



**European Research Council**  
Executive Agency

Established by the European Commission

# **CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

## **Seconded National Experts for the ERCEA**

### **ERCEA/SNE/147/2017**

The European Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA) is organising a call for expressions of interest with a view to establishing a reserve list for:

#### **Seconded National Experts**

#### **Research Programme Experts in Particle Physics and Fundamental Quantum Physics**

Applications shall be forwarded by the Permanent Representations,  
the EFTA Secretariat or the Permanent Delegation of Turkey by  
**Wednesday 31 May 2017, at 12:00 (midday) Brussels time.**



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## Who we are

The European Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA) is dedicated to selecting and funding the excellent ideas that have not happened yet, and the scientists that are dreaming them up.

Practically, the ERCEA supports the work of the European Research Council (ERC), the first pan-European funding body sustaining the best frontier research in Europe, established by the European Commission in February 2007. The ERCEA was created in order to manage the Ideas programme, part of the EU's Seventh Research Framework Programme (FP7). Its mandate has been renewed until 2024, for the implementation of part of the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020).

In order to do this, the ERCEA manages three core grant schemes for researchers: 'Starting Grants' targeted at early-career, emerging research leaders, 'Consolidator Grants', aimed at excellent researchers who are already independent, and 'Advanced Grants' that support already established top researchers. The grants fund projects in any field of research, with excellence as sole selection criterion. Since the creation of the Agency, over 7,000 researchers and their frontier research projects have been supported. Under Horizon 2020, the ERCEA has a total budget of around €13 billion.

The Communications unit of ERCEA implements the ERC communication strategy adopted by its Scientific Council. Its activities aim at raising the visibility of the ERC in Europe and beyond, as well as promoting its funding opportunities and the research it funds, in cooperation with the European Commission and with various multipliers.

The Agency is located in the heart of Brussels and expected to count a total staff of 529 by end 2020. For more details on ERC and ERCEA, please visit our website: <http://erc.europa.eu/>

## General Conditions

This call for expression of interest is intended to lead to a reserve list of a maximum of 5 candidates for positions as Seconded National Expert (SNEs). Rules applicable to National Experts seconded to ERCEA can be found on the following link:

[https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/rules\\_applicable\\_to\\_SNE\\_revised.pdf](https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/rules_applicable_to_SNE_revised.pdf)

**Please read carefully these rules before applying to make sure that you fulfil the eligibility criteria.**

The initial duration of the secondment is two years with a possibility for extension up to a total period normally not exceeding four years.

Seconded National Experts are persons employed by a national, regional or local public administration or an intergovernmental organisation (IGO), who are seconded to the ERCEA so that it can use their expertise in a particular field. The secondment is not an employment, nor does it lead to an employment. An SNE must be a national of an EU Member State or of a European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Member State or a member of country with which the Council has decided to open accession negotiations and which has concluded a specific agreement on staff secondments (Turkey).

The place of secondment is Brussels, Belgium.

The start date for the secondment is expected to be as of January 2018.



## **Person Specification – SNE Research Programme Expert in Particle Physics or Fundamental Quantum Physics**

### **Job description**

The duties of the successful candidate will be one or several of the following:

#### **Coordination of the evaluation and selection of research proposals**

- Provide support to meetings of Scientific Panels for the selection of research proposals in the areas of particle physics or fundamental quantum physics by external experts, including the preparation, organisation, operation of the meetings and the documentation of results;
- Provide support to the ex-post assessment of completed projects by external experts;
- Contribute to the development of guidelines, orientations and new approaches relating to the proper implementation of the programme.

#### **Project/Process Management**

- Assess the scientific implementation of projects primarily in particle physics or fundamental quantum physics through periodic reviews, reporting etc.;
- Contribute to the analysis of the ERC portfolio of funded projects;
- As appropriate, analyse and assess the results and impacts of the programme, provide feedback and suggestions for improvement.

#### **External Communication**

- Present the programme and project results at workshops, seminars, conferences and other public events, to both internal and external stakeholders;
- Contribute to publications produced by the programme intended for external stakeholders;
- Extract and disseminate best practices and facilitate exchange of experiences;
- Collate information and draft replies to questions from external stakeholders;
- Produce reports/minutes on high level meetings as required.

### **Main Skills and Qualifications**

- Candidates should have a level of education which corresponds to having completed university studies of at least three years, attested by a diploma in physics. Further research qualifications in particle physics or fundamental quantum physics at PhD level are particularly recommended;
- Candidates should have appropriate professional experience as a researcher in particle physics or fundamental quantum physics for at least five years. Experience in the management of research projects would also be an asset;



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- A thorough knowledge of one of the European Union languages and a satisfactory knowledge of another European Union language to the extent necessary for the performance of their duties;
- Very good command of written and spoken English.

## Submission of applications

Each electronic application shall contain the following documents:

- a) A detailed curriculum vitae in European format (that can be obtained at the following address <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae>)
- b) A motivation letter including a clear mention of the call reference and of your email address for correspondence and for invitation to interview.

Please mention in the subject line your family name followed by the call reference: FAMILY NAME – ERCEA/SNE/147/2017 Research Programme Experts in Particle Physics and Fundamental Quantum Physics.

**The Permanent Representation**, the EFTA Secretariat or the Permanent Delegation of Turkey **must send your application to ERCEA**, to the following email address, before the deadline: [ERC-SELECTION@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ERC-SELECTION@ec.europa.eu)

ERCEA will only take into account applications received before **the deadline, which is Wednesday 31 May 2017 at 12:00 (midday) Brussels time**. Please liaise with your Permanent Representation, the EFTA secretariat or the Permanent Delegation of Turkey to ensure that your application reaches well on time.

## Selection procedure

All the applications are pre-screened and evaluated based on their skills and qualifications, and the best qualified candidates are shortlisted for an interview.

## Notification to candidates

All candidates will be notified about the outcome of their application from [ERC-SELECTION@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ERC-SELECTION@ec.europa.eu)

## Equal opportunities

The ERCEA applies a policy of equal opportunities and accepts applications without discrimination on any grounds such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation.



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## Protection of personal data

The ERCEA ensures that applicants' personal data are processed as required by Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (Official Journal of the European Communities, L 8 of 12 January 2001). This applies in particular to the confidentiality and security of such data.

A Specific Privacy Statement is published on the ERCEA website at the following address:

[https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/content/Privacy\\_Statement\\_SNEs.pdf](https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/content/Privacy_Statement_SNEs.pdf)

Candidates are invited to carefully read it, as it provides useful information about the processing of their personal data and relevant rights.

## Request for review

ERCEA and Selection committee operate in context of the general principles of European Union law as interpreted by the courts. In assessing candidates' merits, selection boards observe the principle of equal treatment.

If you nevertheless believe that one of these principles has not applied in your case, you have the right, **within 10 calendar days** from the date when the letter notifying you of the decision was sent to you on-line, to request a review by sending a letter stating your reasons using the email address [ERC-SELECTION@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ERC-SELECTION@ec.europa.eu).

Please quote in the subject line of your letter:

- The number of the selection procedure concerned;
- Your name;
- 'Request for review';
- The stage of the selection your complaint concerns.

ERCEA will forward it to Chairperson of the Selection Committee if it comes within the Committee's remit, and you will be sent a reply as soon as possible.