

## STARTING INDEPENDENT RESEARCHER GRANTS

**Reference:** 7FP Ideas - ERC-2009-StG **Budget:** EUR 295.762.000 from 2009 budget  
**Activity:** European Research Council Starting Grant

### OBJECTIVES:

To provide support to the independent careers of **outstanding researchers**. They are either located in or moving to the EU and associated countries, and are at the stage of **establishing their first research team or programme**, whatever their nationality.

### ACTIVITIES:

Projects will be funded on the basis of proposals presented by researchers both from the private and public sectors on subjects of their choice and evaluated on the sole criterion of excellence as judged by peer review.

For this call for proposals applications may be made in the following three fields of research:

- **Physical Sciences and Engineering** (39% budget)
- **Life Sciences** (34% budget)
- **Social Sciences and Humanities** (14% budget)
- + Interdisciplinary domain (13% budget)

### PARTICIPANTS:

➤ The ERC actions are open to researchers who would like to establish their research activity in any Member State as well as any Associated Country. The Principal Investigator can be of **any age and nationality** and he/she can reside in any country in the world at the time of the application. The ERC Starting Grant Principal Investigator must have been awarded his/her **first PhD** (or equivalent doctoral degree) **at least 3 and less than 8 years prior** to the publication date of the call for proposals of the ERC Starting Grants (in special cases extensions of this period may be allowed).

➤ The contribution of **Principal Investigators** must be substantially carried out in the EU or Associated countries. This does not exclude field work or other research activities in cases where these must necessarily be conducted outside the EU or the Associated countries in order to achieve the scientific objectives of the project/activity. The **host institution** will host and engage the Principal Investigator for at least the duration of the grant. It must be situated in one of the Member States, or one of the Associated countries. It may also be an International European Interest Organisation (such as CERN, EMBL, etc.) or the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. Normally, the applicant legal entity will be the only participating legal entity. Other legal entities, including those located in third countries, may however be involved and receive funding to support the work of additional team members, if so specified in the grant award or subsequent amendments to the original grant.

Maximum number: at least 1 independent legal entity established in one of the Member States/Associated Country (no compulsory consortium agreement)

### DEADLINES

Panels: PE1 – PE10 (Physical Sciences & Engineering): **29 October 2008**

Panels: SH1 – SH6 (Social Sciences & Humanities): **19 November 2008**

Panels: LS1 – LS9 (Life Sciences): **10 December 2008**

### LINK:

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm>