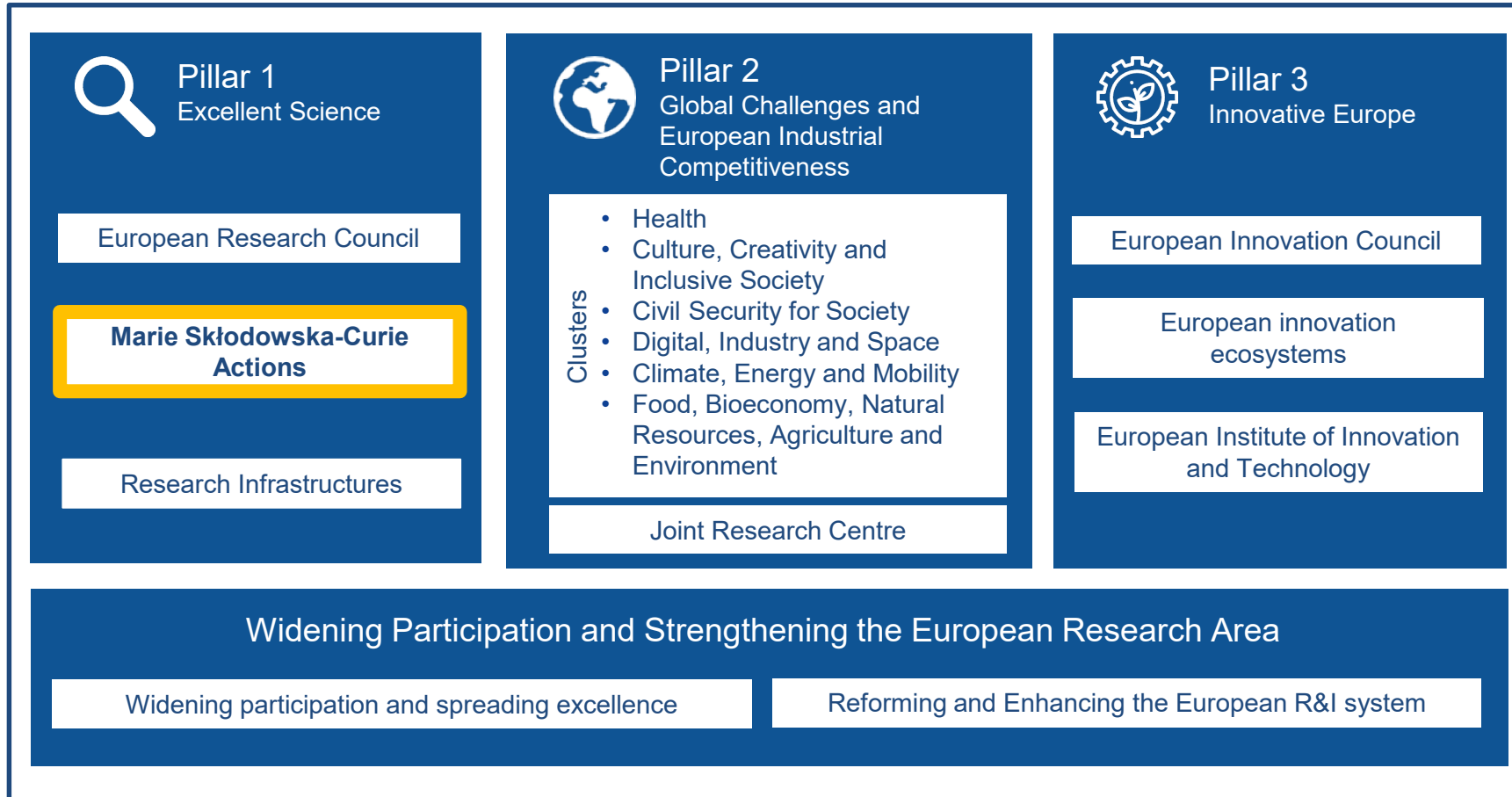




Marie Skłodowska- Curie Actions under Horizon Europe

Claire Morel and Manuel Gómez Herrero
Unit - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
European Commission
Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture

The MSCA under Horizon Europe



Key figures (2014-2020)

