellows coming to  
EU MS / HE AC  
"incoming"

or

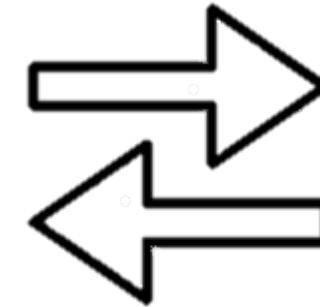
moving within  
EU MS / HE AC  
"intra-European"

**12-24 months**



## Global Fellowship

**12-24 months**



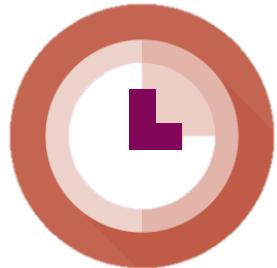
**12 months**

For fellows from  
Europe  
going to third  
countries

and then  
returning to  
Europe/HE AC

**+ 6 months**  
in non-academic  
sector in MS/AC  
(optional)

# MSCA Staff Exchanges



## DURATION

4 years



## COMPOSITION

Min 3 organisations  
in 3 different  
countries (min. 2  
EU MS or HE AC)



## SECONDMENTS

1-12 months per staff

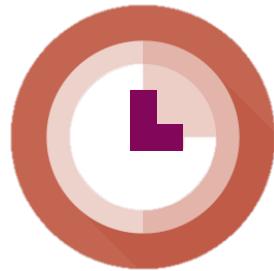


## BUDGET

Max EUR 1.6 million  
(360 PM per project)

# MSCA COFUND

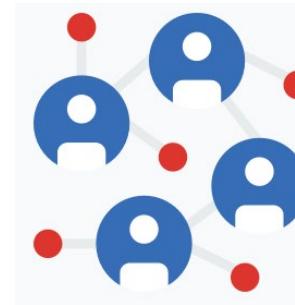
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**DURATION**  
Max 5 years



**COMPOSITION**  
1 beneficiary from EU  
MS or HE AC



**FELLOWSHIP**  
For doctoral and  
postdoctoral researchers  
for minimum 3 months



**BUDGET**  
Co-funding  
Max EUR 10 million per  
beneficiary per call

# **Value of MSCA for Algerian Organisations & Researchers**

- Boosting **training and careers** of Algeria's researchers
- Becoming part of a **large network** with Europe and the world
- Broadening Access to **research resources** and amplifying professional contacts
- Building stable and **lasting international collaborations** at institutional level
- Triggering a positive ripple **effect on R&I policies** in participating institutions
- Generate **innovation outputs** (patents, start-ups, etc.)

# Algeria's Participation in MSCA So Far

# Algeria's Participation in Horizon 2020 MSCA (2014-2020)

- Projects Awarded: 11 projects
- Number of participations by Algerian Organisations: 11 (by 10 organisations)
- Top fields: Environment, Life Sciences, Social Sciences
- Algerian researchers benefiting from MSCA: 140

# Algeria's Participation in Horizon Europe Calls so far: 2021-2024

- 3 successful projects:
  - 1 Staff Exchange project
  - 2 COFUND (as an associated partner – no direct funding)
- 3 successful participations by 2 distinct organisations
- Participants: Univ D'ALGER 2 and Univ. DE BEJAIA (2 projects)
- Funds received: **EUR 92K**

# WP2026-2027 relevant novelties\*

- Relaxing rules on duration of secondments (DN/PF/COFUND)
- Significant simplification for Staff Exchanges eligibility conditions
- Abolishing the “1 month rule” for Staff Exchanges
- Simplify MSCA proposal template for all actions
- Adjusting financial aspects to inflation

