



FUNDING SCHEME

«RESTART 2016-2020» Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation

PROGRAMME

HORIZON EUROPE- 2nd OPPORTUNITY

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

OPPTY- ERC/0524



INTRODUCTION

The Research and Innovation Foundation announces the Call for Proposals for the «**HORIZON EUROPE- 2nd Opportunity**» Programme within the framework of the «**RESTART 2016-2020**» Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation – Programmes for the Period May 2022 – March 2023 and invites potential beneficiaries to submit relevant Project Proposals (Proposals).

The present Call is funded by the Republic of Cyprus.

GENERAL CALL INFORMATION

Pillar	II. Sustainable RTDI System
Programme	HORIZON EUROPE- 2 nd Opportunity
Call Identifier	OPPTY- ERC/0524
Call Budget	600.000 Euro
Maximun Funding Per Project	100.000 Euro
Publication Date	27 May 2024
Deadline	Open Call until the 30/09/2025 17/12/2024 , 13:00 or the exhaustion of the available budget

The English version of the Call, even though an official translation endorsed by the Research and Innovation Foundation, is provided for information purposes only. Only the Greek version of the Call is legally binding and shall prevail in case of any divergence in interpretation.

OBJECTIVES

The Programme's objective is to provide a second opportunity to entities and natural persons (researchers) who attempted to receive a grant under Horizon Europe Programme, and whose proposals despite of being of high quality did not manage to secure funding.

DESCRIPTION

The «HORIZON EUROPE- 2nd Opportunity -ERC» Call for Proposals offers a second opportunity to researchers who attempted to obtain a grant under the “ERC Starting Grant”, “ERC Consolidator Grant” and “ERC Advanced Grant” funding instruments of the European Research Council (ERC), whose proposals were eligible for funding, but did not manage to secure a grant due to budget exhaustion or received a final score of B at the 2nd stage of evaluation (step 2).

Through the funded project, the Coordinator will have the opportunity to carry out research activities that will improve his/her proposal.



BENEFICIARIES

Research Organisations, Enterprises, Other Organisations

SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

The Host Organisation is the Cypriot Research Organisation, Enterprise or Other Organisation that would have been responsible for hosting the Researcher for the implementation of the Project in Cyprus, on the condition the proposals under the “ERC Starting Grant”, the “ERC Consolidator Grant” and the “ERC Advanced Grant” have received a final evaluation score ‘B’ or final evaluation score ‘A’ by the ERC during Step 2 of the ERC’s evaluation, but were not funded due to budget exhaustion (Fundable but not sufficient funds available).

The relevant ERC’s Letter regarding the evaluation result of a proposal must be dated after the announcement date of the Call of the “Horizon Europe - 2nd Opportunity” Programme. This condition forms a criterion of the eligibility check.

Other Obligations:

- The Coordinator is obliged to resubmit a proposal to the ERC within 24 months from the announcement of the results by the ERC and within the framework of the project implementation. If the Coordinator does not meet the requirements for submitting a proposal to the Starting Grant, he/she must submit to the Consolidator Grant. If the Coordinator does not meet the requirements for submitting a proposal to the Consolidator Grant, he/she must submit to the Advanced Grant.
- The resubmitted proposal to ERC is a deliverable of the project.
- The Coordinator should receive services from the RIF (e.g proposal pre-screening, mentoring, etc.) during the implementation of the project and before the resubmission of the proposal, as these will be agreed with the National Contact Point of the ERC Program.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Projects can include Basic Research and/or Industrial Research and/or Experimental Development activities.

Projects must fall within Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 1-8 in compliance with the relevant definitions adopted by the EU.

Projects must include activities relevant to those included in the proposal submitted and evaluated by the ERC.



DURATION OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

12 - 18 Months to include the deadline for the submission of a proposal in a subsequent relevant ERC Call.