+65,000

Researchers,
including
25,000 PhD
candidates

37%

Researchers
from outside
of the EU

6.2 billion €

Under
Horizon 2020

+1,000

Doctoral
programmes

+4,500

Companies
supported

42%

Female
researchers

Introduction to the MSCA

- **EU's reference programme for doctoral and postdoctoral training**, contributing to:
 - A highly skilled research-based human capital able to detect and tackle upcoming challenges, communicate scientific evidence to policy-makers and the public, and work across disciplines
 - Provide researchers with skills needed in the labour market, to innovate and to convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit
 - Develop excellent doctoral programmes enhancing the global attractiveness and visibility of institutions involved in them
 - Promote the EU's global attractiveness for talents
- **Budget under Horizon Europe: 6.8€ billion**

Key features



**Researchers'
training, skills and
career
development (all
stages of career)**



**Excellent research
in all domains
(bottom-up
approach)**



**International,
cross-sectoral &
interdisciplinary
mobility**



**Attractive working
and employment
conditions**



**Structuring impact
on organisations
through excellent
programmes**



**Strong
collaboration with
industry and SMEs**

Policy background, principles and priorities

- Contribution to the **European Research Area (ERA)** and **European Education Area (EEA)**
- Contribution to the **EU external policy** objectives
- Committed to the **European Charter for Researchers** and the **Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers** + Innovative Doctoral Training Principles
- Underlying Principles: **Open Science, Responsible Research & Innovation**
- New publishing platform and open peer review:
<https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/>

Some novelties

- New guidelines on **supervision** to ensure that researchers are adequately supervised
- Towards “**greener MSCA**” to promote sustainable behaviors and policies, support policy and decision making, through MSCA Green Charter, Green Deal thematic clustering events...
- Reinforced **synergies** within Horizon Europe and with other EU funding programmes

More gender-friendly and inclusive MSCA

- Horizon 2020: 41% of female fellows (from 38% in RISE to 44% in ITN)
- In line with the Charter and Code, all MSCA projects are encouraged to embrace diversity

In the interest of non-discrimination and equal opportunities:

- **Family allowances** will be accessible to all, even if their parental status changes during the duration of the project
- **Long-term leave allowance** in case of the researchers' leave, including maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave
- **Broader definition of family** to ensure full access to these allowances (recognised LGBTI+ couples)

Academia-non academia collaboration

- **Encourage inter-sectoral exposure through incentives**
- With the aim to develop transferable skills (e.g. innovation, entrepreneurship) leading to improved **employability and career prospects within and outside academia**

Incentives:

- **Industrial Doctorates:** 50% fellowship in non-academic sector, joint supervision; incentive: max 540 person-months instead of 360 for standard doctoral networks
- **Postdoctoral Fellowships:** incentive: additional 6 months for placements in the non-academic sector at the end of the project

The Actions

Doctoral Networks

Doctoral programmes in and outside academia incl joint & industrial doctorates

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Support to excellent postdoctoral researchers

Staff Exchanges

Support for research and innovation staff exchanges

COFUND

Co-funding doctoral and postdoctoral programmes

MSCA and Citizens

Public outreach events (Night)

MSCA WP 2021-2022 structure

Training and Mobility Actions	MSCA Doctoral Networks	MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships	MSCA Staff Exchanges	MSCA COFUND	MSCA and Citizen
	Call 2021	Call 2021	Call 2021	Call 2021	Call 2022
	Call 2022	Call 2022	Call 2022	Call 2022	
Coordination and Support Actions	MSCA Support				
	MSCA NCPs Coordination Call 2021		MSCA International Cooperation Call 2021		Researchers at risk Call 2021
Other Actions (not subject to calls for proposals)	Grants				
	MSCA Presidency events (SI, FR)			MSCA Special Needs Allowances	
	Procurement				
	Studies	Events	Alumni services		Researchers at Schools
	External expertise				

MSCA Doctoral Networks



- **Multi-beneficiary action** to set up innovative **doctoral programmes**, including:
 - **Industrial Doctorates**
 - ✓ Training in academia and industry
 - ✓ Joint supervision
 - **Joint Doctorates**
 - ✓ Joint collaborations leading to a joint/double/multiple doctoral degree
 - ✓ Joint selection, supervision and governance structure
 - ✓ Pre-agreement for joint degrees required
- **Target group**
 - **doctoral candidates**, i.e. researchers without a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment; mandatory enrolment in a doctoral programme
- **Focus** on **career development plan, supervision, training**: research and transferable skills
- **Who applies?**
 - **consortia** of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors; each of them to recruit at least 1 researcher
 - at least **three independent legal entities**, each established in a different MS or AC; minimum of 1 beneficiary from a MS (on top of this minimum, any entity from any third country can join)