Year	Action	Opening*	Deadline*
2025	Doctoral Networks	28 May 2025	25 November 2025
	Postdoctoral Fellowships	9 April 2025	10 September 2025
	Staff Exchanges	27 March 2025	8 October 2025
	COFUND	23 January 2025	24 June 2025
	COFUND-Choose Europe	1 October 2025	3 December 2025
2026	Doctoral Networks	28 May 2026	24 November 2026
	Postdoctoral Fellowships	9 April 2026	9 September 2026
	Staff Exchanges	16 December <b>2025</b>	16 April 2026
	Staff Exchanges	15 December 2026	15 April 2027
	COFUND	16 December <b>2025</b>	8 April 2026
	COFUND	8 December 2026	6 April 2027
	COFUND: Choose Europe	8 December 2026	6 April 2027



***Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)***



**PART 2 :**  
**Focus on MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN)**

***Sohail LUKA, PhD***  
European Commission  
DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture  
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Unit

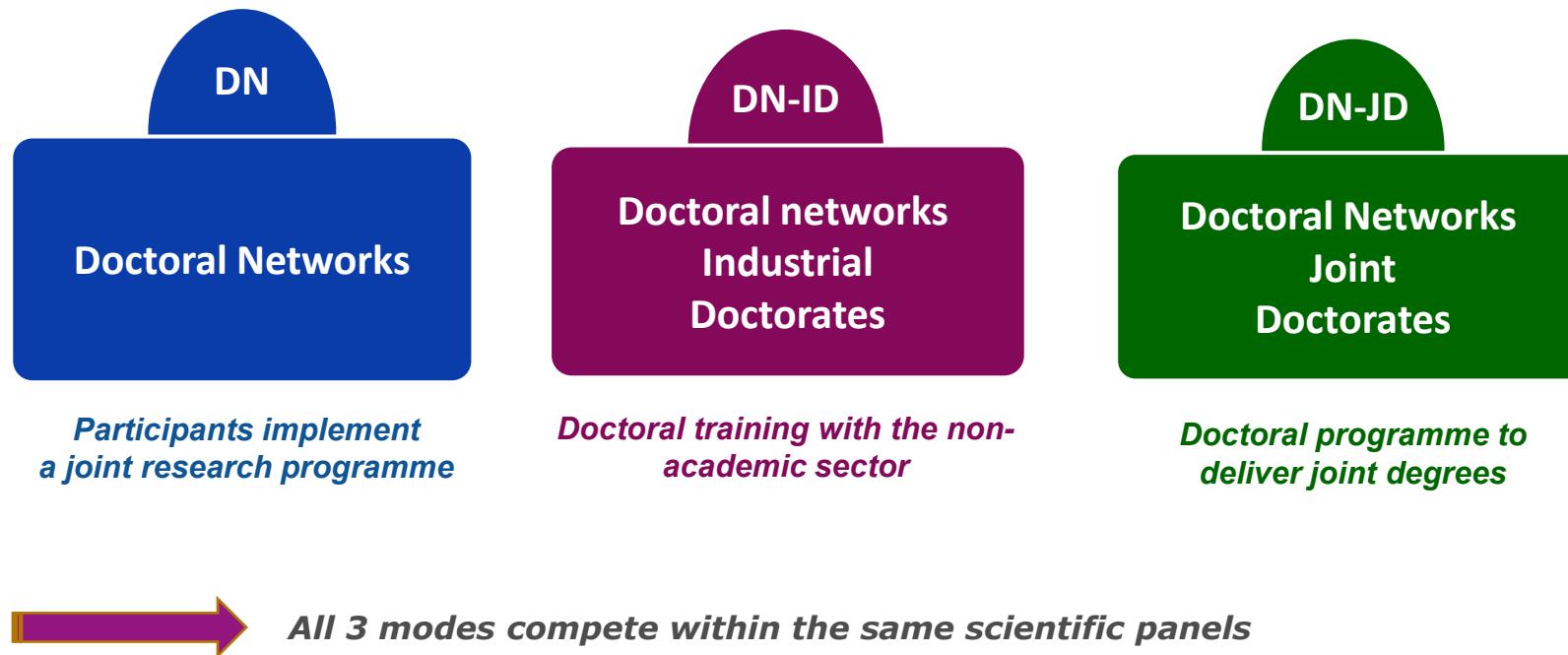
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# What is a Doctoral Network (DN) ?

