MSCA GLOPOL
GLOBAL POLICY & PROMOTION

Global Cooperation Policy Enhancement and Strategic Promotion

Strengthening Europe's position in international research collaboration
through the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions programme
across 20 countries and 6 regions

Horizon Europe MSCA National Info Day in Morocco
22 April 2026

MSCA-GLOPOL has received funding from the European Union's
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Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
30 years
Curiosity that changes the world

Content

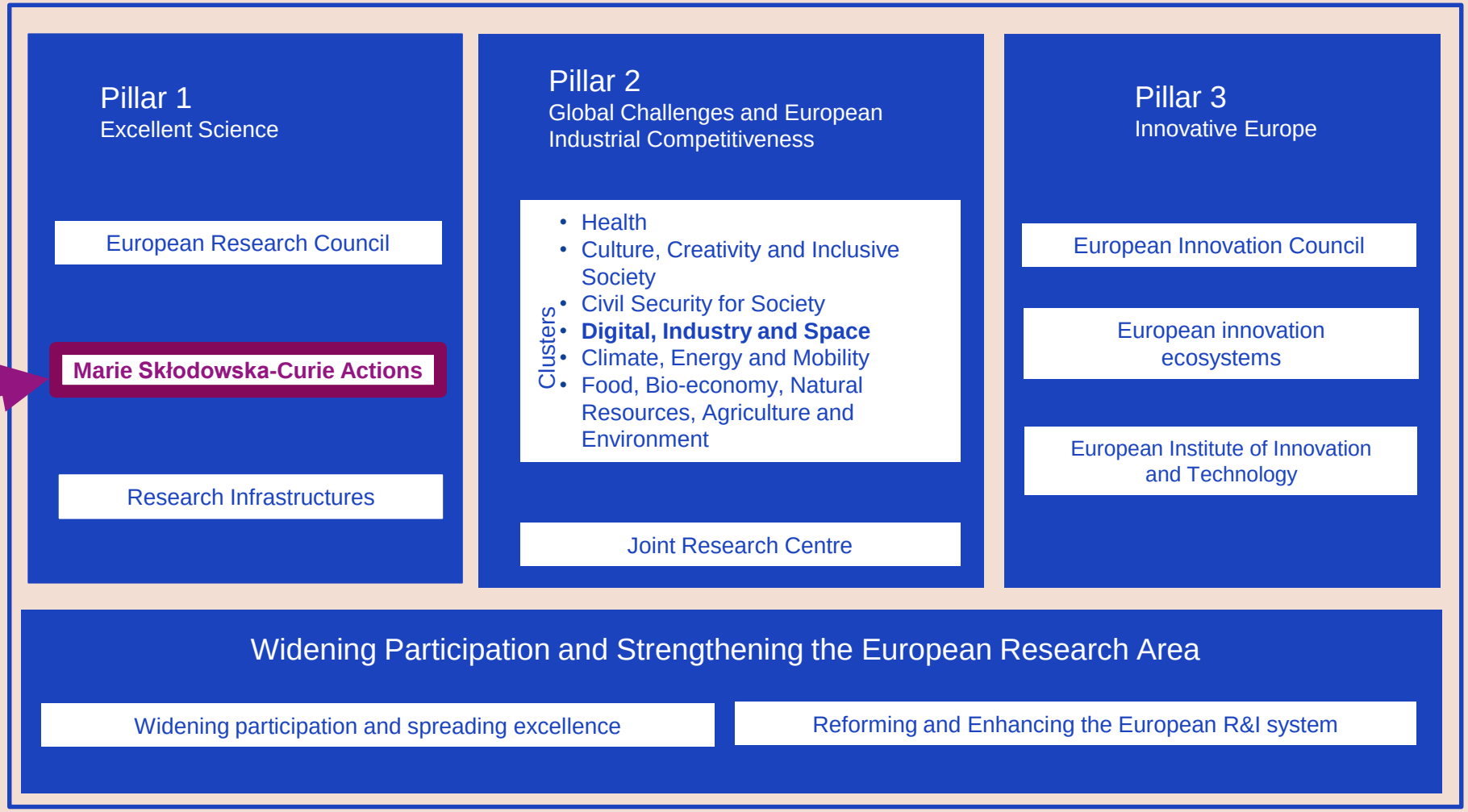
1. Where to Find MSCA under Horizon Europe
2. Introduction to MSCA Staff Exchanges and Postdoctoral Fellowships
3. Morocco's Position under MSCA
4. MSCA Doctoral Networks
5. Apply as an organisation (DN 2026 call)
6. Resources

