European Research Council

ERC Starting Grant
Research proposal

Proposal Full Title

PROPOSAL ACRONYM

Principal Investigator : 
PI’s Host Institution : 
Project duration in months : 

Project summary (possibly copy/paste of abstract from the administrative part)
Section 1. The Principal Investigator

i. Scientific leadership potential *(max. 2 pages)*

A description of the applicant's scientific leadership potential should include:

• a 'self-evaluation' of early research career achievements demonstrating the applicant's potential to go significantly beyond the state of the art;
• a presentation of the content of the early scientific or scholarly contributions of the applicant to his or her own research field;
• the recognition and diffusion that these early contributions have received from others (publications, citations or appropriate equivalents/additional funding/students/international prizes and awards/institution-building/other);

ii. Curriculum Vitae *(max. 2 pages)*

The CV should include the standard academic and research record as well as a succinct ‘funding ID’ which must specify any current research grants and their subject, and any ongoing application for work related to the proposal.

PIs must report in their “funding ID” on any other funding they have already secured or are applying for via national or other research funding agencies.

If the funds they have already obtained are both substantially comparable in size and duration with the ERC Starting Grant award and have a similar goal (to assist them in the establishment or consolidation of their independent research team/activity), they are encouraged not to submit a proposal for additional funding from ERC during the same period.
iii. Early achievements track-record (*max. 2 pages*)

The applicant should list his/her activity as regards:

1. **Publications, as main author** (indicating those without the presence as co-author of their PhD supervisor) in major international peer-reviewed multi-disciplinary scientific journals and/or in the leading international peer-reviewed journals, peer-reviewed conferences proceedings of their respective research fields, also indicating the number of citations (excluding self-citations) they have attracted.

2. **Research monographs, chapters in collective volumes and any translations** thereof (if applicable).

3. **Granted patent(s)** (if applicable).

4. **Invited presentations to peer-reviewed, internationally established conferences and/or international advanced schools** (if applicable).

5. **Research expeditions** that the applicant has led (if applicable).

6. **Organisation of International conferences** in the field of the applicant (membership in the steering and/or programme committee) (if applicable).

7. **International Prizes/Awards/Academy memberships** (if applicable).

8. **Memberships to Editorial Boards of International Journals** (if applicable).

The applicant will be asked to introduce a summary of the information above as well as a short summary of his/her scientific leadership profile using an electronic template that will be provided.

It is important that the applicant should also report on any significant career breaks. Peerreviewers will take it into consideration during the assessment of the quality and potential of the Principal Investigator and his/her career progression.

iv. Extended Synopsis (*max. 5 pages*)

The Extended Synopsis should give a concise presentation of the scientific proposal, with particular attention to its groundbreaking nature and how it may open up new horizons or opportunities for research.
Section 2. The Scientific Proposal (max. 15 pages + Ethical Issues)

i. State-of-the-art and objectives

Specify clearly the objectives of the project, in the context of the state-of-the-art in the field. Describing the project it should be indicated how and why the project is important for the field, and what impact it will have if successful, such as how it may open up new horizons or opportunities for science, technology or scholarship. Specify any particularly challenging or unconventional aspects of the project, including multi-or inter-disciplinary aspects.

ii. Methodology

Describe the proposed methodology in detail including, as appropriate, key intermediate goals. Explain and justify the methodology in relation to the state-of-the-art, including any particularly novel or unconventional aspects. Highlight any intermediate stages where results may require adjustments to the project planning.

iii. Resources

Describe the size and nature of the team, indicating, as appropriate, the roles of key team members. Describe other necessary resources, such as infrastructure and equipment. Specify any existing resources that will contribute to the project. State the amount of funding considered necessary to fulfil the objectives for the duration of the project. This should be a reasoned estimate of the projects costs. Include the direct costs of the project and also a contribution of 20% of the direct costs (excluding subcontracting) towards overheads. Furthermore, include a breakdown of the budget subdivided in personnel costs, equipment and infrastructure, consumables, travel, publication costs, and any envisaged subcontracts. State how the costs will be distributed over the duration of the project.

iv. Ethical Issues

Ethical Issues Table and the explanatory information on ethical issues and how they will be treated.
Section 3. Research Environment (max. 2 pages)

i. PI's Host institution

Describe the host institution and specify what facilities and assistance it will provide to the project, illustrating its capacity to support the project, including in terms of broader intellectual support.

ii. Additional institutions (additional participants)

If more than one institution will be included as a participant in the project, you should justify clearly the scientific added value of this additional participant to the project.