Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions in Horizon Europe

European Commission
DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
MSCA unit
MSCA key features

- **Mobility, training and career development** of researchers from **all over the world**, through excellent **doctoral programmes**, postdoc fellowships and collaborative research

- Participation of **non-academic sector** strongly encouraged, especially industry and SMEs

- For researchers at **every stage** of their career

- Coverage for all domains of research (**bottom-up approach**)  

- Promotion of **attractive working and employment conditions** (financing rate of up to 100% )
The von der Leyen Commission: A Union that strives for more

6 Headline Ambitions

• A European Green Deal
  Europe to strive for more by being the first climate-neutral continent

• An economy that works for people
  Europe to strive for more when it comes to social fairness and prosperity

• A Europe fit for the digital age
  Europe to strive for more by grasping the opportunities from the digital age within safe and ethical boundaries

• Promoting our European way of life
  Europe to strive for more when it comes to protecting our citizens and promoting our values

• A stronger Europe in the world
  Europe to strive for more by strengthening our unique brand of responsible global leadership

• A new push for European democracy
  Europe to strive for more in nurturing, protecting and strengthening our democracy

Mariya Gabriel: Commissioner for Research, Innovation, Education, Culture & Youth
Horizon Europe

The ambitious EU research and innovation framework programme (2021-2027)

- to strengthen the EU's scientific and technological bases and the European Research Area (ERA)
- to boost Europe's innovation capacity, competitiveness and jobs
- to deliver on citizens' priorities and sustain our socio-economic model and values

The Commission proposes a budget of €100 billion for Horizon Europe.
Horizon Europe: Preliminary structure

Pillar 1: Excellent Science
- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar 2: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness
- Clusters
  - Health
  - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
  - Civil Security for Society
  - Digital, Industry and Space
  - Climate, Energy and Mobility
  - Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment
- Joint Research Centre

Pillar 3: Innovative Europe
- European Innovation Council
- European innovation ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area
- Widening participation and spreading excellence
- Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

Excellent Science (Pillar 1): reinforcing and extending the excellence of the Union’s science base
The MSCA in Horizon Europe

- Overall: **continuation**
- Investing in the people behind R&I, delivering talent, improving careers and creating sustainable collaborative networks
- **Bottom-up**, competition-based research programme
- Creating **impact** on researchers, institutions, systems
- **5 areas of intervention:**
  - mobility of researchers
  - training of researchers
  - strengthening human capital across the ERA
  - facilitating synergies
  - promoting public outreach

The Commission proposes a budget of **EUR 6.8 billion** for the MSCA.
Evolution in the MSCA’s implementation

- **Streamlined actions**, clearer identity
- **Simpler rules**, **fine-tuned** definitions, **harmonised** conditions
- Continuation and expansion of **simplified form of grants**
- **Demand management** to maintain high-quality and attractiveness
- Strengthen **structuring effects** on host institutions
- More guidance on **supervision** and **exposure beyond academia**
- Improved internal coherence & reinforced external **synergies**

*The information in this presentation is still subject to change*
MSCA 2021-2027

1. MSCA Doctorates
   → networks training doctoral candidates
2. MSCA Postdoctoral fellowships
   → postdoctoral researchers
3. MSCA Staff Exchanges
   → any type of research(-related) staff
4. MSCA COFUND
   → co-funding training programmes
5. MSCA and Citizens
   → public outreach events

The information in this presentation is still subject to change
1. MSCA Doctorates

- MSCA will continue to support doctoral candidates and programmes
- Integrating objectives of 3 sub-actions into a **single action**
  - Incentives for industrial or joint doctorates
  - Pre-agreement for joint degrees required
- Manage demand, improve success rates
  - Reduce number of fellow-months in project
  - Restrict resubmissions below quality threshold

*The information in this presentation is still subject to change*
2. MSCA Postdoctoral fellowships

- Continue supporting post-doctoral research and careers
- Clarify and simplify, a single action
- Deliver skilled people to academia and beyond
  - Intensify exposure/secondments to (training in) entities beyond academia
  - Improved guidance towards career development (plan & supervision)
- Manage the increasing demand to maintain high-quality selection
  - Limit research experience
  - Require PhD degree
  - Restrict resubmissions below quality threshold

The information in this presentation is still subject to change.
3. MSCA Staff Exchanges

- Continue supporting staff exchanges, **open to any type of staff**
- **International, intersectoral, interdisciplinary** secondments
- Emphasis on the **added-value of the collaboration itself**
- Lean and flexible tool to support **collaborative R&I projects**
- **4 years** for project implementation

**What’s new?**

- Interdisciplinary secondments within Europe (max 1/3)
- Number of fellow-months reduced to 360
4. MSCA COFUND

• Continue **co-funding** national, regional, institutional schemes for doctoral training and postdoctoral fellowships

• Clarify and simplify, a **single action**

• Introduce **sustainable structuring effects**, spread best practice

• Simplification of the **EU contribution**

• Greater focus on new beneficiaries and new training programmes
5. MSCA and Citizens

• Continuation of the **European Researchers' Night**

• **Extension** to existing outreach events
  ➢ Supporting also other science festivals and outreach events with EU-added value

*in 2019: 1.6 million visitors*
Other activities

- **Study** analysing brain drain and propose appropriate solutions
- Researchers at Schools
- **Marie Curie Alumni Association** (MCAA)
- Network of **MSCA NCPs**
- Researchers @ Risk
- **MSCA international support**
- **Seal of Excellence** for MSCA Postdocs and MSCA COFUND
- Successor of **Widening Fellowships** pilot 2018-2020

The information in this presentation is still subject to change
# WP 2021-22 timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-June 2020</td>
<td>Draft WP outline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-July 2020</td>
<td>Preliminary draft WP text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September-October 2020</td>
<td>Consultation of Shadow PC on draft WP text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2020</td>
<td>Inter-service consultation</td>
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<tr>
<td>tbc*</td>
<td>Formal adoption of Horizon Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Q4/2020</td>
<td>Set-up of formal HE PC configurations, followed by formal opinions on Strategic Plan 2021-2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q4 2020</td>
<td>Formal adoption of Strategic plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2021</td>
<td>Formal opinion of HE PC configuration on the WP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-March 2021**</td>
<td>Formal Adoption of WP</td>
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</tbody>
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* Timing dependent upon adoption of Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF)

** Timing dependent upon adoption of MFF, Horizon Europe Framework Programme and Specific Programme and Horizon Europe Strategic Plan
Links

Marie Curie Actions Website
http://ec.europa.eu/mariecurieactions

Participant Portal (applications, documents)
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal

facebook.com/Marie.Curie.Actions

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