
Preparing Horizon Europe European Research Council (ERC) Individual Grants Project Proposals (StG, CoG, AdG)

15 May 2025, online (MS Teams)

Training Course goal: understanding ERC terminology and framework, best practice of ERC evaluation and selection, tips & tricks of ERC project proposals, and how to write an excellent ERC proposal.

Trainer: Jitka Eryilmazova, Ph.D.

AGENDA:

9:00-9:10 - Greeting and Opening Address

(Prof. dr. Dean Korošak (PhD), Vice-Rector for Science and Research at the University of Maribor)

9:10-10:10 - Session 1

Overview of the ERC – Eligibility Criteria & Evaluation Process (60 min)

- Key Factors to Consider Before Applying
- ERC Grant Schemes & Selecting the Right Panel
- Eligibility Criteria (Principal Investigator, Host Institutions)
- Understanding the ERC Evaluation Process

10:10-11:10 - Session 2

Key Components of a Competitive ERC Proposal Part 1: Establishing Scientific Excellence (60 min)

- The Significance of Scientific Excellence in ERC Applications
- The Principal Investigator: Crafting an Outstanding CV & Track Record
- Presenting Your Scientific Vision Clearly and Compellingly
- Validating a Groundbreaking Research Idea

11:10 – 11:25 – *Short break*

11:25-13:25 - Session 3

Key Components of a Competitive ERC Proposal Part 2: Structuring a Strong Scientific Proposal (120 min)

- Structuring the Scientific Proposal Effectively
- **Crafting an Engaging and Compelling Part B1** (*with real case examples*)
- **Developing a Complete Part B2 Proposal:** State of the Art & Objectives, Methodology, Required Resources & Budget, Task Distribution, Ethics, and Societal Impact (*with real case examples*)

13:25-14:00 – *Lunch break*

14:00 – 14:30 - Session 4

ERC Interview Preparation (30 min)

- Best Practices for a Successful ERC Interview
- Common Questions and How to Address Them

14:30-15:00 - Session 5

FINAL REMARKS, TIPS & RECOMMENDATIONS (15 min)

Q&A (15 min)

About the trainer:**Jitka Eryilmazova, Ph.D.**

Jitka Eryilmazova, Ph.D., is the Director of the Horizon Europe Pre-Awards Services at EFMC in Estonia and the CEO of EFMC in the Czech Republic. She has also served as a Senior Expert Evaluator and Project Monitor, appointed by the European Commission. Jitka has extensive experience as an Expert Evaluator for Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe, where she reviewed proposals for both individual and collaborative programmes from 2016 to 2022.

Jitka holds a First-Class BSc in Medicinal Chemistry from the University of Hertfordshire and a Ph.D. in Structural Biology from Birkbeck College, University of London. She has been honoured with prestigious awards, including the Mary Radcliffe Prize in Medicinal Chemistry and the Chemistry Prize for exceptional academic performance.

With over 18 years of experience spanning both industry and academia, she brings a strong foundation in life sciences, encompassing Biology, Chemistry, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Crystallography, Nanotechnology, Smart Materials, and Environmental Science. Her career includes roles at prominent institutions such as the University of London, the University of Toronto, Sabanci University, and global companies like GSK and the Structural Genomics Consortium.

Jitka has supervised numerous Ph.D. and M.Sc. students, published over 50 refereed articles and patents, and coordinated multiple international projects, many of which received prestigious funding from organizations such as the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, FP7, Horizon 2020, and TÜBITAK.

About EFMC

Founded in 2014 by a former DG RTD Auditor, European Fund Management Consulting (EFMC) is a consulting firm specialised in the Financial Management and the Proposal Writing of EU grants. Our experts trained over 1.200 scientists, researchers, finance officers, entrepreneurs, from ca. 850 EU and non-EU organisations, and delivered more than 110 open training courses in 15 countries across Europe. Additionally, EFMC provided diverse services to organisations, such as audit support, mock audits, in-house trainings, proposal writing support, proposal reviews and other services linked with the Financial Management and Proposal Writing of EU grants.