

Links to other official documents, including the [Horizon Europe Programme Guide](#), are provided on the [call page](#) on the Funding and Tenders Portal and are also accessible via the REA [website](#). Briefing videos for Horizon Europe evaluators, including on “how to evaluate Open Science in Horizon Europe proposals”, are also available on the [Funding and Tenders Portal](#).

## 2. Admissibility and Eligibility Conditions

Applicant researchers must meet all eligibility criteria (see relevant sections below) on the day of the call deadline. The proposed beneficiary must ensure compliance with the admissibility and eligibility criteria before submitting the proposal and must maintain all supporting documentation.

Before completion of the formal admissibility and eligibility checks, REA cannot answer questions related to the admissibility and eligibility of a specific proposal. Guidance can be provided by NCPs.

No documents for proof of eligibility need to be uploaded with the application. However, REA may request supporting documents to assess the eligibility after the call deadline.

**Resubmissions:** please note that under the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023 call, proposals involving the same recruiting organisation (and for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships also the associated partner hosting the outgoing phase) and individual researcher submitted for the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022 call and having received a score of less than 70% must not be resubmitted.

Please note that all eligible resubmitted proposals will be evaluated independently of any previous evaluation(s).

<b>IMPORTANT</b>	
<b>EUROPEAN and GLOBAL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The individual researcher and the supervisor must be two different people.</li><li>• Applications must be complete and contain all parts and supporting documents. The applicant must fill in the submission forms online that will become part A of the proposal and upload parts B1 and B2.</li><li>• A non-academic placement may take place at the end of the project for an additional period of up to 6 months in an organisation from the non-academic sector established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country. In</li></ul>

	this case, additional budget can be requested in the proposal for the duration of the non-academic placement.
<b>Additional for GLOBAL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The associated partner for the outgoing phase must provide an up-to-date letter of commitment, to be submitted with the application, confirming their precise role and active participation in the proposal.</li> </ul>
<p>If one or more of the above conditions are not met, the proposal will not be evaluated.</p> <p>However, if the non-academic placement is ineligible (academic organisation or organisation not established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country), the proposal will be evaluated without taking into consideration this part.</p>	

**Please note that:**

- Only one proposal per individual researcher can be submitted. In case of several proposals involving the same individual researcher, only the last submitted proposal will be considered eligible. However, please note that the same supervisor and a host institution can be involved in more than one proposal in the same call.
- If proposals with the same research objectives and work plan are submitted by the same host organisation for different researchers, only the first submitted proposal will be considered eligible.

Postdoctoral Fellowships can be of two types, European or Global, as detailed below.

<b>EUROPEAN POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS</b>		
<b>STANDARD DURATION</b>	From 12 to 24 months	
<b>ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA</b>		
<b>RESEARCHER</b>	<b>Doctorate degree</b>	The researcher must be in possession of a doctoral degree or have successfully defended their doctoral thesis before call deadline. The successful defence must be unconditional (no

		further requirements/corrections that need to be addressed) and take place before the call deadline. Supporting documentation may be requested. <sup>9</sup>
	<b>Nationality</b>	Any
	<b>Mobility</b>	The researcher cannot have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately prior to the call deadline. <sup>10 11</sup>
	<b>Research experience (full-time equivalent)</b>	<p><b>Maximum 8 years</b> from date of award of the (first) doctoral degree.</p> <p>This limit can be extended (in days) for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Maternity leave</b> (18 months – i.e. 548 days per child born after the PhD award date, <u>or</u> the exact duration of maternity leave taken, whichever is longest);</li> <li>- <b>Paternity leave</b> (exact duration per child born after the PhD award date);</li> <li>- <b>Compulsory national service</b>;</li> <li>- <b>Time spent not working in research</b>;</li> <li>- <b>Long-term sick leave</b> (periods &gt; 30 days)</li> </ul> <p>- <b>Research in a non-associated TC</b> (only for nationals or long-term residents of MS or AC, wishing to reintegrate in Europe);<sup>12</sup></p> <p>More information on the calculation of the 8 years research experience is available in section 8.</p>

