



# Introduction to Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2023 Call

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# ISERD - Israel Europe R&I Directorate

**ISERD** aims at maximizing the benefits of Israel's participation in the Framework Programmes - Horizon Europe

- **National Contact Point (NCP)** for the different themes
- An **interface** between the Israeli government and the European Union
- **Encouraging** Israeli entities to participate
- **Information dissemination**
- **Representing** Israel in the programme committees of the EC
- **Assistance** throughout projects' submission and management

# Horizon Europe (2021 - 2027)

## What is Horizon Europe?

- EU's main funding instrument for R&I (since 1984)
- Covering all major scientific and technological disciplines
- Targeting the major European industrial sectors

# HORIZON EUROPE

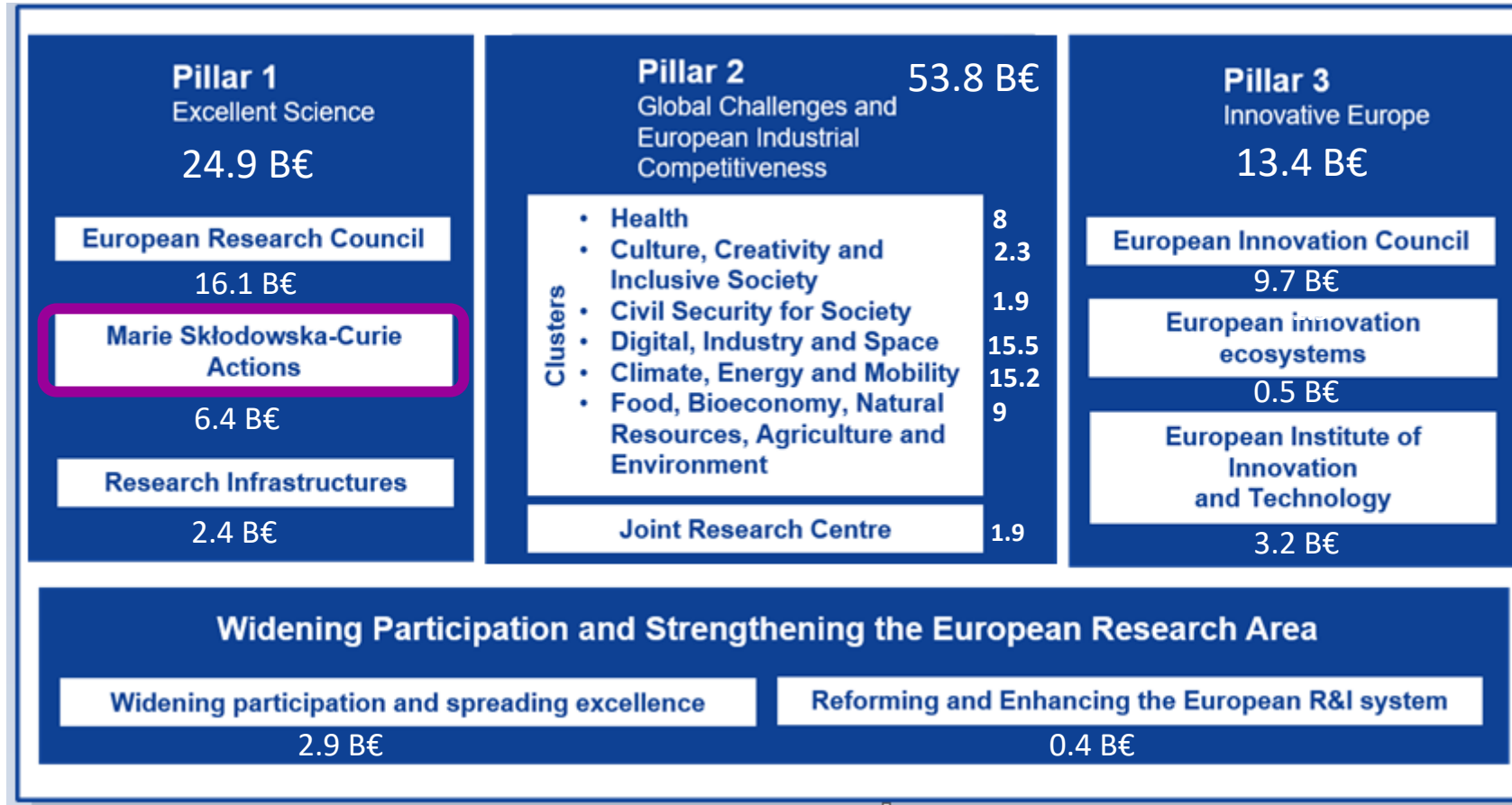
THE EU RESEARCH &  
INNOVATION PROGRAMME  
**2021 - 2027**

#HorizonEU



EUROPEAN UNION

# Horizon Europe (2021-2027)



**Budget of € 95.5 billion for Horizon Europe**



Marie  
Skłodowska-  
Curie  
Actions  
(MSCA)



# MSCA key features

## Training

Researchers' training, skills and career dev. for all stages of career

## Bottom Up

Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)

## Mobility

International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility and cooperation

