The Status of Switzerland: What possibilities do I have as a researcher in Switzerland?

EU GrantsAccess | Sibylle Hodel | April 9, 2014
Swiss participation in Horizon 2020 post 9.2.14

As a consequence of the referendum “Against mass immigration” Switzerland is considered (at least) for the 2014 calls as industrialised third country.

This means:

• Not all programs of H2020 are open to Swiss researchers
• If Swiss researchers are able to participate, funding must come from Switzerland
• «Swiss compensation mechanisms» exist to some extent
• Some programs remain closed for Swiss participants after all
Two main instruments for individual grants in Horizon 2020

For you as a young academic who wants to know more on taking your research further, I would like to focus on the two main programs for individual grants within Horizon2020:

• Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

• European Research Council (ERC)
Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

Individual Fellowships (IF):
Allows young researchers (PostDoc level) to go abroad for his/her career development (see Kamila Patryka’s presentation for more)

• For Swiss PostDocs, it is possible to apply to go abroad to a host institution in a Member State (MS) or Associated Country (AC) (Deadline for Proposals: September 11, 2014)

• Swiss research organisation cannot host fellows as beneficiaries (only if seconded in the Global Fellowships scheme)
ERC Starting Grant

Funding for a young excellent researcher pursuing her/his own novel research with his/her first team with 1.5 Mio Euros over 5 years time

- The ERC Grant application is only eligible, if the Principal Investigator from Switzerland changes to an institution in a Member State (MS) or Associated Country (AC)
- For Swiss researchers, the SNSF offered a Temporary Backup scheme: [the SNSF Starting Grants](#)
General important questions you might have..

Q1: Are FP7 projects affected by the non-association of CH?

A1: No, FP7 projects are not affected
Q2: Will projects with a partner from Switzerland be treated differently than other projects during evaluation?

A2: Projects with Swiss partners that respect the eligibility criteria will be evaluated like any other project according to the call’s respective evaluation criteria. There will be absolutely no discrimination of proposals including Swiss teams.
EU GrantsAccess is the single entry point for national and international researchers.

For more questions to your planned proposal – don’t hesitate to contact us!

We glady advise all researchers in the Greater Zurich area, free of charge.

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