



# Funding opportunities for Individual Researchers in LAC (Latin America & the Caribbean)

We have written on MSCA and ERC before, but with the fairly new expansion of EURAXESS beyond Brazilian borders and throughout all of Latin America & the Caribbean, we wanted to make sure all researchers of the region were aware of their eligibility.

Did you know that apart from institutions, researchers in the entire LAC region could apply to the individual schemes described below, even if their base country is not among the list of Horizon 2020 eligible countries? Did you know you could find these vacancies on the EURAXESS portal? Here is a **special reminder to ALL individual LAC researchers in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico and any other LAC countries:**

- [MSCA- Individual Fellowships \(IF\)](#) and [ERC](#) grants are open to all of you, meaning **all individual Latin American and Caribbean researchers are eligible for funding.**
- Individual LAC researchers can also **apply to the individual PhD positions created by MSCA - ITN or MSCA - COFUND** networks (advertised on the [EURAXESS website](#)).
- **NEW!** From July 2018, ERC Synergy Grant Groups can include up to **one Principal Investigator based in a third country**, including **Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico** and any other LAC countries. The [ERC Synergy Grant](#) is currently open until 8 November 2018.

## 1.1 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

The MSCA will enable up to 15,000 non-EU researchers to start or pursue their careers in Europe by 2020.

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions are European grants offered to researchers of **all ages and nationalities in all scientific areas** (except those covered by the EURATOM Treaty) and encourage transnational, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility.

### Individual Fellowships (IF)

Researchers based in LAC can apply for a European fellowship to perform a post-doctoral research stay of up to 2 years in Europe, choosing to apply either for a *Scientific Grant*, a *Society & Enterprise Grant* in the non-academic sector or a *Career Restart Panel*, which supports researchers who had a career break.

LAC researchers must apply in partnership with a host institution based in any [European member state or country associated to Horizon 2020](#). Look for MSCA hosting institutions on the EURAXESS portal [here](#)



Call currently open:

[MSCA – ITN](#) closing  
15/01/2019

## **Co-Funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)**

Researchers from LAC can undertake a PhD in Europe by applying directly to the co-funded vacancies advertised on the [Euraxess Job portal](#); experienced researchers apply directly with the funding organisations offering the fellowships.

## **Innovative Training Networks (ITN)**

Latin American and Caribbean researchers: can apply to the PhD positions created by ITN networks, including Industrial Doctorates and Joint Doctorates. These are advertised on the [Euraxess Job portal](#).

## **Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)**

Individual LAC researchers have to contact their institution to ask whether it has successfully applied for RISE funding and enquire about the secondment options available. If the institution has successfully applied for RISE funding, individual researchers can take part in a research and innovation project and spend one to 12 months at a partner institution in Europe. The individual researcher must have been working at the organisation for at least one month before the secondment.

- Institutions in LAC (**excluding** Mexico, Brazil, Barbados, Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago)\* can join a consortia as partner and apply to this scheme to second their staff to Europe or vice versa.

- \*Institutions from **Mexico, Brazil, Barbados, Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago** could also join the consortium and host researchers from Europe at their premises. They can also second people to Europe but would have to fund this themselves.

All MSCA calls and deadlines are published on the [Participant Portal](#).

### **Useful info:**

- Short guide on MSCA specifically for LAC [here](#)
- For any queries, contact your local NCP (National Contact Point for MSCA) [here](#) by selecting your country under „Third countries“; then select „Marie Skłodowska Curie“ in the right-hand column.
- Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions website with call details, facts, figures, interviews etc. [here](#)
- MSCA en español: [Guía para la participación exitosa de INVESTIGADORES Latinoamericanos y Caribeños en las ACCIONES MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE](#)



## 1.2 European Research Council (ERC) Grants



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

Calls currently open:

[Starting Grants](#) - Deadline: 17 Oct 2018

[Synergy Grants](#) -Deadline: 8 Nov 2018

### ERC open to the world

- The ERC strives to attract top researchers from **anywhere in the world including Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico** to come to Europe.
- The ERC funds the very best and creative researchers of **any nationality or age** to run **five-year-projects, across all fields of knowledge**, in a public or private research organisation based in [EU Member States](#) and [Associated Countries](#)
- No consortia.
- Time to spend on the project: ERC grantees can keep their affiliation with their home institution outside Europe. They must be strongly committed to their project and spend at least 50% of their working time in Europe.

