

Are you a scientist with novel, unconventional ideas? Are you ready to address a major challenge in your scientific field? If you are interested to work independently and to become a research leader, the ERC Starting Grant (StG) could be for you.

This message is to inform you that the **ERC 2022 Starting Grant call (ERC-2022-StG) is expected to open shortly**. Deadline for submissions is **13 January 2022**.

The European Research Council (ERC) Executive Agency is the only agency where acknowledged researchers have designed the programme and not policy makers or economists. Consequently, ERC proposals involve a low administrative burden and there is no expected impact except for scientific advancement. The StG is designed for candidates with a competitive academic track record based on their “academic age”. The ERC seeks creative proposals that focus on the boundaries of current knowledge.

ERC Starting Grants are typically awarded for **five years** with funding of **EUR 1.5 million** and should enable promising candidates (PhD obtained 2 to 7 years prior to 1.1.2022) to gain scientific independence and to establish their own group and direction.

Although Switzerland is not associated to Horizon Europe at the moment, Swiss State Secretariat for Education and Research SERI currently recommends that ERC Starting Grants 2022 are prepared as if the Swiss participant were from an associated country. It will probably only be known shortly before the deadline whether Swiss organisations are eligible as “host organisations”. SERI is keen on having Switzerland fully associated to Horizon Europe as soon as possible. **Should the Association not happen in time, SERI will assign Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) to develop transitional solutions for the ERC Starting Grant 2022.**

If you are interested in applying for an ERC StG, **please contact us as early as possible with your CV and your PhD certificate for an eligibility check**. We will support you with the administrative, financial and legal issues regarding the proposal. We are also happy to answer any questions you may have.

Best regards,

Team EU GrantsAccess

Should you have any question, please contact us via [grants@sl.ethz.ch](mailto:grants@sl.ethz.ch), [grantsaccess@research.uzh.ch](mailto:grantsaccess@research.uzh.ch) or 044 634 53 50.  
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