

# Introduction to Grant Writing



Konzorcij projektnih pisarn za krepitev odličnosti, interdisciplinarnosti in mednarodne vpetosti  
slovenskega raziskovalnega prostora

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# Introduction to PMO NIC



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY

**We help you succeed in international research by providing:**

◆ **Access to opportunities**

Updates on international calls & key events  
Help finding partners and funding sources

◆ **Expert project support**

Guidance through all stages of proposal preparation  
Collaboration with Horizon Europe NCPs and the EC  
Financial & administrative support

◆ **Strategic collaboration**

Help connecting with national & international R&I partners  
IP rights assistance & industrial cooperation (in close collaboration with NIC KTO)

◆ **Training & integration**

Seminars, workshops and materials on EU Grant Funding



**WE SUPPORT YOU**  
from the project idea to the conclusion of contract (CA+GA)



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# European FP for R&I

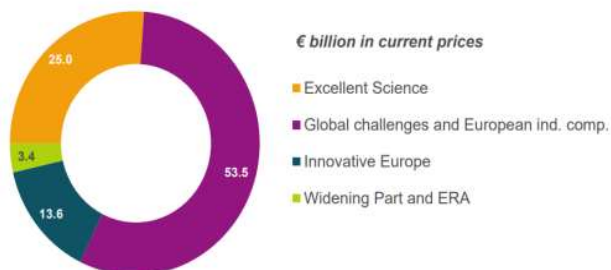


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7-year programme I €95.5 billion

## Horizon Europe Budget

(including €5.4 billion from NGEU – Next Generation Europe – programme of EU for Recovery from COVID-19 crisis)



### TOP DOWN APPROACH

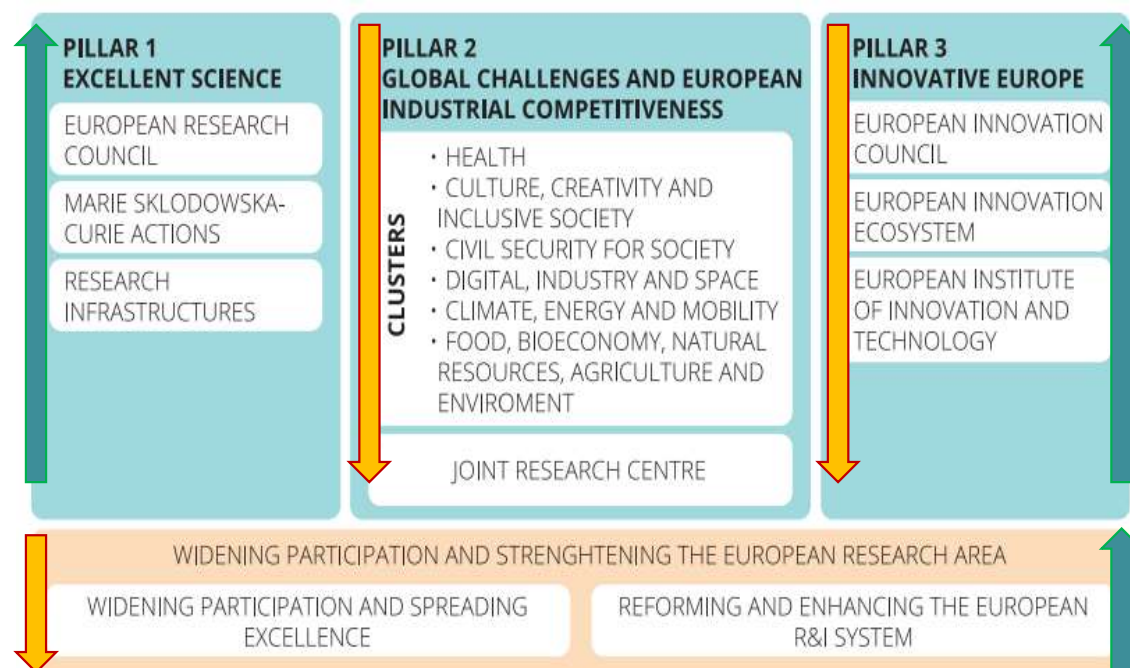
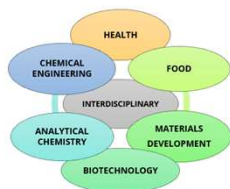


TOPIC OF RESEARCH  
PRESCRIBED

### BOTTOM UP APPROACH



ALL TOPICS OF RESEARCH ALLOWED



Source: European Commission. (2021). [Presentation outlining Horizon Europe](#).