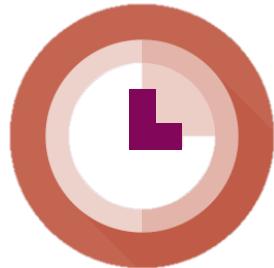


- ✓ One consortium
- ✓ Proposing a research project
- ✓ With interlinked individual PhD research projects
- ✓ For doctoral candidates

# Implementation modes



# MSCA Doctoral Networks



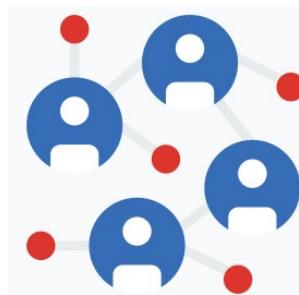
## DURATION

4 years (5 years  
for Joint  
Doctorates)



## COMPOSITION

Min 3 organisations  
in 3 different EU MS  
or HE AC (at least 1  
MS)



## FELLOWSHIP

Between 3 and 36  
months (3-48 months  
for Joint Doctorates)



## BUDGET

540 Person/Month

# Eligible participants

## Who can apply?

- ✓ Any Legal Entity worldwide
- ✓ But not all applicants are eligible for funding



## Consortia

- ✓ Universities, research institutions and research infrastructures
- ✓ Businesses including SMEs
- ✓ Other socio-economic actors

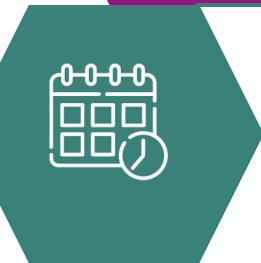
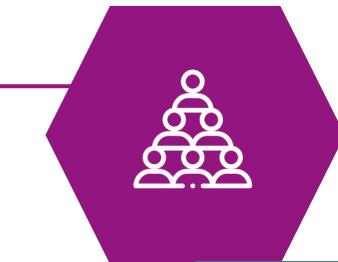
Min. 3 entities from 3 EU MS/AC  
of which 1 from a MS  
as beneficiary

No minimum / maximum number of **Associated Partners**

# Eligible size and duration

## Size

- ✓ Up to **540 person-months** for all type of actions



## Duration

- ✓ **Proposal:** max. 48 months for DN and DN-ID  
- incentive for DN-JD **60 months**
- ✓ **Fellowship:** 3 to 36 months for DN and DN-ID  
- incentive for DN-JD **48 months**
- ✓ **Secondments:** worldwide, any sectors, up to 1/2 of the fellowship duration for Standard DN  
- incentive for DN-ID and DN-JD **no secondment limitation** – for DN-ID min **50%** in non-academic sector

# Other eligibility conditions

All beneficiaries must recruit at least one doctoral candidate, host and supervise in own premises, or use associated partners linked to them to do so

Max. 40% of budget allocated to the same country or to a single international organisation.

Re-submission restrictions for proposals scoring below 80% in the previous year's call

*Specific eligibility conditions for Industrial and Joint Doctorates*

# Eligible researchers

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## Doctoral candidates

- ✓ **No doctoral degree** at the date of recruitment
- ✓ **Open, merit-based and transparent recruitment** procedure
- ✓ **Enrolled in a PhD** from min 1 EU MS/AC
- ✓ Any nationality
- ✓ fulfill the **MSCA mobility condition**:

DCs must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

# Cost categories\*

A. Contributions for recruited researchers					B. Institutional contributions	
A1. Living allowance (€)	A2. Mobility allowance (€)	A3. Family allowance (if applicable) (€)	A4. Long term leave (if applicable) (€)	A5. Special needs (if applicable) (€)	B1. Research training and networking contribution (€)	B2. Management and indirect contribution (€)
4250**	710	660	4960 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit x 1/ number of PM	1600	1200

*\*gross amount multiplied by country correction coefficient*

*Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.*

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Website



LinkedIn



Thank you!



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