This presentation is based on the conditions and requirements of the MSCA DN 2026 call, as set out in the Horizon Europe MSCA Work Programme 2026 -2027.

The MSCA in Horizon Europe

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Horizon Europe budget: EUR 95.5 billion



MSCA

2021-2027

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Pillar I: Excellent Science

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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 inter-connected world-class research infrastructures

€2.4 billion

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MSCA: A world reference for research and training

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Researchers' training, skills and career development

(all stage of career)



Excellent research in all domains

(bottom-up approach)



International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility



Attractive working and employment conditions



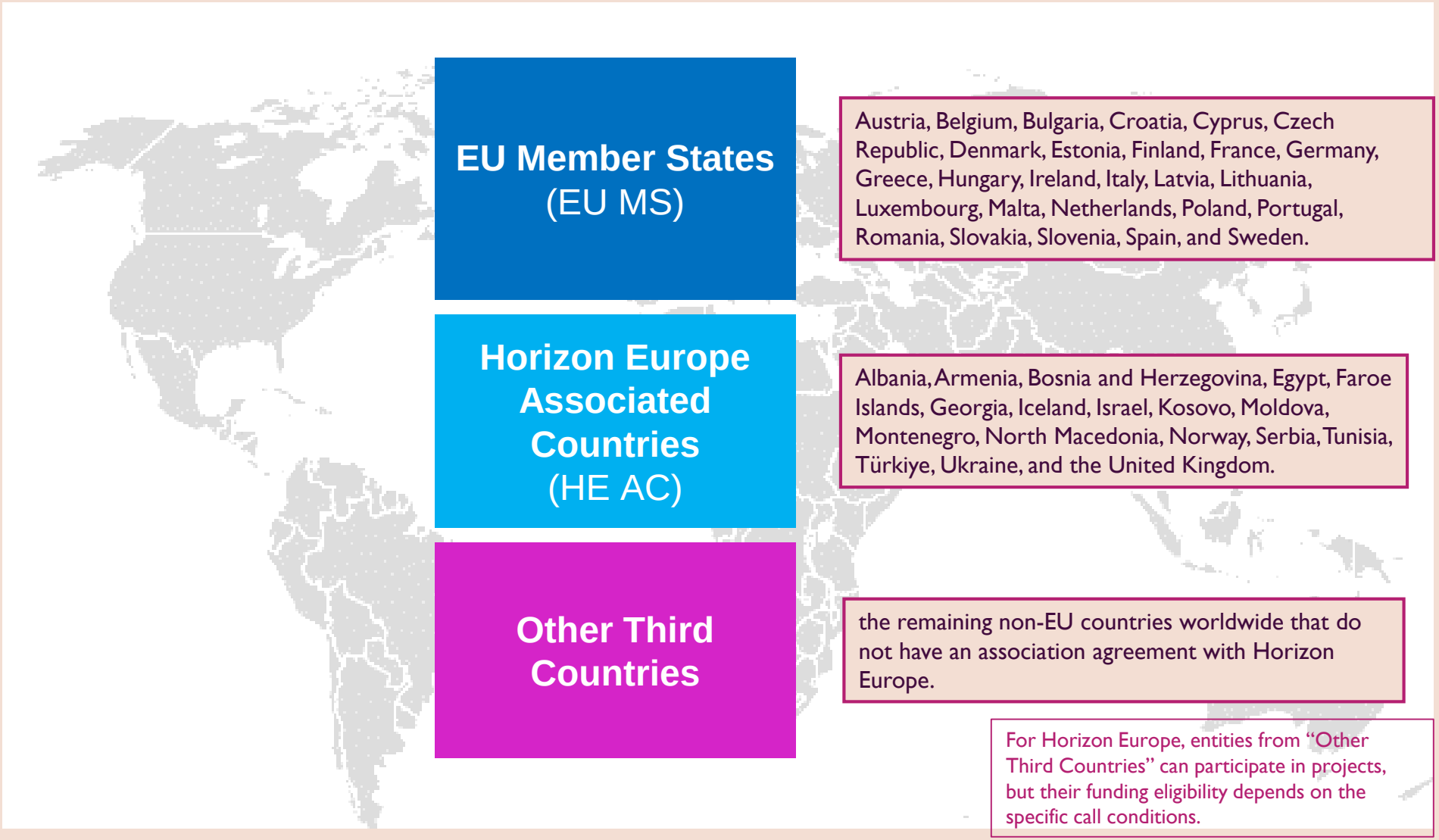
Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes



Strong collaboration with industry and SMEs

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Some Terminology



EU Member States
(EU MS)

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden.

Horizon Europe Associated Countries
(HE AC)

Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom.

Other Third Countries

the remaining non-EU countries worldwide that do not have an association agreement with Horizon Europe.

For Horizon Europe, entities from "Other Third Countries" can participate in projects, but their funding eligibility depends on the specific call conditions.

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The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

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1 Doctoral Networks

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

Total budget DN 2026: €593,03 million
Opening call: 28/05/2026
DL 24/11/2026

2 Postdoctoral Fellowships

Support to excellent postdoctoral researchers

2026: €399,05 million
Opening call: 09/04/2026
DL 09/09/2026

3 Staff Exchanges

Support for research and innovation staff exchanges

2027: €95,04 million
Opening call: 15/12/2026
DL 15/04/2027

4 COFUND

Co-funding doctoral programmes

2027: €51,25 million
Opening call: 08/12/2026
DL:06/04/2027

5 MSCA and Citizens

Public outreach events (Night)

2027: €15.71 million
DL: 08/06/2027

6 Choose Europe for Science

Supporting attractive & sustainable research careers in Europe for top talent post-docs

2027: €51.25 million
Opening call: 08/12/2026
DL: 06/04/2027

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MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships: European vs Global

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European Fellowships



EU MS/AC



Third Country



EU MS/AC

+ Non-Academic Placement Max. 6m

Global Fellowships



EU MS/AC

Outgoing phase

Mandatory return phase



Third Country

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MSCA PF - Researcher Eligibility Criteria

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	European Fellowships	Global Fellowships
Nationality	• Open to **researchers of any nationality** (in case of reintegration → must be nationals or long-term residents of EU MS / Horizon Europe AC)	• Must be a **citizen or long-term resident (≥5 years)** of an **EU Member State or Associated Country**
Mobility	• By the call deadline, researchers **must not have resided or carried out their main activity** (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host organisation for **more than 12 months in the 3 years** immediately prior to the call deadline.	• By the call deadline, researchers **must not have resided or carried out their main activity** (work, studies, etc.) in the **Third Country** where the outgoing phase will take place for **more than 12 months in the last 3 years**. • No such condition applies for the **return host country**.
Research Experience	Must have **a doctoral degree** or have **successfully defended the thesis** by the call deadline. Must have **no more than 8 years of research experience** from the date of the first doctoral degree to the call deadline. The following periods can be **deducted** from the total research experience (to be declared in the proposal forms): • **Maternity leave** (18 months per child or the actual duration if longer • **Paternity leave** (actual duration taken) • **Compulsory military service** • **Periods spent outside research** • **Long-term sick leave** (more than 30 days) • **Time spent to teaching / managerial activities in universities**	