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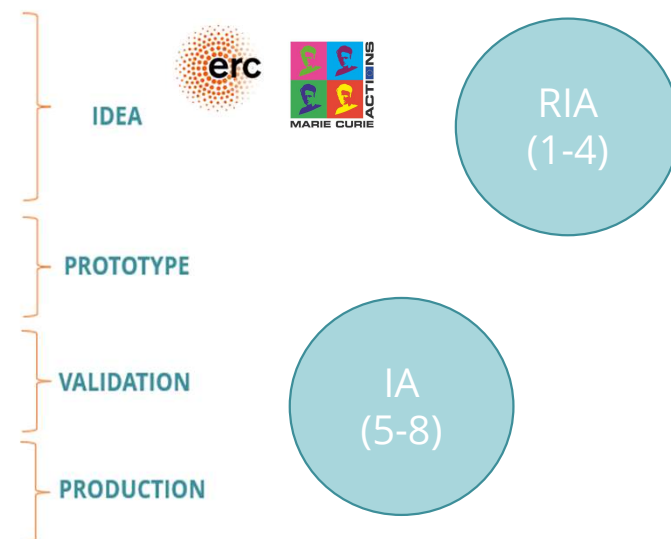
# Understanding TRLs



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TRL = technology readiness level

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 0 | <b>IDEA</b> (unproven concept, no testing has been performed)                              |
| 1 | <b>BASIC RESEARCH</b> (the needs can be described but there is no evidence yet)            |
| 2 | <b>TECHNOLOGY FORMULATION</b> (concept and application have been formulated)               |
| 3 | <b>NEEDS VALIDATION</b> (there's an initial offer, stakeholders like your presentation)    |
| 4 | <b>SMALL SCALE PROTOTYPE</b> (built in a laboratory environment)                           |
| 5 | <b>LARGE SCALE PROTOTYPE</b> (tested in intended environment)                              |
| 6 | <b>PROTOTYPE SYSTEM</b> (tested in intended environment close to expected performance)     |
| 7 | <b>DEMONSTRATION SYSTEM</b> (operating in operational environment at pre-commercial scale) |
| 8 | <b>FIRST OF A KIND COMMERCIAL SYSTEM</b> (all systems ready for commercial operations)     |
| 9 | <b>FULL COMMERCIAL APPLICATION</b> (technology on general availability for all consumers)  |



Source: CloudWATCH. (2017). [A brief refresher on Technology Readiness Levels \(TRL\) for EC Projects.](#)



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# Overview of different types of EU-funded projects



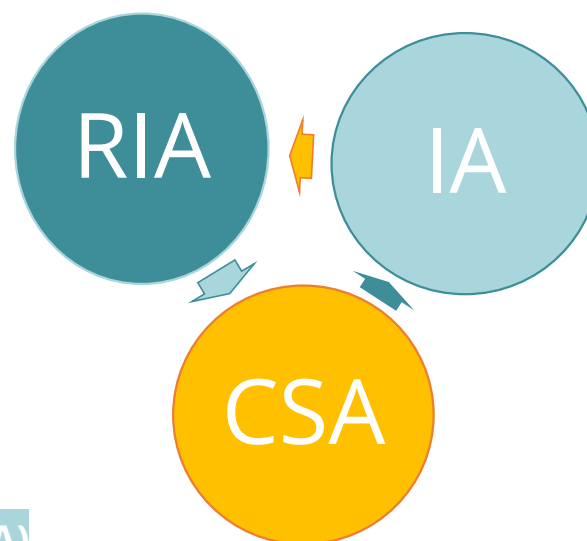
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## Research and Innovation Action (RIA)

- TRL 1-6
- Industrial partners support
- Advancing scientific knowledge and technological development
- Establishes new knowledge or explores a new or improved technology, product, process, service or solution.

## Coordination and Support Action (CSA)

- No direct research or innovation activities, rather focus on supporting and enhancing the implementation and impact of research projects.
- CSA project aims to coordinate R&I activities, support networking, facilitate the exchange of best practices, and promote the dissemination of research results.



## Innovation Action (IA)

- TRL 5-8
- Industrial partners demonstrate the technology
- Bringing innovative solutions closer to market readiness
- produces plans or designs for new or improved products, processes or services including prototyping, testing, demonstrating, piloting, large-scale product validation and market replication.

# Relevant funding opportunities for ESRs: Pillar 1



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RIA

## 1. MSCA Doctoral Networks (MSCA-DN)

TRL 1-4

Specifically designed for ESRs (max. 4 years research experience),  
Offering fully funded PhDs with international, interdisciplinary, and intersectoral training.

## 2. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (MSCA-PF)

TRL 1-3

For ESRs finishing their PhDs or recent graduates (max. 8 years after PhD),  
Supports mobility and career development through research stays in Europe or globally.



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

## 3. ERC Starting Grant (ERC-StG)

TRL 1-3

For excellent researchers 2-7 years post-PhD,  
Ambitious but suitable for top-performing former ESRs aiming to establish independent research careers.  
Up to €1.5 million in funding for a 5-year research project.



