

MSCA Doctoral Networks

PERSPECTIVES FROM AN EXPERT EVALUATOR

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MSCA DN Expert evaluators

Who are expert MSCA DN evaluators?

- ▶ Expert evaluators are experienced professionals in a specific field of research (academic or non-academic)
- ▶ Experts are independent evaluators who assess proposal on a personal basis (not representing employer nor country)
- ▶ Experts need to be impartial and objective



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The evaluation process

Proposal is assessed independently by 3 experts in the field with matching expertise to the proposal

- ▶ First step – individual opinion on merits of the proposal
- ▶ Second step – consensus discussion among 3 (or more) experts on the merits, agreement and final scoring



MSCA DN evaluation – Award criteria

Criterion 1 – Excellence (50 %)

- ▶ Quality and pertinence of research objectives (**beyond** state of art)
- ▶ Soundness of the proposed methodology (including e.g. **gender in research**, **Open Science** practices)
- ▶ Quality and credibility of training programme (role of **non academic sector** in training, relevance of training)
- ▶ Quality of supervision (supervision **arrangements**, description re **qualifications and experience** of supervisors)



MSCA DN evaluation – Award criteria

Criterion 2- Impact (30%)

- ▶ Contribution to structuring doctoral training at European level and strengthening European innovation capacity (*Making Europe more innovative? Does it help bridge gap btw academia and industry?*)
- ▶ Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of researchers incl. *Skills development*
- ▶ Measures to maximise impact (*dissemination, exploitation and communication plan – making your research known to wide audiences, IPR*)
- ▶ Contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts (*beyond the scope of the project – not all 3 impacts are expected*)



MSCA DN evaluation – Award criteria

Criterion 3 – Implementation (20%)

- ▶ Quality and effectiveness of the work plan (coherent **work plan**, implementation **risks**, work **effort**, Fellows **individual projects**, **Gender** in consortium, **MSCA green**)
- ▶ Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements (incl. Hosting arrangements, Extent to which the **consortium brings together necessary expertise**)



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Project results are expected to contribute to the following outcomes for **supported doctoral candidates**

- ▶ New **research and transferable skills** and competences, leading to improved **employability and career prospects** within and outside academia;
- ▶ New knowledge allowing the **conversion of ideas into products and services**, where relevant;
- ▶ **Enhanced networking and communication** capacities with scientific **peers**, as well as with the **general public** that will increase and broaden the research and innovation impact.



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Project results are expected to contribute to the following outcomes for **participating organisations**

- ▶ Improved **quality, relevance and sustainability** of doctoral training programmes and supervision arrangements;
- ▶ **Enhanced cooperation and transfer of knowledge** between sectors and disciplines;
- ▶ **Increased integration of training and research activities** between participating organisations;
- ▶ Increased **internationalisation** and attractiveness;
- ▶ Boosted R&I capacity;



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