MSCA Doctoral Networks



- **Size**
 - Up to **360 person-months (standard)** + **180** additional person-months for joint or industrial doctorates (**incentive**)
- **Duration**
 - **Programme:** max. 48 months (no change)
 - **Fellow:** between 3 and 36 months
 - **Secondments:** up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration
 - **Industrial doctorates:** at least 50% of the fellowship in the non-academic sector; can be in the same country as the academic host organisation
- **Calls:**
 - **2021:** 18 May - 16 Nov 2021; 402,95M€
 - **2022:** 3 May - 15 Nov 2022; 427,28M€
 - **Resubmission restrictions** applying as of 2022 for applications receiving a score **below 80%** in the previous Horizon Europe call

MSCA Doctoral Networks – Unit contributions



Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month					Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 3 400	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 4 000 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 600	EUR 1 200

¹The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships



- **Mono-beneficiary action** to support **postdoctoral research** and careers
- Architecture simplification - **Two types of Fellowships:**
 - **European Fellowships:** researchers of any nationality moving within or coming to Europe
 - **Global Fellowships:** European nationals or long-term residents in Europe to do research abroad
 - **Discontinuation of panels** (Career Restart, Reintegration, Society and Enterprise) – mainstreaming- replacement with **incentives**
- Continue funding **all research domains** including areas covered by **EURATOM**
- Improved guidance towards **career development** (plan & supervision)
- **Managing the increasing demand** to maintain high-quality selection & improve success rate
 - Require **PhD** degree at the call deadline
 - Limit research experience – **up to 8 years** of research experience after PhD at the call deadline, with **exceptions:**
 - Years **outside research, career breaks, work outside Europe** (for those reintegrating to Europe) will not be counted
 - Restrict **resubmissions** with score less than 70% to the following year (as of 2022)

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships



- **Who applies?**
 - **Single legal entity** established in an EU Member State or HE Associated country (specific conditions for EURATOM areas), **jointly** with the researcher
- **Duration**
 - **European Fellowships: 12-24 months**
 - **Global Fellowships: 24-36 months** (12-24 outgoing + 12 months mandatory return phase in Europe)
 - **Secondments worldwide up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration** (outgoing phase for Global Fellowships)
 - Optional **additional placement of up to 6 months in a non-academic** European organization, at the end of the fellowship to build bridges between sectors
- **Seal of Excellence** continues
- **Calls:**
 - **2021:** 18 May – 15 Sept; 242 M€
 - **2022:** 14 Apr – 14 Sept; 257 M€

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships – Unit contributions



Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month					Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 5 080	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

¹The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

MSCA Staff Exchanges



- **Multi-beneficiary action** to support **collaborative R&I activities through staff exchanges**
- **Target group:** any type of staff at any stage of career contributing to research activities (researchers, administrative & managerial staff, technicians, infrastructure operators...)
- **Focus** on international, inter-sectoral, interdisciplinary secondments leading to knowledge transfer between participating organisations and strengthening long-term collaborations. Emphasis on the added-value of the collaboration.
- **Who applies?**
 - **consortia** of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors
 - **at least three independent legal entities in three different countries**, two of which established in a different EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.
 - If all participating organisations are from the same sector (i.e. either only academic or only non-academic), there must be at least one organisation from a non-associated Third Country

MSCA Staff Exchanges



- **Size**
 - Reduced to **up to 360 person-months**
- **Duration**
 - **Programme:** max. 48 months (no change)
 - **Secondments:** between countries worldwide and between independent entities; **1-12 months** per staff member (independently of the number of organisations the staff is seconded to);
 - New: interdisciplinary secondments in the same sector possible within Europe (max 1/3 of the total person-months);
- Most international action under MSCA
- **Calls**
 - **2021:** 7 Oct 2021- 9 Mar 2022; 72,5 M€
 - **2022:** 6 Oct 2022- 8 Mar 2023; 77,5 M€

