Tagung der HRK
Der Europäische Forschungsrat (ERC): Quo vadis?

Die bisherigen Ergebnisse der deutschen Hochschulen im europäischen Vergleich

Jens Hemmelskamp
ERC Executive Agency
10 October 2011
1. Impact on national research systems
ERC calls 2007 - 2011

2851 evaluated proposals with a host in Germany

Share Advanced grant:
2008: 8.4%; 2011: 11.8%

Share Starting grant:
2007: 11.3%; 2011: 12%
ERC calls 2007 - 2011
293 granted proposals at German host institutions

12% of the AdG have women PIs
22% of the StG have women PIs

Share Advanced grant:
2008: 9.9%; 2010: 17.7%

Share Starting grant:
2007: 10.4%; 2011: 13.1%
Success rates

Success rates: selected over received proposals

- AdG 2008: 13.0%
- AdG 2009: 15.5%
- AdG 2010: 13.2%
- Evaluation not finished: 3.3%
- StG 2007: 9.8%
- StG 2009: 10.5%
- StG 2010: 18.2%
- StG 2011: 12.9%

Average and Germany categories are represented in the diagram.
The ERC currently has some 2250 grantees, one fifth being women PIs.
National initiatives supporting the ERC schemes

A new partnership between Research Institutes - National Funding Councils - ERC

IE: Top-up awards were available as incentives for the first Starting Grant

FR: ANR launched an initiative to support unfunded StG 07 finalists.

The Spanish Ministry of Education and Science launched a call for bridging grants (StG 07)

CH: SNSF launched an initiative to back unfunded StG 07 finalists.

IT: Call for proposals open to all unfunded StG 07 finalists

NO: The Research Council supports unfunded ERC StG candidates with a Norwegian host institution

FI: Call open to finalists in reserve lists

SE: The Research Council funds the six unfunded Swedish StG 07 finalists

Flanders: Research Foundation offers to the best ranked PI on the ERC-StG reserve list a research project

LU: Support for unfunded finalists equal to the amount available at the ERC

HU: Call published for unfunded ERC finalists of the first and the second Starting Grant.

PL: New research agency – National Centre of Research will start initiative

TR: TUBITAK gives 5000 € incentive for ERC applicants who pass 2nd step evaluation

SI: The Research Agency started a complementary scheme for unfunded finalists (StG + AdG)
2.

Impact on host institutions
Criteria of StG grantees for the selection of an ERC host institution

Source: ERC CSA Project MERCI; Böhmer/Huber 2011, Institut für Forschungsinformation und Qualitätssicherung
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Total number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Cambridge</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Oxford</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hebrew University of Jerusalem</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weizmann Institute</td>
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<td>University College London</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zürich (ETH)</td>
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<td>Imperial College</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Helsinki</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic University of Leuven</td>
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<td>University of Zurich</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Amsterdam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technion - Israel Institute of Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karolinska institute</td>
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<td>University of Munich (LMU)</td>
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<td>Radboud University Nijmegen</td>
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<td>Rijksuniversiteit Groningen</td>
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<td>University of Vienna</td>
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<td>University of Manchester</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Lund</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Negotiated conditions with the HI by selected host countries

Source: ERC CSA Project MERCI; Böhmer/Huber 2011, Institut für Forschungsinformation und Qualitätssicherung
Attracting Starting grant applicants

Ghent
- Long-term professorship
- 1 PhD-Student
- Administrative Support

An ERC position at Ghent University?

Are you an outstanding researcher with an innovative research idea? Why not choose Ghent University as hosting institution for the establishment of your research team?

Ghent University aims to actively promote the participation of the ERC in the Ghent region. Therefore, we provide a attractive funding instrument to stimulate excellence for scientific fields.

The ERC programme, managed by the European Research Council, provides a attractive funding instrument to stimulate excellence for scientific fields.

Grants are provided for the implementation of new research ideas for a period of 4 years.

Two types of grants are available:
- ERC Starting Grant (for young researchers: 2-3 years research experience)
- ERC Advanced Grant (for established senior researchers)

What can Ghent University offer you?

For applicants:
- Support in the preparation of the grant application
- Assistance in the final preparation
- Support in the final approval
- Support in the establishment of the research team

For successful ERC candidates:
- A long-term career opportunity
- A position at a top-level European university
- Full administrative support by the European Office of Ghent University

Tübingen
- up-to 30.000 Euro
- 1 Postdoc + 1 PhD Student
- Dual Career Support
- Family Support Services
3.

Origin and mobility of researcher
Origin of Grantees
ERC Starting & Advanced grant calls 2007 – 2011
StG 2007-2011
AdG 2008-2010
ERC Starting & Advanced grant calls
2007 - 2011

International exchange of researchers
StG 2007-2011
AdG 2008-2010
ERC Starting & Advanced grant calls
2007 - 2010
Where are the German researchers?

Country of host institution of the 147 German researchers outside Germany:

- **UK**: 38 (7 Starting Grant, 17 Advanced Grant)
- **CH**: 20 (2 Starting Grant, 3 Advanced Grant)
- **AT**: 15 (2 Starting Grant, 3 Advanced Grant)
- **FR**: 10 (3 Starting Grant, 4 Advanced Grant)
- **NL**: 9 (1 Starting Grant, 3 Advanced Grant)
- **SE**: 5 (5 Starting Grant, 2 Advanced Grant)
- **ES**: 2 (2 Starting Grant, 2 Advanced Grant)
- **IT**, **IE**, **BE**, **CZ**, **DK**, **IL**, **PT**: 1 each
ERC Starting & Advanced grant calls
2007 - 2010
From where does the non-national researchers come?

82 non-German researchers in Germany

- Starting grant
- Advanced grant
4. Conclusions
Conclusions

- ERC setting new evaluation standards (excellence only); Incentives for reforms in funding systems; simplification
- Host institutions: first time competition among universities in Europe, due to reputational gains through ERC grants (strengthening recognition and nurturing of talent)
  - Attract grantees to their institution
  - Build up administrative support for potential ERC grant candidates, professionalize services and support
  - Utilize the ERC grantees for fundraising
  - Identify and cultivate young talent: potential ERC grantees
- Individual researchers: reputation, earlier scientific independence, career opportunities independent of national funding, especially for younger researcher
- Industry: participation in ERC calls still low
# Submission deadlines for 2012 calls

<table>
<thead>
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<th><strong>ERC Starting grant 2012:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>• Physical Sciences &amp; Engineering:</td>
<td>12 October 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Life Sciences:</td>
<td>09 November 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Social Sciences &amp; Humanities:</td>
<td>24 November 2011</td>
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| **ERC Proof of Concept:** | 08 November 2011 |

| **ERC Synergy:** | 25 January 2012 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ERC Advanced grant 2012:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>• Physical Sciences &amp; Engineering:</td>
<td>16 February 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Life Sciences:</td>
<td>14 March 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Social Sciences &amp; Humanities:</td>
<td>11 April 2012</td>
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