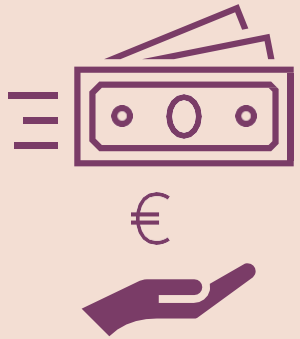
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MSCA Staff Exchanges

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BOTTOM UP
with different scientific panels



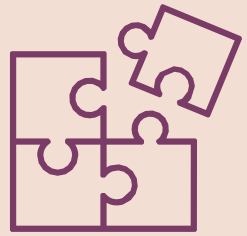
Unit cost 5170 €
2870 € - staff allowance
2300 € - organisation



SECONDMENTS
1-12 months/staff
Interdisciplinary
Intersectoral
International



DURATION
4 years
Max 360 person-months per project



SYNERGY
EU grants
Not MSCA

The SE action funds short-term international and inter-sectoral exchanges of staff members involved in research and innovation activities of participating organisations. Exchanged staff benefit from new knowledge, skills and career development perspectives, while participating organisations increase their research and innovation capacities.

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Morocco

Horizon Europe country type: Non-associated third country eligible to receive funding (low- to middle-income) with transitional arrangements.

Table 1: Horizon Europe: Participation by action type (as extracted from MSCA Public Dashboard)

MSCA Action	Projects	Institutional participations
DN	3	4
PF	3	3
SE	15	19
COFUND	0	0

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MSCA Doctoral Networks

What is a Doctoral Network (DN) project ?

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

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General eligibility conditions

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- At least **3 independent legal entities**:
  - Each established in a different EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Country
  - Minimum of 1 beneficiary from an EU Member State
  - No minimum / maximum number of Associated Partners

- **All beneficiaries must recruit at least one doctoral candidate.** They are required to host at their premises and supervise recruited researchers, or use associated partners linked to them to do so

- **Not more than 40% of the EU contribution may be allocated to beneficiaries in the same country** or to a single international organisation.

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MSCA DN Programme Expected Impacts

Strengthening the European Research Area

- Strengthen Europe's human capital base in R&I by training **highly-skilled doctoral candidates**
- Improve **the attractiveness of researchers' careers** in Europe notably through better working and employment conditions of doctoral candidates in Europe
- Enhance talent and knowledge circulation across the R&I landscape, through **inter-sectoral, interdisciplinary and international mobility**
- Enhance the quality of R&I contributing to Europe's sustainable competitiveness
- Establish sustainable **collaboration** between **academic and non-academic** organisations
- Foster the culture of **open science, innovation and entrepreneurship**

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DN - Eligible participants

Who can apply?

- Any Legal Entity worldwide*
- But not all applicants are eligible for funding
- More details HE programme guide

Consortia

- Universities, research institutions and research infrastructures
- Businesses including SMEs
- Other socio-economic actors
- => **No** minimum/maximum number of Associated Partners

*Eligibility restrictions: 'protection of European communication networks' and 'Participation of Chinese universities linked to Ministry of Industry & Information Technology (MIIT)' (see Annex B of General Annexes)

DN – Eligible countries

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EU COUNTRIES

- Member States (MS) including their outermost regions
- The Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the MS

NON-EU COUNTRIES

- Countries associated to Horizon Europe (AC)
- Low- and middle-income countries: See HE Programme Guide*.
- Other countries when announced in the call or exceptionally if their participation is essential

SPECIFIC CASES

- Affiliated entities established in countries eligible for funding.
- EU bodies.
- International organisations (IO):

International European research organisations are eligible for funding.

Other IO are not eligible, only exceptionally if their participation is essential or if they are identified in the relevant Horizon Europe Work Programme as being eligible for funding.

