



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

**Supporting top researchers
from anywhere in the world**

European Research Council (ERC)

The European Research Council (ERC) is a research funding body established by the European Commission in 2007 that funds individual scientists based in Europe who carry out research at the frontiers of knowledge. It aims to support the best and most creative researchers and help them identify and explore new opportunities and directions in any field of research.

The ERC provides attractive, long-term grants to pursue ground-breaking, high-risk/high-gain research in any field. Excellence is the sole criterion for selection; there are neither thematic priorities, nor geographical quotas for funding.

The ERC received a budget of over €13 billion under the European Union research programme Horizon 2020 (2014-2020). Currently, it has funded more than 6 000 projects in the domains of life sciences, physical sciences and engineering and social sciences and humanities.

More than 62 000 proposals have been evaluated since 2007 and the successful ERC projects are being pursued in almost 600 institutions in 32 EU Member States and Associated countries. So far, nearly 40 000 publications have derived from ERC projects, out of which 14 500 have been published in peer-reviewed high impact international journals. The ERC expects that its grants will help bring about new and unpredictable scientific and technological discoveries - the kind that can form the basis of future industries, markets and social innovations. The ERC offers three main grant schemes:

- **ERC Starting Grants** targeted at early-career, emerging research leaders: up to €2.0 million per grant
- **ERC Consolidator Grants** aimed at excellent researchers who are already independent: up to €2.75 million per grant
- **ERC Advanced Grants** for established top researchers: up to €3.5 million per grant

ERC Proof of Concept is an additional funding initiative, open only to ERC grantees to help them establish the innovation potential of ideas arising from their frontier research projects (up to €150 000 per grant).

The ERC Panel PE3 Condensed matter physics currently funds close to 300 projects in solid state physics, including structural and transport properties, strongly correlated systems, mesoscopic physics, magnetism, photonics and nanophysics. The panel additionally funds projects in soft and biological condensed matter.

More information

<http://erc.europa.eu/>

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