### Jobs in ERC teams: PhD and post-doc positions

- ERC projects are carried out by individual researchers ('Principal Investigators', PIs) who can **employ researchers of any nationality** as team members. Hence one or more team members can be located in a non-European country like **Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia or Mexico**.
- **Vacancies for team members** interested in joining an ERC led research project can be published on the EURAXESS Jobs portal. A quick search with the "European Research Council (ERC)" filter will list all vacancies available in ERC teams in Europe. It is then possible to refine the results by research field, country, etc.

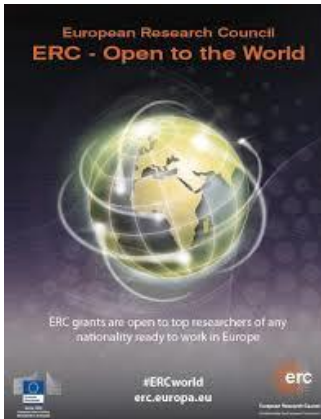
### Post-doctoral visits to ERC teams in Europe

Scientists from **Argentina, Brazil and Mexico** can temporarily join ERC-funded teams in Europe thanks to the Implementing Arrangements (IAs) signed between local funding agencies and the European Commission.


Research visits can be either one-offs and long-term (6-12 months), or multiple short-term visits (for Argentinian and Brazilian researchers).

The opportunity is open to:

- Top Argentinian scientists with an active National Scientific Technical Research Council (CONICET) project and at least ten years of full-time research experience after being awarded a PhD degree;
- Brazilian post-doctoral grantees from FAPs, CAPES and CNPq;
- Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) Research and Postdoctoral Fellows



**Reminder of different ERC Grants available to individual LAC researchers:**

 <b>European Research Council</b> <small>Established by the European Commission</small>		ABOUT ERC	FUNDING	PROJECTS & FIGURES	NEWS & EVENTS	MANA PROJ
<b>ERC STARTING GRANTS</b> Grants up to 1.5€ million for 5 years For promising early-career researchers with 2 to 7 years experience after PhD	<b>ERC CONSOLIDATOR GRANTS</b> Grants up to 2€ million for 5 years For excellent researchers with 7 to 12 years experience after PhD					
<b>ERC ADVANCED GRANTS</b> Grants up to 2.5€ million for 5 years For established research leaders with a recognised track record of research achievements	<b>ERC PROOF OF CONCEPT</b> Grants up to 150.000€ For existing ERC grant holders to bring their research ideas closer to market					
<b>SYNERGY GRANTS</b> Grants up to 10€ million for 6 years To address ambitious research questions that can only be answered by the coordinated work of a small group of 2-4 principal Investigators	<b>ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES</b> For researchers wishing to work or gain experience in an ERC grantee's team					

**ERC Team members**

On average, ERC grantees employ around six team members during their ERC project. Estimates show that approx. 17% of ERC team members are nationals from countries outside Europe, among which **300 are from LAC.**

Currently, there are 621 principal investigators of non-ERA nationality, representing 8% of all grantees. Only **38 grantees are nationals from LAC, coming from Argentina (15), Brazil (7), Chile (3), Mexico (3), Colombia (2), Costa Rica (2), Bolivia, Ecuador, Jamaica, Panama, Peru and Venezuela (1 each).**

All ERC calls are annual and published on the [Participant Portal](#).

**Useful Info:**

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- For any queries, contact your local NCP (National Contact Point for ERC) [here](#) by selecting your country under „Third countries“ then select „European Research Council“ in the right-hand column
- European Research Council website with call details, facts, figures, interviews etc. [here](#)