*For more detail, please consult the HE programme guide and the List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe

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30 years
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Apply as an organisation

DN expected outputs for participating organizations

Recruitment of EU funded excellent DCs	Cooperation & knowledge transfer between sectors/ disciplines	Strengthening Research & Innovation capacity	Improved quality, relevance, and sustainability of PhD programmes
TALENT	NETWORK	CAPACITY	ENHANCED TRAINING PROGRAMME

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DN - Academic vs Non-Academic sector

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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

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DN – participant types

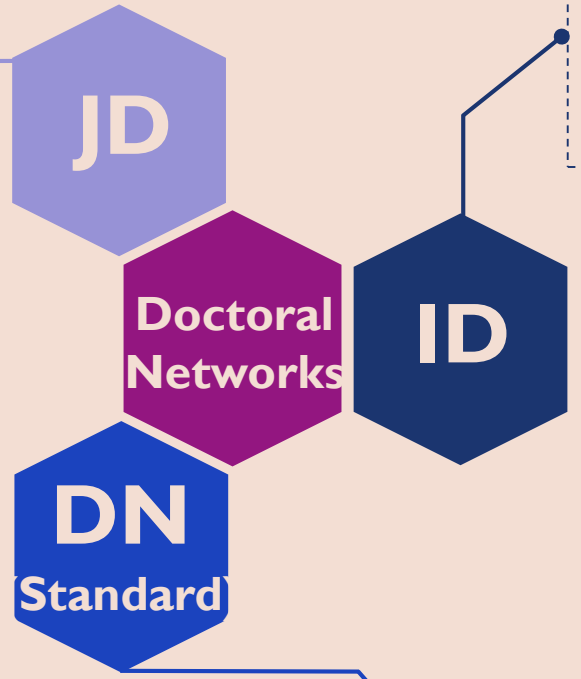
	Beneficiaries	Associated Partners
Academic/Non academic	✓	✓
Signatories of the Grant Agreement	✓	✗
Recruitment of researchers	✓	✗
Training and/or hosting of seconded researchers	✓	✓
Participation in Supervisory Board	✓	✓
Directly claim costs	✓	✗

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MSCA-DN – Types of implementation

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Joint Doctorates
- Joint collaborations leading to a joint/multiple doctoral degree;
- Pre-agreement for joint degrees required;
- Joint selection and supervision.



Industrial Doctorates
- Training in academia and industry.
- Joint supervision.

All 3 modes compete within the same scientific panels:
CHE, ECO, ENG, ENV, LIF, MAT, PHY, SOC

Doctoral Networks (standard)
Training in academia and/or industry.

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Industrial Doctorates

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*Incentives for DN-ID

- **No limitation for secondments**
- **Min 50% in the non-academic sector**
- Enrolment in a PhD at 1 MS/AC among awarding entities
- Non-academic sector as **beneficiary or associated partners (full flexibility)**
- Academic and non-academic organisations jointly supervise

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Joint Doctorates



- Project duration: **max. 60 months**
- **Fellowship**: min 3 / **max 48 months**
- **No limitation for secondments**
- Enrolment in a **joint/double or multiple PhD** (delivered by different entities from min. 1 MS/AC)
- Joint admission, selection, training, supervision, governance
- **Mandatory letters of pre-agreement** to deliver joint/double/multi degrees (template)

No preference between a joint, a double or a multiple degree

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DN 2026 call novelties

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- **Living allowances increased and some Country Correction Coefficients reviewed**
- **Eligibility restrictions:** 'protection of European communication networks' and 'Participation of Chinese universities linked to Ministry of Industry & Information Technology (MIIT)' (see Annex B of General Annexes)
- **New exception for all DNs**: where researchers are recruited by beneficiaries established in non-associated third countries, it is now permitted for enrolment to take place **solely** in a doctoral programme offered in that country.
- **Evaluation threshold per criterion (3/5)**
- **Secondments for standard DN up to 50%** of the fellowship duration

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Doctoral Networks – Eligible Researchers

- Researchers must be **enrolled in a doctoral programme**, in at least 1 EU Member State/Associated Country

  (!) New exception for all DNs: where researchers are recruited by beneficiaries established in non-associated third countries, enrolment may take place solely in a doctoral programme offered in the country of the beneficiary.

