Deadline	**Tue 24 Oct 2023 17:00 Brussels time (IOCB deadline Tue 17 Oct 2023)**
Call name	**ERC Starting Grant 2024**
www	https://erc.europa.eu/funding/starting-grants Call: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/erc-2024-stg
Focused on	Breakthrough & ambitious basic research
PI	Junior researchers of any nationality who intend to conduct their research in any EU MS or an AC; PhD defended between 01 Jan 2017 and 31 Dec 2021 (2–7 years since completion of PhD)
Eligible organisation	Research institution of any type of legal entity (research organisation, public university, private legal entity) established in an EU Member State or an Associated Country
Target group	Individual research team headed by a single PI (junior researcher) of any nationality
Expected outputs	Open Access (J) reviewed specialist articles
Call opens	Tue 11 Jul 2023
IOCB deadline	**Tue 17 Oct 2023**
Final deadline	**Tue 24 Oct 2023 17:00 Brussels time**
Evaluation results	10/5/2024 1st step (invitation for interviews Mar/April 2024) 23/8/2024 2nd step
Signature of agreement	indicative date: 21 Dec 2024
Earliest date of implementation	Dec 2024/Jan 2025 (PIs will be able to start their project within 6 months of receiving the invitation letter)
Latest date of implementation	-
Sustainability	None
Reporting	4 reports: months 1–18, 19–36, 37–54, 55–60; one report every 18 months (1.5 year)
Project duration (min-max)	**Up to 60 months (5 years)**
Allocation for the call	601 M EUR (387 projects)
Project budget (min-max)	**Up to 1.5 M EUR** & additional **1 M EUR** to cover "start-up" costs, purchase equipment, access to large facilities
Success rate	13.2 % (2022); 9.8 % (2021); 13.5 % (2020)
Eligible costs	Direct costs: personnel costs, travel expenses, equipment, goods & services, outsourcing (subcontracting); indirect costs: overheads max 25% of the total eligible direct costs
Reimbursement	**100 %**
Mode of funding	Ex-ante
Language of application	English
Provider	European Research Council, https://erc.europa.eu/ erc-2024-stg-applicants@ec.europa.eu, ERC-ETHICS-REVIEW@ec.europa.eu, ERC-OPEN-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu Frequently asked questions (https://erc.europa.eu/funding/frequently-asked-questions/results) NCP:Technology Centre CAS, www.tc.cz; Lyudmyla Tysyachna: tysyachna@tc.cz, tel. 607 006 110
Call identifier	ERC-2024-STG
Call info	ERC Starting Grants are designed to support excellent Principal Investigators at the career stage at which they are starting their own independent research team or programme. The applicant PI must demonstrate the ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility of his/her scientific proposal.
Conditions / Restrictions	Applicant has a PhD defended between 01 Jan 2017 and 31 Dec 2021 (2–7 years since completion of PhD, prior to 01 Jan 2024). Where the PhD certificate does not show the PhD defence date, applicants should provide a written confirmation from the awarding institution stating the said date.

	Competitive PIs must have already shown potential for research independence and evidence of maturity by having produced at least one important publication as main author or without the participation of their PhD supervisor. PIs should be able to demonstrate a promising track record of early achievements appropriate to their research field & career stage, e.g. significant publications (as main author) in leading international peer-reviewed journals, invited presentations at well-established conferences, granted patents, awards, prizes etc. Applicants do not need to be employed by the host institution at the time when the proposal is submitted. Grant proposals are submitted by the PI taking scientific responsibility for the project, on behalf of the host institution. The PI has to spend at least 50% (≥0.5 FTE) of his/her working time on the project. The PI has to spend at least 50% (≥30 months) of his/her working time in an EU Member State or in an Associated Country. The applicant must submit scanned copies of documents providing his/her eligibility for the grant, i.e. their PhD certificate, any supporting documents for extension request. Researchers may participate as PI in only one ERC project at a time. Researchers participating as PI in an ERC project may not submit a proposal for another ERC grant, unless the existing project ends no more than 2 years after the call deadline. The host institution support letter needs to be printed on paper with the official letterhead of the Host Institution, originally signed, stamped and dated by the institution´s legal representative. Copies of official documents can be submitted in any of the EU official languages. Document(s) in any other language must be provided together with a certified translation into English or into any other official EU language. The PI is expected to start the project within 6 months of receiving an invitation letter from the ERC. Applicants should be aware that it is mandatory to provide Open Access to all peer-reviewed scientific publications arising from results from ERC projects. The ERC recommends that all funded researchers follow best practice by retaining files of research data produced and used, and are prepared to share these data with other researchers when not bound by copyright restrictions, confidentiality requirements, or contractual clauses. The application form (participants) contains a 'gender equality plan (GEP)' yes/no tickbox to be filled in by the host institution contact person. This answer will not affect the evaluation of the project. In case the proposal is selected for funding, having a Gender Equality Plan (with minimum requirements) will be necessary before the grant signature.
