

WEBINAR

SETTING YOUR CAREER IN HERITAGE SCIENCE AT ISPC-CNR:
MARIE SKŁODOVSKA-CURIE ACTIONS
POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

TUESDAY 11TH JULY 2023



**MSCA-PF: an European
opportunity for the career
development of
researchers**

Annalisa Sacchi

Objective of Postdoctoral Fellowships

- enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers wishing to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility
 - foster excellence in research
 - support researchers' **careers**
 - equipping researchers with new knowledge and skills and providing them with an international as well as inter-sectoral exposure to fill the top positions of tomorrow.
- Target: researchers holding a PhD who wish to carry out their research activities abroad, acquire new skills and **develop their careers**



Who can apply for Postdoctoral Fellowships?

- excellent researchers of any nationality
- researchers wishing to reintegrate in Europe
- researchers who are displaced by conflict
- researchers with high potential aiming for a career restart in research
- The scheme also encourages researchers to work on research and innovation projects in the non-academic sector.



Types of Postdoctoral Fellowship

1) European Postdoctoral Fellowships

2) Global Postdoctoral Fellowships

- Both types of fellowships may also include **short-term secondments** anywhere in the world during the fellowship (except during the return phase of a Global Fellowship).
- In an effort to build bridges and **boost the career** of researcher between the academic and non-academic sector, researchers can receive **additional support to carry out a placement of up to 6 months** in a non-academic organisation based in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country. This placement needs to take place at the end of their fellowship.



Main principles applying to the MSCA-PF

1) Excellence

- individual fellows supported
- collaborations fostered
- knowledge transferred
- the R&I methodologies applied
- the research conducted
- the training, supervision and **career guidance** provided



Main principles applying to the MSCA-PF

2) Mobility

- principle of physical mobility in order to acquire new knowledge, skills and competences, and develop **research career**
- Researchers are also strongly encouraged to move between sectors and disciplines
- physical mobility vs virtual mobility (explore opportunities offered by e-infrastructures and related services).



Main principles applying to the MSCA-PF

3) Supervision

- supportive environment for the researchers to conduct their work
- ensure adequately supervision or mentoring and appropriate **career guidance**

Supervision is one of the crucial elements of successful research. Guiding, supporting, directing, advising and mentoring are key factors for a researcher to pursue his/her career path



Expected impact

- Enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers;
- Strengthen Europe's human capital base in R&I
- Enhance the quality of R&I contributing to Europe's competitiveness and growth;
- Contribute to Europe's attractiveness as a leading destination for R&I and for **good working conditions** of researchers;
- Facilitate knowledge transfer and brain circulation across the ERA;
- Foster the culture of open science, innovation and entrepreneurship.



Expected outcome

For supported postdoctoral fellows

- Increased set of research and transferable skills and competences, leading to improved employability and career prospects of MSCA postdoctoral fellows within academia and beyond



Placements in the non-academic sector

- additional period of up to six months to support researchers opting for a placement at the end of the project to work on R&I projects in an organisation from the non-academic sector established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country
- For fellows recruited in the non-academic sector, such a placement must be implemented at a different non-academic host organisation established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.
- The request is an integral part of the proposal
- This incentive aims **at promoting career moves between sectors and organisations and thereby stimulate innovation and knowledge transfer while expanding career opportunities for researchers.**



Seal of Excellence

- Seals of Excellence will be awarded to applications with a total score **equal to or higher than 85%**, but which cannot be funded due to lack of budget available to the call.
- same strict criteria; international expert panel; transparent and competitive evaluation process
- certifies the high-quality of the project proposal
- can actively build the reputation of researchers' projects and their business, giving an opportunity to the project to attract other investments on local, regional, national, and international level.



Measures to enhance researchers' careers in Italy

- Decreto Ministeriale 28 dicembre 2015 n. 963
Pubblicato nella Gazzetta Ufficiale del 18 marzo 2016 n. 65
 - > Winners of ERC Grants and MSCA Global PF can be directly appointed by universities to positions as Full, Associate, or Assistant Professors, depending on the type of grant received. It is worth noting that these programs must have a minimum duration of three years and, at the time of the appointment proposal, should not have concluded for more than three years.
- Decreto Ministeriale n. 894 del 11-07-2022
PNRR fundings > Winners of ERC Starting Grants and MSCA PF, as well as researchers who have obtained a Seal of Excellence.

The total investment allocated for this initiative amounted to 600 million euros.



Conclusions

- increasing the quality of researchers' training and supervision offered;
- strengthening research capacity (e.g. ability to attract funding);
- improving human resources practices and procedures, and providing fairer and more attractive working conditions for researchers, including through career guidance and development;
- building new and sustainable international and inter-sectoral partnerships and networks;
- better transfer of knowledge between sectors and disciplines,
- enhancing researchers' global reputation and visibility.



**Thank you for your attention
and
Good luck with your applications!**

