



European Research Council  
Executive Agency

Established by the European Commission

Brussels, 17 April 2024  
Ares(2024)2222208

Manuel VALERO  
Doctor Aiguader 88  
08003 BARCELONA  
Spain

**Subject: Additional information on the interview**

Dear Professor VALERO,

As announced in our previous communication, please find below additional information regarding your interview.

<b>Applicant name</b>	Manuel VALERO
<b>Applicant address</b>	Doctor Aiguader 88 08003 BARCELONA Spain
<b>Evaluation panel</b>	LS5
<b>Interview date</b>	13 June 2024
<b>Interview slot</b>	10:05 - 11:10 Brussels time

a) Time and place of the interview

The panel meeting is planned to take place in Brussels, however, the interview for all applicants will take place remotely. It may happen that a panel member may also be connected by video/phone conference during your interview. The video-conferencing system used for the Step 2 interviews is Cisco Webex. You will find guidelines and recommendations on using Webex in Annex II. You are advised to thoroughly test and familiarise yourself with the tool using the link provided in that Annex. Should you encounter a technical difficulty with the tool that you cannot resolve, please let us know **at the latest two weeks before your interview** using the mailbox [ERC-2024-STG-APPLICANTS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ERC-2024-STG-APPLICANTS@ec.europa.eu), with a short description of the issue encountered. We will do our best to help you to solve the issue, however we cannot guarantee that every technical issue on your side will be solved.

**You are requested to be available for the entire duration of your interview slot. Your interview may start anytime within the time slot indicated in the table above.** Please connect at the beginning of your designated time slot using the link you will receive before your interview and wait patiently in the virtual waiting room until you are admitted to the virtual interview room. The link to the Webex session will be sent by email around one to two weeks before your interview.

In case you are not in the virtual waiting room at the beginning of the time slot, we will assume that there are technical issues on your side and we may call you by phone. Please make sure that the phone number(s) you communicated to us via the form you received previously is reachable. Telephone-conference may be used in case of technical problems occurring during the video-conference.

b) General interview format

After a brief introduction by the Panel Chair or their delegate, the panel will ask you to give a **10 minute presentation** on the proposed research project. The remaining time will be devoted to questions and answers on the scientific content and implementation of the project.

To be fair to all applicants, the time limit will be strictly enforced.

The details specific for your panel are given in Annex I.

In line with the confidentiality requirements applicable to the entire evaluation process, only the applicant invited to a Step 2 interview may be present in the room from where this applicant is participating in the interview session, with an exception of: (i) an intervention of an IT support person, who would enter the room only if needed and for the time required to solve an IT issue; and (ii) the pre-authorised presence of a support person to applicants with a disability. In the latter case, a confidentiality declaration must be signed by the support person and sent to the ERCEA before the interview. For reasons of confidentiality and in order to respect the privacy of the participants to the session, the video-conference (or the telephone-conference in its place) cannot be recorded or photographed.

Although every effort will be made for the video-conference to work, it cannot be guaranteed as a technical problem may always arise on either side. If we are unable to carry out the interview by video-conference or by telephone-conference in the designated time slot, your proposal will be evaluated based on the submitted written proposal (Part B1 and Part B2 and the budget table with description of resources and time commitment) as well as the individual reviews and the panel discussion.

Please note that, in case of technical issues linked to the video-conference or telephone-conference, ERCEA cannot be held responsible for technical problems beyond ERCEA's control.

c) Electronic presentation

In case the Panel has requested an electronic presentation for the interview (details indicated in Annex I), please prepare in advance a pdf version of your presentation.

At your interview, you will present and show your slides from your computer. You will need to share your screen and not only the presentation in order to reduce the risk of technical issues. However, if there are technical issues and/or your presentation is not displayed correctly, the ERCEA staff will ask you to send the prepared pdf to them via email and share it on your behalf. Should it be necessary for you to send us the presentation, instructions will be given at the time of the interview. Please do not send the presentations before the interview. The pdf file should be maximum 5 MB and without any movie clips. Please note that only pdf-format will be accepted. We would like to ensure you that every effort will be made for this solution to work, however it cannot be excluded that a technical problem may arise on either side. In this case, as well as in the case where you would not have prepared a back-up pdf presentation, the panel will proceed with the interview without the presentation.

d) Administration

As the interviews are held remotely, no travel arrangements need to be made. However, there might be costs incurred in exceptional cases, directly linked to the video-conference or telephone-conference interview. Those costs can be reimbursed, provided that applicant PIs have obtained prior formal approval by the Agency, attended the interview (in accordance with the invitation) and that the costs are supported by the relevant invoice(s).

For the prior formal approval, contact the address: [erc-experts@ec.europa.eu](mailto:erc-experts@ec.europa.eu)

Please specify in the subject line: ERC-2024-STG Manuel VALERO LS5

Please note that certain admissibility and eligibility checks will be done after Step 1 evaluation and, if needed, ERCEA may contact Step 2 applicants for further information or clarification. If it becomes clear before, during or after the peer review evaluation phase, that one or more of the admissibility or eligibility criteria have not been met, the proposal will be declared inadmissible or ineligible and it will be rejected<sup>1</sup>.

For any further information, please do not hesitate to use the address:

[ERC-2024-STG-APPLICANTS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ERC-2024-STG-APPLICANTS@ec.europa.eu)

Please note also that ERC National Contact Points (ERC NCPs) have been set up across Europe to provide information and personalised support to ERC applicants in their native language. You will find contact information on the NCP in your country at the following web address: <https://erc.europa.eu/support/national-contact-points>.

Best wishes for your interview!

Yours sincerely,



Angela Liberatore  
Head of Scientific Management Department  
ERC Executive Agency

## Annexes:

Annex I: Interview details for panel LS5  
Annex II: Webex guidelines

Links to Privacy Statements:

- EU log-in: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/privacyStatement.html>

<sup>1</sup> ERC Work Programme 2024, page 23. See more at: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2024/wp\\_horizon-erc-2024\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2024/wp_horizon-erc-2024_en.pdf)