- **Any nationality**

  (!) Restrictions from the general annexes to the WP 2026-2027: * Natural persons established in Russia, Belarus, or in non-government-controlled territories of Ukraine are not allowed to participate in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. For more information, please consult the applicable participation restrictions from the General Annexes, Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2026-2027

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Doctoral Networks – Eligible Researchers

- Researchers must be **doctoral candidates** (not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of recruitment).
- Be recruited following an **open, merit-based and transparent recruitment.**
- **Mobility rule**: must not have **resided or carried out main activity** in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

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Eligible size and duration

- **Duration**
- **Proposal**: max. 48 months for DN and DN-ID
  - ***incentive for DN-JD up to 60 months***
- **Fellowship**: 3 to 36 months for DN and DN-ID
  - ***incentive for DN-JD up to 48 months***
- **Secondments**: worldwide, any sectors, **up to 50%** of the fellowship duration for Standard DN.
  Incentive for DN-ID & DN-JD no secondment limit

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

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Funding mechanism - Cost categories

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Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month					Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Living allowance	**Mobility allowance**	**Family allowance**** (if applicable)	**Long-term leave allowance** (if applicable)	**Special needs allowance** (if applicable)	**Research, training and networking contribution**	**Management and indirect contribution**
EUR 4250*	EUR 710	EUR 660	EUR 4720 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit[1] x (1/number of months)	EUR 1600	EUR 1200

*A country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance in order to ensure equal treatment and purchasing power parity for all researchers

** A family allowance to contribute to mobility-related costs of researchers with family obligations which can be granted during the project.

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Resource for AI Science in Europe
RAISE DN 2026 call

Additional chance of funding for projects that aim to apply AI in their scientific research & for those focused on developing new AI tools, systems and methodologies.

- **Indicative budget: €30 million** (funding from Pillar 2, Cluster 4)
- **Call for proposal dates:** 28 May 2026 – 24 November 2026
  - All applicants apply to the MSCA DN 2026 call – same eligibility conditions & same features such as modes, duration, rules and size
  - Applicants need to demonstrate that their proposal falls within the scope of the RAISE DN call in the dedicated section in part B2

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MSCA DN Award Criteria

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Criteria	Excellence	Impact	Implementation
Sub-criteria	Quality and pertinence of the project's **research and innovation objectives**	Contribution to **structuring doctoral training** at European level and strengthening European innovation capacity	Quality and effectiveness of the **work plan**, assessment of **risks**, and appropriateness of the **effort** assigned to work packages
	Soundness of the proposed **methodology**	Credibility of the measures to enhance the **career perspectives** of researchers and contribution to their **skills development**	**Quality, capacity and role of each participant**, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the **consortium as a whole** brings together the necessary expertise
	Quality and credibility of the **training programme**	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 of the **supervision**	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected **scientific**, **societal** and **economic** impacts	
Weighting	**50%**	**30%**	**20%**
Priority	**1**	**2**	**3**

(!) Novelty - Evaluation threshold for <u>all</u> three criteria will be 3 out of 5

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How to apply?

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Useful documents

- DN 2026 Guide for Applicants - available in the F&T Portal as of **May 28th, 2026**
- Proposal templates - available in the F&T Portal as of **May 28th, 2026**
- Horizon Europe MSCA Work Programme 2026-2027
- F&T Manual on how to submit a proposal
- Topic Q&A under F&T portal

Part A (structured data)



Part B (description of action)



Part B1: 30 pages (+ 4 preliminary pages (cover page, table of content and list of participants). 34 pages in total.
Part B2: no limit

RAISE-DN: in Part B2, demonstrate that their proposal **fits the scope of the RAISE DN call**.

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Participation of third country organisations

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Organisations from non-associated third countries can participate as:

MSCA Action	Beneficiary	Associated Partner
Doctoral Networks	Yes*	Yes
Staff Exchanges	No	Yes
Postdoctoral Fellowships	No	Yes
COFUND	No	Yes

*Organisations established in non-associated third countries are eligible 1) for automatic funding as beneficiaries if based in low- and funding as beneficiaries if based in countries not listed in the General Annexes provided that their pmedium-income countries listed in the Horizon Europe General Annexes or 2) for exceptional articipation is considered essential for implementing the action.