Proposal consists of	On-line application on the Funding&Tenders Portal: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/login 1) **Administrative form** (Part A, on-line on the Funding&Tenders Portal): (i) General information: Title, Panel Choice, Keywords, Abstract, Declarations; (ii) Administrative data of participating organisations: Host Institution, Department, Principal Investigator, Contact Address, GEP yes/no tickbox, PI career stage; (iii) Budget – budget table; **Section C. Resources** (detailed description of resources, max. 8000 characters, incl. spaces) (iv) Ethics and security issues tables; (v) Other questions (applicant & Project Office) 2) **Research proposal** (Part B1, use template, upload in PDF): Cover Page, (a) Extended Synopsis of the scientific proposal (max 5 pages excluding references); (b) Curriculum Vitae and Track Record (max 4 pages in total) (applicant & Project Office) 3) **Research proposal** (Part B2, use template, upload in PDF): Scientific proposal: (a) State-of-the-art and objectives; (b) Methodology; Sections (a) and (b) of Part B2 should not exceed 14 pages. References do not count towards the page limits (applicant & Project Office); Appendix: Current research grants and any on-going applications related to the proposal of the PI(Funding ID) – does not count towards page limits 4) **Commitment of the host institution for ERC Calls 2024** (Project Office & Director) 5) **PhD certificate** (in English, or another EU official language), **letter from awarding institution** confirming date of defence if not on PhD certificate and **documents to support extension** of eligibility, if requested (applicant) 6) **Other documentation needed on ethics and security issues**, i.e. supporting documents related to ethics or security issues if relevant (Project Office & applicant)
Evaluation criteria	Two-step peer review evaluation of scientific excellence: (i) cross the boundaries between different fields of research; interdisciplinary research proposals; (2) addressing new & emerging fields of research; (iii) introducing unconventional, innovative approaches & scientific inventions Step 1: CV, track record & scientific proposal (Part B1)

	Step 2: Full scientific proposal & 30 min interview in Brussels or online (via Webex) – presentation, questions (Parts B1& B2, Section 3 - Budget) **Research Project: Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility** <u>Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project</u> 1) To what extent does the proposed research address important challenges? 2) To what extent are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art (e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines)? <u>Scientific approach</u> 3) To what extent is the outlined scientific approach feasible bearing in mind the ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research *(based on the Extended Synopsis)*? 4) To what extent are the proposed research methodology and working arrangements appropriate to achieve the goals of the project (based on the research proposal)? 7) To what extent are the proposed timescales, resources and PI's commitment adequate and properly justified (based on the research proposal)? **2) Principal Investigator: Intellectual capacity and creativity** 6) To what extent has the PI demonstrated the ability to conduct ground-breaking research? 7) To what extent does the PI provide evidence of creative and original thinking? 8) To what extent does the PI have the required scientific expertise and capacity to successfully execute the project? Resubmitted proposals will be evaluated as new proposals without any reference or comparison to the previous score and/or with previous assessments.
Research areas	Life Sciences (9 panels): (LS1) Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures and Functions; (LS2) Integrative Biology: from Genes and Genomes to Systems; (LS3) Cell Biology, Development, Stem Cells and Regeneration; (LS4) Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing; (LS5) Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System; (LS6) Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy; (LS7) Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases; (LS8) Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution; (LS9) Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering Physical Sciences & Engineering (11 panels): (PE1) Mathematics; (PE2) Fundamental Constituents of Matter; (PE3) Condensed Matter Physics; (PE4) Physical & Analytical Chemical Sciences; (PE5) Synthetic Chemistry & Materials; (PE6) Computer Science & Informatics; (PE7) Systems & Communication Engineering; (PE8) Products & Processes Engineering; (PE9) Universe Sciences; (PE10) Earth System Science; (PE11) Materials Engineering Social Sciences & Humanities (8 panels): (SH1) Individuals, Markets & Organisations; (SH2) Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems; (SH3) The Social World and its Interactions; (SH4) The Human Mind and its Complexity; (SH5) Texts and Concepts; (SH6) The Study of the Human Past; (SH7) Human Mobility, Environment and Space; (SH8) Studies of Cultures and Arts
Call workshop	ERC Classes: Step by Step guide to the ERC application process (https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtv6FnsXqnXAYRk6HCErwMxwML0ZKoMcy) Preparatory workshops for ERC applicants to 2024 by the ERC Expert group and TC Prague (https://www.horizontevropa.cz/en/he-programme-structure/excellent-science/european-research-council/erc-expert-group/information/yiifnews/1731/preparatory-workshops-for-erc-applicants-to...)
IOCB contact	Please inform the IOCB Project Office about your intention to apply. Do not hesitate to contact us anytime for consulting, discussion or help. Jitka Šilerová, jitka.silerova@uochb.cas.cz, +420 220 183 229 Veronika Palečková, veronika.paleckova@uochb.cas.cz, +420 220 183 266 Blanka Collis, blanka.collis@uochb.cas.cz, +420 220 183 527
Download documents	ERC-StG-2024 summary ERC-StG-2024 information for applicants ERC-StG-2024 B1 template ERC-StG-2024 B2 template ERC-StG-2024 Application Forms Examples ERC Rules for Submission (July 2021) ERC Work Programme 2024 ERC Evaluation Panels from 2024 calls ERC Guide for Peer Review (October 2022)