MSCA Staff Exchanges – Unit contributions



Contributions for seconded staff members Per person-month		Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Top-up allowance	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 2 300	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 300	EUR 1 000

¹The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

MSCA COFUND



- **Mono-beneficiary action to co-fund** new or existing national, regional, institutional schemes for **doctoral** training and **postdoctoral** fellowships
- **Target groups**
 - **Doctoral candidates**, i.e. researchers without a doctoral degree at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call; mandatory enrolment in a doctoral programme
 - **Postdoctoral researchers**, i.e. researchers with a doctoral degree at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call
- **Focus**
 - Spread **best practices** of the MSCA by promoting **high standards** in the recruitment process and **excellent working conditions**
 - Introduce **sustainable structuring effects**, by promoting excellent and sustainable research training
 - Encourage **synergies** with Cohesion policy funds as well as the Recovery and Resilience Facility. Programmes could focus on specific disciplines, notably when based on RIS³.
- **Who applies?**
 - **Single legal entity** established in an EU Member State or HE Associated country

MSCA COFUND



- **Career Development Plan**

- To be jointly established by the supervisor and each recruited researcher upon recruitment. Revised (and updated where needed) within 18 months

- **Co-funding**

- Max **10 M€** per beneficiary per call (unchanged)
- The EU contribution covers **minimum remuneration** (70% living + mobility allowance) and can be used more **flexibly**

- **Duration**

- **Programme**: max. 60 months (unchanged)
- **Fellowship**: min 3 months
- **Secondments**: up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration

- Introduction of an MSCA Cofund **Seal of Excellence** for applications scoring $\geq 85\%$

- **Calls:**

- **2021**: 12 Oct 2021 – 10 Feb 2022; 89 M€
- **2022**: 11 Oct 2022 – 9 Feb 2023; 95 M€



MSCA COFUND – Unit contributions

Contributions for recruited researchers and institutional contributions

Per person-month

	COFUND allowance	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)
Doctoral Programmes	EUR 2 800	EUR 2 800 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)
Postdoctoral Programmes	EUR 3 980	EUR 3 980 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)

¹The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

MSCA and Citizens



- **Coordination and Support Action** to bring research and researchers closer to the **public at large**, through the organisation of the **European Researchers' Night** (+400 cities across Europe, +1,5M visitors)
- **Target group:** general public, young people
- **Focus**
 - Raise young people's interest for research and science
 - Better communication of R&I results and activities to society (focus on HE Missions);
 - Promotion of the European Union and the impact of its policies on citizens' daily life
 - Citizen science
 - Improved researchers' communication skills and competences
- **Who applies?**
 - **One or more legal entities** established in an EU Member State or HE Associated country

MSCA and Citizens



- **EU contribution**
 - **Lump Sum contributions**
 - Contribution estimated between **50-150k€ per annual edition** of the European Researchers' Night
- **Duration**
 - Applicants **encouraged** to submit proposals covering **two successive editions (2022/2023)** of the Night
- **Call**
 - **2022:** 17 Jun 2021 – 14 Oct 2021; 14 M€

MSCA Support

3 open calls to select 1 Coordination and Support Action each time:

- **Trans-national cooperation among MSCA NCPs (max 2M€/36 months):** identify and share best practices; raise the general standard of support to applicants; specific support to widening and third countries
- **MSCA International Cooperation (max 2M€/36 months):** support to bilateral and bi-regional policy dialogues; coordination between existing promotion channels (Euraxess Worldwide, MSCA Alumni Association, EU Delegations, Europe Enterprise Network); identification of opportunities and challenges
- **MSCA for Researchers at Risk (max 1,5M€/36 months):** facilitate and strengthen cooperation between European, national and institutional supporting researchers at risk

Other activities (not subject to calls for proposals)

Grants to identified beneficiaries

- **2 MSCA Presidency Conferences** (2021 Slovenian Presidency; 2022 French Presidency)
- **MSCA Special Needs Allowances to H2020 legacy projects**

Procurement, *tbc*

- **Studies (brain circulation)**
- **Events and outreach**
- **Alumni services**
- **Researchers at Schools:** new initiative to allow researchers engaging with pupils and teachers on EU priorities, including Green Deal and HE Missions