BUDGET

€ 600.000

MAXIMUM FUNDING PER PROJECT

€ 100.000

ELIGIBLE COSTS

Personnel costs, Instruments and Equipment Costs, Costs for External Services, Costs for Travelling Abroad, Consumables, Other Specific Costs, Overheads.

It is noted that, all beneficiaries that have not previously participated in the RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes, should make use of the simplified cost Method «Standard Scales of Unit Costs» for the calculation of personnel costs.

RESTART 2016-2020 WORK PROGRAMME

All general rules and procedures for the participation of organisations and individuals, the eligible activities and costs, as well as the specific information regarding the Programme, as well as the other RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes, are included in **RIF's Work Programme for the «RESTART 2016-2020» Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation – Programmes for the Period 05/2022 – 12/2024**, which is the main reference document and an important information source for interested parties and can be found on the Research and Innovation Foundation's IRIS (Innovation Research Information System) Portal (<https://iris.research.org.cy/#/documentlibrary>).

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

In the frame of the present Call, the following specific conditions apply:

- All private law entities (Host Organisation and Partner Organisations) should submit to Competent National Registries updated data regarding their ultimate beneficial owners as per «The prevention and suppression of money laundering and terrorist financing Law of 2007 (188(I)/2007)». RIF reserves the right to carry out checks in the competent Registers and to request an official proof for the registration.



- ◊ Funded Projects should comply with the «Do No Significant Harm» principle, according to which they must not include or support activities that could cause significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives, as per Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 2020/852, on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment.

SUBMISSION

Proposals are submitted through the Research and Innovation Foundation's **IRIS Portal** (<https://iris.research.org.cy>).

The Project Coordinator and all local participating organisations in the Project Consortium, should register in advance on the IRIS Portal.

Potential applicants are advised to use the «**Guide for Applicants**», which contains guidelines and clarifications regarding the Submission procedure and the «**IRIS Portal User Manual**» which can be found on the IRIS Portal (<https://iris.research.org.cy/#/documentlibrary>).

The Research and Innovation Foundation encourages in all its Calls for Proposals:

- *the participation of women as Project Coordinators, and*
- *the gender-balanced formation of projects.*

The Project Proposal consists of the following parts:

1. Part A – General Information & Budget (electronic form (fields) to be completed online through the IRIS Portal).
2. Part B – Technical Annex (document to be uploaded as an Annex on the IRIS Portal in PDF format). It is noted that the template provided for this Call must be submitted, without any differentiation. The Part B template can be found on the IRIS Portal, under the relevant Call for Proposals (Call Documents).
3. Annex I – Curricula Vitae (document to be uploaded as an Annex on the IRIS Portal in PDF format and includes the CVs of the Coordinator and the key personnel of the project team – Optional Submission).
4. Annex II – Call Specific Information to be disclosed to the Evaluators (to be submitted in pdf format in the IRIS Portal): (a) Copy of the notification letter (and of the Evaluation Summary Report, where applicable) on the evaluation results for the proposal submitted to the European Research Council and (b) Copy of the proposal submitted to the European Research Council with submission verification - electronic timestamp by the ERC.

PROJECT SELECTION



Evaluation Procedure

An internal evaluation procedure will be used for the evaluation of proposals submitted under the “Horizon Europe – 2nd Opportunity” Programme, carried out by RIF’s staff. The decision as to whether a particular entity is a beneficiary in the frame of the said Programme is taken in accordance to the result of the Scientific Evaluation of the European Research Council. During the internal evaluation procedure the RIF can ask for additional information or / and an expert’s recommendation.

Selection

Prioritised in order of submission to the RIF (non-competitive procedures apply) on the condition that proposals have been deemed eligible for funding following the internal evaluation procedure until the sum of:

- (a) The requested funding in proposals submitted to the RPF and that of ongoing projects, and
- (b) the approved funding for projects that have been completed, equals the total Call budget.

INFORMATION – CONTACT DETAILS

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The Research and Innovation Foundation may at its discretion, proceed to the extension or revocation of the present Call by applying the same publication procedure.