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DN 2026 Call Info Day

When: 3 June 2026 - 9.30-12.30 (CET)

Where: ONLINE via platform
(no need to pre-register)



Horizon Europe - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Doctoral Networks 2026 - Call info day

- Review all the **call related documents**
- **Slido** (**#DN2026)** will open with the launch of the call, you can send us your questions in advance
- For more details on the programme, please consult the **MSCA 2026 Call Info event page**

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Resources

Resources

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Funding and Tenders opportunities (Work Programme, applications, documents, partner search)

MSCA Doctoral Networks 2026 Call documents available in the F&T Portal as of **May 28th**

RAISE – Doctoral Networks 2026 Call documents available in the F&T Portal as of **May 28th**

Horizon Europe MSCA Work Programme 2026-2027

Work Programme 2026-2027, 14. Horizontal Activities, RAISE Doctoral Networks

MSCA website

European Research Executive Agency website
MSCA Guidelines on Supervision

Code of conduct for the recruitment of researchers

MCAA alumni platform

Do you have questions?

Ask advice to your MSCA / EU **National Contact Point**

Ask your questions about EU funding, validation of participants, and others to the **Research Enquiry Service**

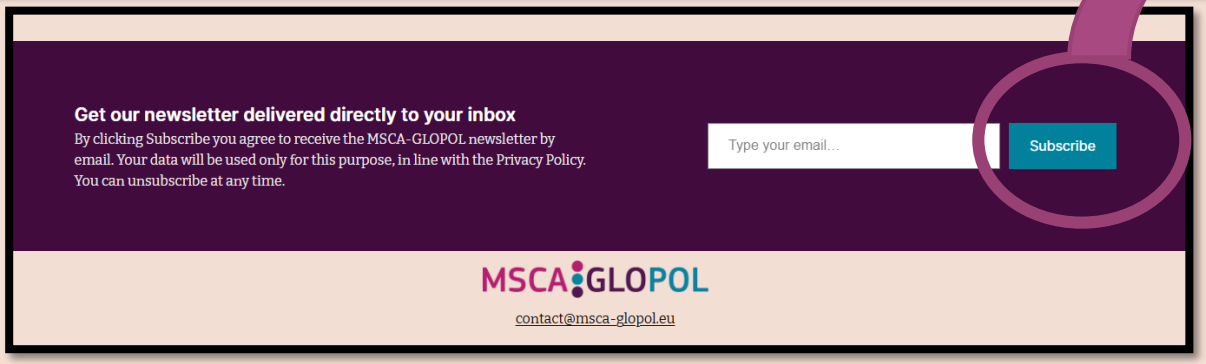
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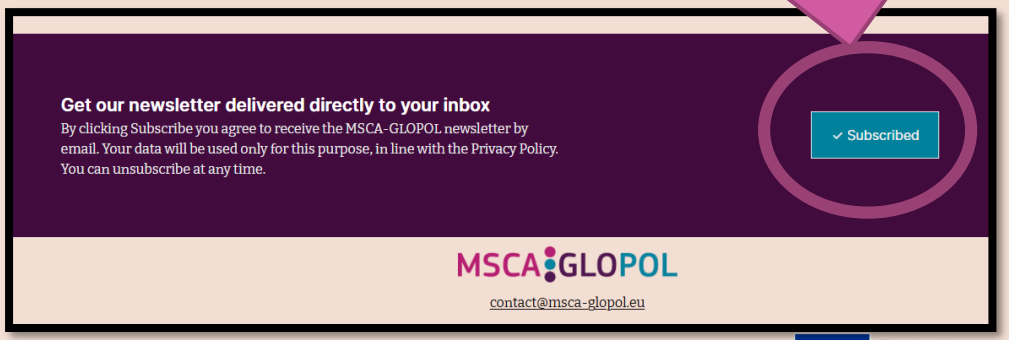
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