<sup>9</sup> Applicants who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but who have not yet formally been awarded the doctoral degree will also be considered as postdoctoral researchers and will be considered eligible to apply. The successful defence must be unconditional (no further requirements/corrections that need to be addressed) and take place before the call deadline. Supporting documentation may be requested. A medical doctor degree will be accepted only when it corresponds to a doctoral degree or if the researcher can demonstrate his/her appointment in a position that requires doctoral equivalency (e.g. professorship appointment). Medical doctor degrees corresponding to basic medical training as defined in Annex V of Directive 2005/36/EC will not be considered a doctoral degree.

<sup>10</sup> The following periods are not taken into account: a) compulsory national service; b) time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention; c) short stays (such as holidays), i.e. the researcher did not reside or did not have their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country during that period.

<sup>11</sup> In case of International European Research Organisations, international organisations with headquarters in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country or entities created under Union law, the researchers must not have spent more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately preceding the call deadline, in the same appointing organisation.

<sup>12</sup> Researchers reintegrating to Europe from a non-associated TC must be based in the TC at the call deadline or have directly moved to Europe (i.e. any EU MS or Horizon Europe AC) within the 12-month period immediately prior to the call deadline.

<b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATION</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>	Single independent legal entity established in an EU MS or HE AC. <sup>13</sup>
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<b>GLOBAL POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS</b>		
<b>STANDARD DURATION</b>		From 24 to 36 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outgoing phase of minimum 12 and maximum 24 months in a non-associated Third Country;</li> <li>• Mandatory 12-month return phase in MS / AC.</li> </ul>
<b>ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA</b>		
<b>RESEARCHER</b>	<b>Doctorate degree</b>	The researcher must be in possession of a doctoral degree or have successfully defended their doctoral thesis before call deadline. The successful defence must be unconditional (no further requirements/corrections that need to be addressed) and take place before the call deadline. Supporting documentation may be requested. <sup>14</sup>
	<b>Nationality</b>	Nationals or long-term residents of MS or AC.
	<b>Mobility</b>	The researcher cannot have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the associated partner hosting the outgoing phase for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline. <sup>15 16</sup>
	<b>Research experience (full-time equivalent)</b>	<p><b>Maximum 8 years</b> from date of award of the (first) doctoral degree.</p> <p>This limit can be extended (in days) for the following reasons:</p>

<sup>13</sup> The same conditions are applicable to *Associated partners linked to a beneficiary* (see also MSCA Work Programme, Definitions section).

<sup>14</sup> See footnote 9.

<sup>15</sup> See footnote 10.

<sup>16</sup> See footnote 11.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Maternity leave</b> (18 months – i.e. 548 days per child born after the PhD award date, <u>or</u> the exact duration of maternity leave taken, whichever is longest);</li> <li>- <b>Paternity leave</b> (exact duration per child born after the PhD award date);</li> <li>- <b>Compulsory national service</b>;</li> <li>- <b>Time spent not working in research</b>;</li> <li>- <b>Long term sick leave</b> (periods &gt; 30 days).</li> </ul> <p>More information on the calculation of the 8 years research experience are available in section 8.</p>
<b>PARTICIPATING ORGANISATION</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>	Single independent legal entity established in MS or AC. <sup>17</sup>
	<b>Associated partner hosting the outgoing phase</b>	Single independent legal entity established in a non-associated Third Country. It <b>MUST be encoded</b> as a participating organisation (= <b>associated partner</b> ) in Part A.

## Refugee Status

Note that researchers who are refugees in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country according to the Geneva Convention may also apply to both European and Global Postdoctoral Fellowships, irrespective of whether they are long-term residents (see definitions above) or not, if they fulfil the other eligibility conditions.