Expert contract actions for external expertise

MSCA WP 2021-2022 Calls, tbc

CALL	2021		CALL	2022	
	opening closing	budget (M€)		opening closing	budget (M€)
Doctoral Networks	18/05/21 16/11/21	402,95	Doctoral Networks	03/05/22 15/11/22	427,28
Postdoctoral Fellowships	18/05/21 15/09/21	242	Postdoctoral Fellowships	13/04/22 14/09/22	257
Staff Exchanges	07/10/21 09/03/22	72,50	Staff Exchanges	06/10/22 08/03/23	77,50
COFUND	12/10/21 10/02/22	89	COFUND	11/10/22 09/02/23	95
NCP Coordination	18/05/21 31/08/21	2	Citizens (European Researchers' Night)	17/06/21 07/10/21	14
International Cooperation	18/05/21 09/09/21	2			
Researchers at Risk	02/09/21 06/01/22	1,5			

The information in this presentation is still subject to change

Opening/closing dates still tbc

Your National Contact Points (NCP) can help you

Belgium's NCPs:

Nadège Ricaud

Website: <http://www.ncp.fnrs.be/>

Margot Beereboom

Website: <http://www.ncpflanders.be/nl/>

Bram Lefever

Website: http://eurofed.belspo.be/eurofed_intro.asp

National Contact Points: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>

<https://www.net4mobilityplus.eu/>

Belgium and the MSCA (2014-2020)

H2020 Key facts and figures (2014-2020)

Number of BE researchers funded by MSCA:	440
EU budget awarded to BE organisations (EUR million):	265.92
Number of BE organisations in MSCA:	271

In detail, the number of the organisation participations and the budget awarded to them, as well as the number of researcher mobilities involving these organisations:

Action	Number of Participations of BE organisations*		EU contribution (in EUR million) to BE organisations	Number Of Projects	BE researchers involved	Researchers going to BE organisations
COFUND	22	(18)	19.48	17	54	22
IF	316	(-)	54.45	314	155	307
ITN	633	(169)	184.29	388	123	651
NIGHT	4	(-)	0.32	1	N/A	0
RISE	82	(-)	7.38	66	108	198
Total:	1 057	(187)**	265.92	786	440	1 178

* Number of Participations is the number of participations by organisations i.e. the total number of times that organisations in this country have participated in each action.

**In brackets - partner organisations (included in the total number).

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/msca-numbers_en

Belgium and the MSCA (2014-2020)

Ranking (among MS):

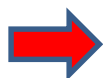
Success_Rate rate of BE applicants* : 11.21 % MS average: 12.35 %

Place	Ranking	BE		MS
7	No of applicants	9 901	4.66 %	212 485
8	EU contribution share (EUR million)	265.92	4.78 %	5 557.64
7	No of Participations of BE organisations	1 057	4.24 %	24 953

* Success rate is determined by dividing the number of successful organisation participations to the number of eligible applying organisations.

Participating BE organisations by type of organisation

	Total	% Total	% Average MS
Academic	748	70.77 %	74.19 %
Non-Academic	309	29.23 %	25.81 %
• Private for Profit	258	24.41 %	22.31 %
• SMEs	79	7.47 %	10.28 %



Belgium and the MSCA (2014-2020)

Top BE participating organisations in terms of EU contribution (in EUR million)

Name	EU Contribution
KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT LEUVEN	77.83
UNIVERSITEIT GENT	29.90
UNIVERSITEIT ANTWERPEN	17.76
UNIVERSITE LIBRE DE BRUXELLES	16.26
UNIVERSITE CATHOLIQUE DE LOUVAIN	14.30