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**HORIZON-HLTH-2022-STAYHLTH-01-01-two-stage: Boosting mental health in Europe in times of change**

**Destination** – Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society

**Call** – Staying Healthy (Two stage 2022) (Opening: 6 October 2021; Deadlines: 1 February 2022, 6 September 2022)

Specific conditions	
Expected EU contribution per project	The Commission estimates that an EU contribution of around EUR 7.00 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.
Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 50.00 million.
Type of Action	Research and Innovation Actions

Expected Outcome:

RIA = TRL 1-6

This topic aims at supporting activities that are enabling or contributing to one or several impacts of destination 1 “Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society”. To that end, proposals under this topic should aim for delivering results that are directed, tailored towards and contributing to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Health care professionals, national/regional public authorities and other relevant actors in key settings (e.g. schools, workplaces, etc.):
  - Have access to and apply evidence-based, innovative, cost-effective/cost-neutral, large-scale, comprehensive strategies and interventions for the promotion of mental health and the prevention of mental ill health, targeting the most vulnerable populations;
  - Adopt clinical guidelines, best practices, implementation strategies and policy recommendations (as applicable to them) to mitigate the mental health burden and help cope with the (combined) effects of a transforming Europe (e.g. the socio-economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, environmental degradation, energy transition, demographic and migration factors, digitalisation, and exponential technological advancements);
- The scientific community, together with the public authorities, anticipate new and emerging risks to mental health associated with a transforming Europe, contributing to better and inclusive public mental health preparedness.
- Citizens have access to and make use of new tools and services to take informed decisions about their wellbeing and mental health care needs (including for self-management and self-care).
- Citizens feel less stigmatised and marginalised due to their mental ill health.

Scope:

Against the backdrop of a transforming Europe and in the midst of a global pandemic, the EU is committed to lead the transition to a healthier planet and a new digital world. The health and wellbeing of its citizens is a prerequisite to achieve this aspiration.

On the one hand, extreme weather and environmental disasters have risen dramatically over the last decade. Links between these events and serious mental health problems, including anxiety, depression, post-traumatic disorder and suicide, have been reported. Moreover, several new words such as “eco-anxiety”, “ecoparalysis” and “ecological grief” have been coined to express the acute and/or chronic effects on mental health caused by climate and environmental changes.

# Analysis of the topic call Pillars 2 & 3



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YOUR MAIN SOURCE OF INFORMATION TO BUILD YOUR PROPOSAL ON

## COLOUR CODES

- Needs and challenges that need addressing
- Objectives to be achieved
- Activities to be carried out (work plan and methodologies)
- Outputs
- Cross-cutting priorities
- Target groups and stakeholders

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# Overview of the application form structure



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## KEY TIPS

**Start from templates** provided by the EC.

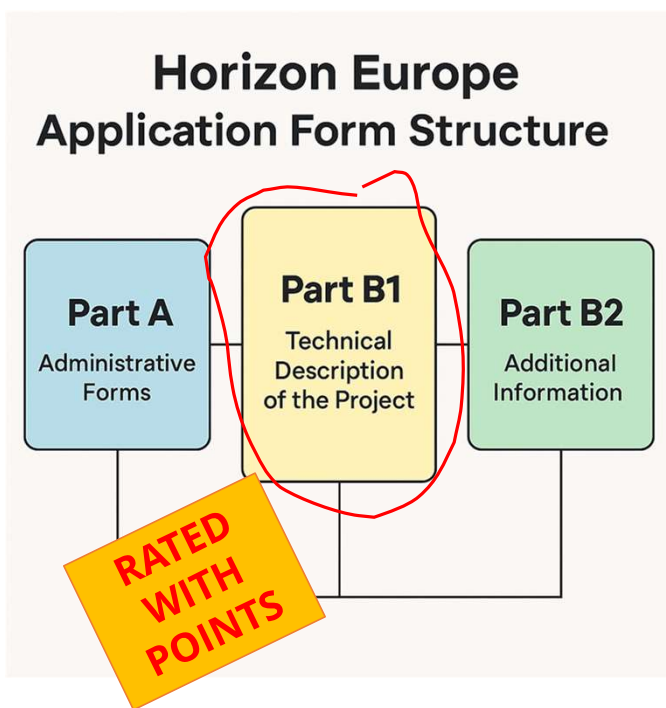
**Follow the page limits and formatting rules strictly.**

**Use clear, concise language understandable to non-experts.**

**Ensure coherence between all parts (A, B1 + B2).**

**Consult your PMO early.**

**Use the terminology the EC uses** in the description (in particular in the excellence and impact).







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# Evaluation criteria : PART B1

Threshold:  
3/5



**YOU WIN A PROJECT WITH EXCELLENCE BUT YOU LOSE IT WITH IMPACT**

Overall  
threshold:  
10/15

Excellence  
5pts

Impact  
5pts

Implementation  
5pts



← RESULTS →



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# Evaluation process



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Look at your proposal as a marketing project

Academics (Professors etc)

Experts from industry

Consultants

Retired scientists



The first page sells your proposal. If you do not convince your reviewers, the following 44 pages are much more difficult

The first/second page should highlight the uniqueness of your proposal  
Provide meaningful objectives (SMART) easy to pick up in the following sections (WPs etc)

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