## 3. Secondments and Non-Academic Placements

Proposals may **include** an optional secondment during the fellowship and/or **add** an optional non-academic placement period (see explanation in the [MSCA Work Programme](#)), provided they are in line with the project objectives and add significant value and/or impact to the fellowship.

The relevance and added value of these periods will be assessed by the evaluators and may therefore impact the final score awarded to the proposal. Proposals will not be penalised for not including a secondment or non-academic placement period.

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<sup>17</sup> See footnote 13.


Secondments and Non-Academic Placements are different in nature and follow different rules as explained in the table below.

	<b>Secondment</b>	<b>Non-Academic Placement</b>
<b>General principles</b>		
<b>Maximum Duration</b>	<p><u>European Postdoctoral Fellowships</u>: Up to 1/3 of the standard project duration<sup>18</sup>.</p> <p><u>Global Postdoctoral Fellowships</u>: Secondments are permitted for up to 1/3 of the outgoing phase<sup>19</sup>.</p>	Up to 6 months duration.
<b>Timing</b>	<p><u>European Postdoctoral Fellowships</u>: at any time <b>during</b> the standard project duration.</p> <p><u>Global Postdoctoral Fellowships</u>: secondments cannot take place during the mandatory 12 month return period to the host organisation in a MS or AC. However, a maximum of three months of such secondments can be spent at the start of the project at the beneficiary (or associated partners linked to the beneficiary) before going to the associated partner for the outgoing phase. This period is counted as an integral part of the outgoing phase.</p> <p>Note that <u>secondments</u> can be divided into several shorter periods.</p>	<b>Additional period</b> that takes place <i>after</i> the standard duration of the fellowship.
<b>Mobility</b>	Any country worldwide	MS or AC
<b>Sector</b>	Any sector	Non-academic sector only <sup>20</sup>

<sup>18</sup> The standard project duration of European Postdoctoral Fellowships must be between 12 and 24 months. This duration does not include any additional period for a non-academic placement.

<sup>19</sup> The standard duration of Global Postdoctoral Fellowships outgoing phase must be between 12 and 24 months.

<sup>20</sup> For proposals with the host organization in the non-academic sector, the placement is allowed only if implemented at a different non-academic organization

<b>How to fill in the application forms</b>		
<b>Part A</b> Section 2 Participants 	<b>Do NOT encode</b> the secondment organizations as a participating organisation.	The organization hosting the placement <b>MUST be encoded</b> as a participating organisation (= <b>associated partner</b> ).
<b>Part A</b> Section 3 Budget	<b>Do NOT encode</b> (as no additional budget is allowed for secondments).	<b>ADD the number of months</b> requested for the non-academic placement as a separate line (up to 6 months are allowed).
<b>Description in Part B-1</b>	<b>Yes.</b> Secondments should be described in part B1 and the evaluators will assess their relevance and quality in the respective criterion.  Secondments should be included in the <b>Gantt chart</b> .	<b>Yes.</b> Non-academic placements should be described in part B1 and the evaluators will assess their relevance and quality in the respective criterion.  Non-academic placements should be included in the <b>Gantt chart</b> .
<b>Description in Part B-2</b>	Secondment hosts <b>must be listed</b> in Tables 5.1 and 5.2 within part B2 template as an associated partner.	Non-academic placements hosts <b>must be listed</b> in Tables 5.1 and 5.2 within part B2 template as an associated partner.
<b>Supporting Document in Part B-2</b>	None Letter of commitment not required.	None Letter of commitment not required.

### Short Visits

Note that secondments and non-academic placements are to be distinguished from short visits. Short visits imply mobility to another location outside the physical premises of the beneficiary, including internationally. However, the work done there continues to be supervised directly by the supervisor of the host beneficiary. Short visits can only represent a small part of the project duration.

When a secondment or short visit to a TC takes place, the beneficiary shall ensure compliance with the applicable Horizon Europe ethical framework and the corresponding provisions of the Grant Agreement. Short visits must not be encoded as participating organisations in the submission forms.