Top BE participating organisations in terms of number of participations

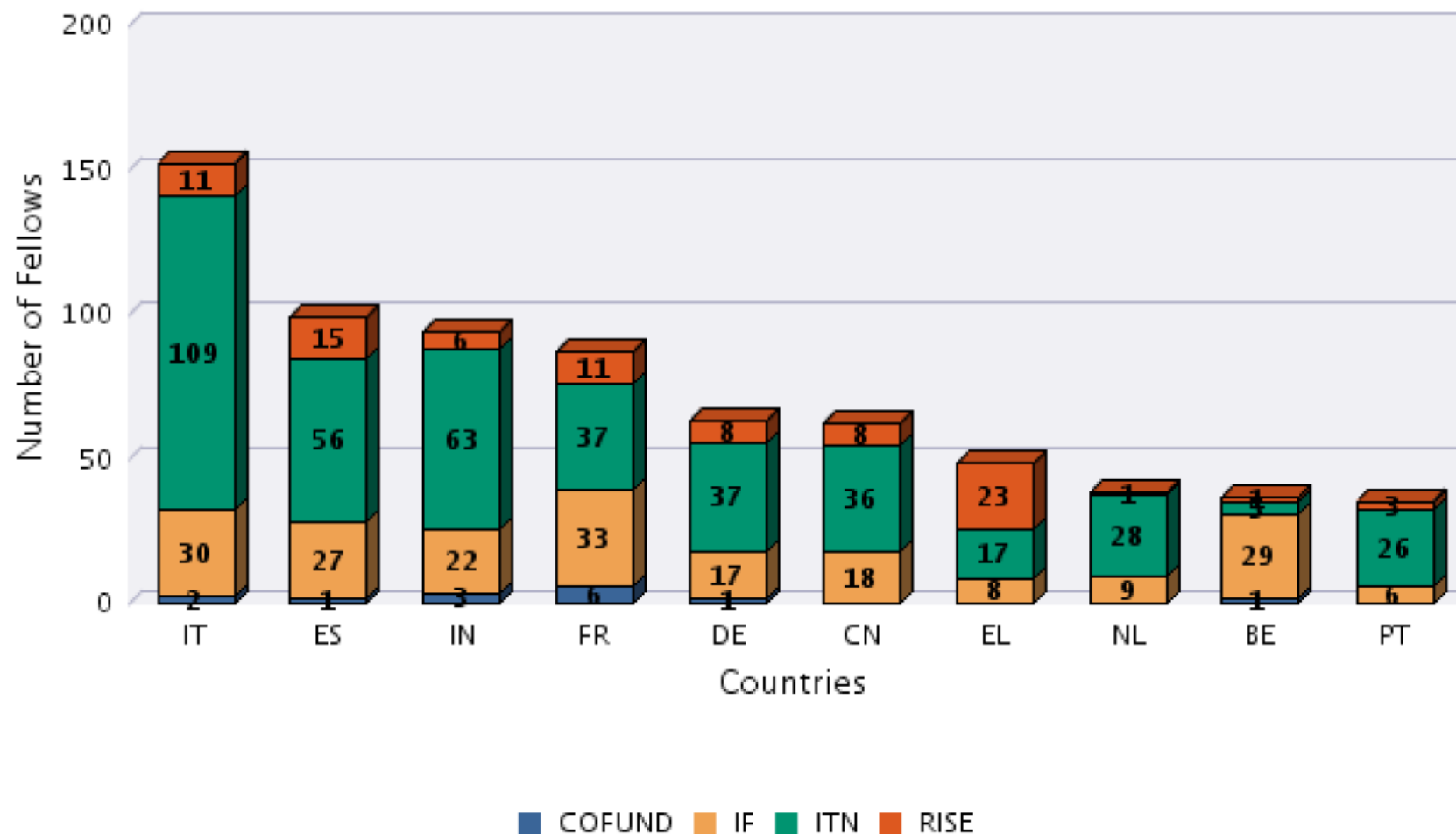
Name	Number of participations
KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT LEUVEN	231
UNIVERSITEIT GENT	98
UNIVERSITEIT ANTWERPEN	68
UNIVERSITE CATHOLIQUE DE LOUVAIN	51
UNIVERSITE LIBRE DE BRUXELLES	44

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/msca-numbers_en

Belgium and the MSCA (2014-2020)

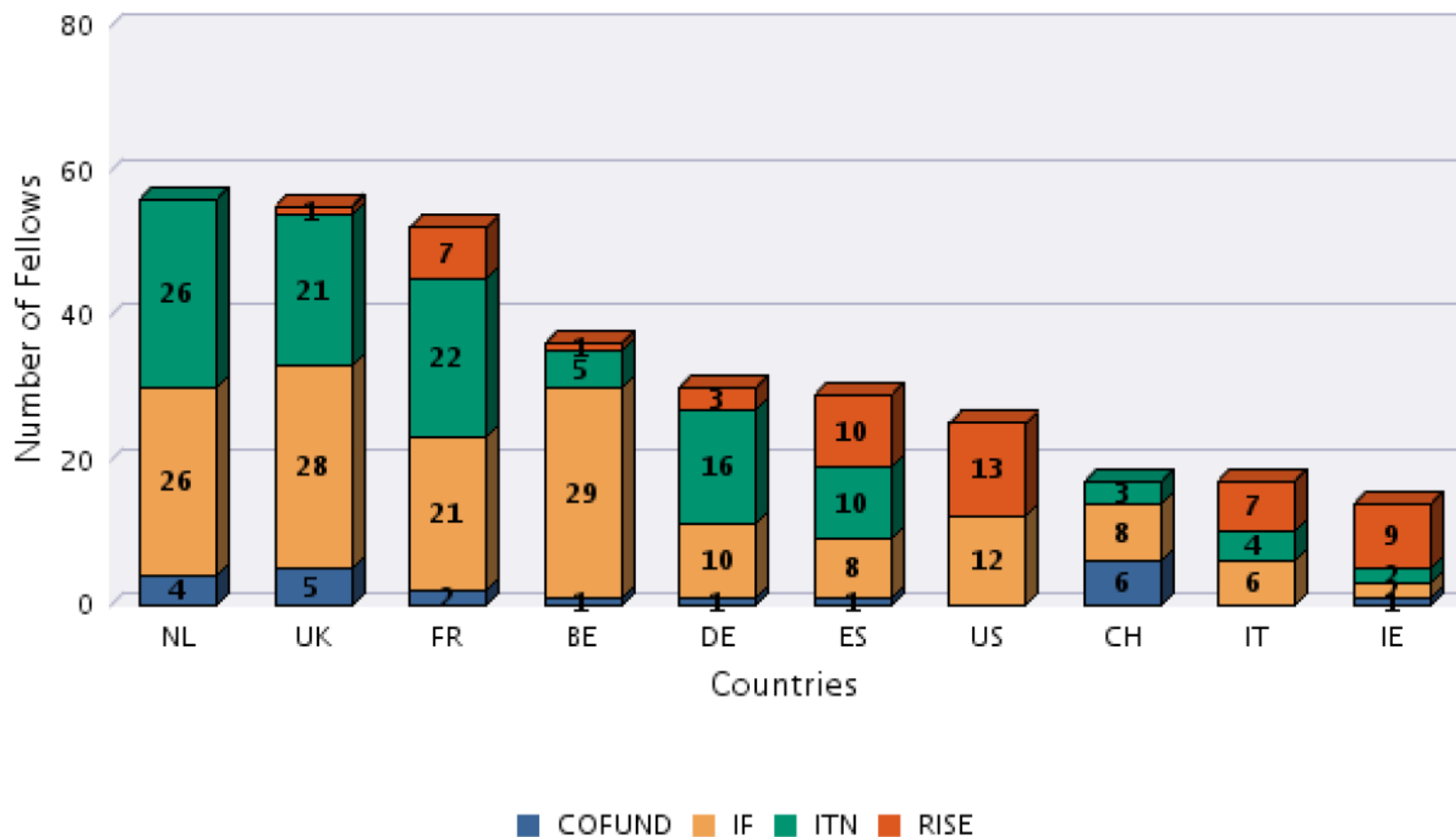
Mobility patterns: fellowships

Fellows going to BE, grouped by their nationality (top 10 nationalities)



Belgium and the MSCA (2014-2020)

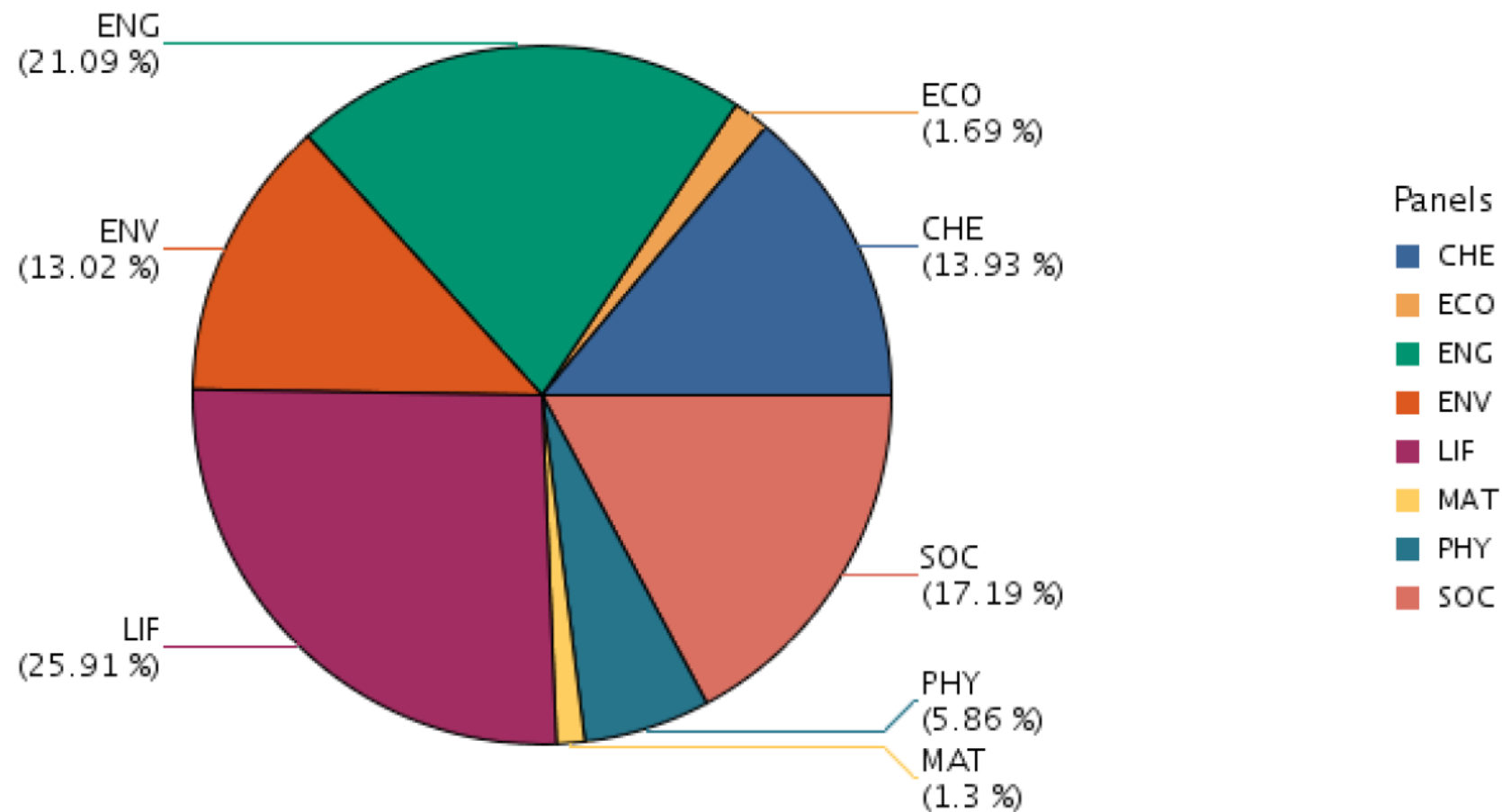
BE fellows (nationals) grouped by country of destination (top 10 countries)



https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/msca-numbers_en

Belgium and the MSCA (2014-2020)

Project distribution by scientific panel (BE)



Links

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Website

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/node_en

MSCA Pocket Guide

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/758a6af6-82ad-11ea-bf12-01aa75ed71a1>

Funding and Tenders Portal (applications, documents, partner search)

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/h2020>

Euraxess (PhD and postdoctoral vacancies, more information)

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>

European Charter and Code for Researchers

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/euraxess/charter-code-researchers>

MCAA (Marie Curie Alumni association)

<https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu>

National Contact Points

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>

Research Inquiry Service

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/contact/research-enquiry-service-and-participant-validation_en

Become an Expert

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert>

Contact

EAC-UNITE-C2@ec.europa.eu



@MSCActions



@Marie.Curie.Actions



MSCA under Horizon Europe Information Event

Learn about the main features and changes
to MSCA under the new Horizon Europe programme

23/03/2021 - 09:00 - 12:30

Online - Streaming

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/events/msca-under-horizon-europe-information-event_en

Nothing in life is to be feared,
it is only to be understood.
Now is the time to understand
more, so that **we may fear less.**

– Marie Curie



Thanks!!
Merci-Bedankt-Danke!!