## Fair Employment

Attractive working and employment conditions for researchers of any nationality

## Impact

Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes

## Industry

Strong collaboration with industry and SMEs



# MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

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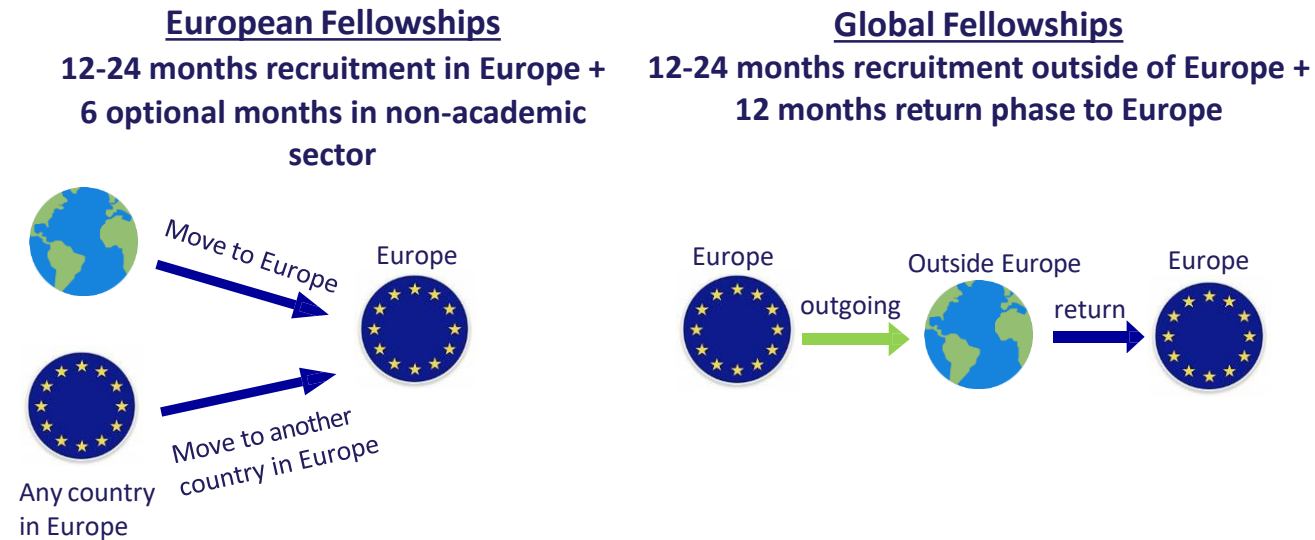
# MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (MSCA-PF)

- Supporting postdoctoral research and careers
- **Researchers of any nationality**
- **Academic or non-academic sector**
- **All research domains**
- New mind-sets and approaches to research and innovation through **interdisciplinary, inter-sectoral and international experience**
- Develop skills needed for **academia and beyond**
  - Intensify exposure/secondments to training in entities beyond academia
  - Improved guidance towards career development (plan & supervision)



# MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships: Schemes

- Two fellowship tracks available:
  1. **European Fellowships:** For researchers positioned in Europe\*
  2. **Global Fellowships:** For researchers positioned outside of Europe



\* Europe includes all EU Member States (MS) and Horizon Europe Associated Countries (AC), including **Israel**. Countries that are not MS or AC are considered TC = Third Countries

# Participating Countries

## 27 Member States (MS)

 Austria (AT)	 France (FR)	 Malta (MT)
 Belgium (BE)	 Germany (DE)	 Netherlands (NL)
 Bulgaria (BG)	 Greece (GR/EL)	 Poland (PL)
 Croatia (HR)	 Hungary (HU)	 Portugal (PT)
 Cyprus (CY)	 Ireland (IE)	 Romania (RO)
 Czech Republic (CZ)	 Italy (IT)	 Slovakia (SK)
 Denmark (DK)	 Latvia (LV)	 Slovenia (SI)
 Estonia (EE)	 Lithuania (LT)	 Spain (ES)
 Finland (FI)	 Luxembourg (LU)	 Sweden (SE)

## 17 Associated Countries (AC)

 Albania (AL)	 Montenegro (ME)
 Armenia (AM)	 New Zealand (NZ)
 Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA)	 North Macedonia (MK)
 Faroe Islands (FO)	 Norway (NO)
 Georgia (GE)	 Serbia (RS)
 Iceland (IS)	 Tunisia (TN)
 Israel (IL)	 Turkey (TR)
 Kosovo (XK)	 Ukraine (UA)
 Moldova (MD)	 Morocco (MA)
	 United Kingdom (UK)

## List of Participating Countries in Horizon Europe

# MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

	Secondment		Non-academic placement
Maximum Duration	<b>European Fellowships</b> Up to 1/3 of the normal project duration	<b>Global Fellowships</b> Up to 1/3 of the duration of the outgoing phase	Up to 6 months duration
Timing	<b>European Fellowships</b>  At any time during the standard project duration	<b>Global Fellowships</b> Up to three months possible at the start of the outgoing phase at the beneficiary (to be included within the 1/3 maximum duration). Not allowed during the mandatory 12 month return phase	Additional period <b>after</b> the standard duration of the fellowship. <b>In case of fellows recruited in the non-academic sector, such a placement must be implemented at a different non-academic host organisation</b>
	Can be divided in several smaller periods		
Mobility	Any country <i>worldwide</i>		EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country
Sector	Any sector		Non-academic sector only

# MSCA-PF: Who can apply?



## Organisations

- Legal entities
- Academic or non-academic
- Specific geographical eligibility criteria



## Researchers

- Any nationality, with additional conditions in some cases
- Specific conditions:
  - Mobility rule
  - Academic/career stage per specific programme

# MSCA-PF: Participating Organisations

- Applications must be submitted by a single independent legal entity, established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country (e.g., Israel)
- Entity can be from the academic or non-academic sector
- The beneficiary must employ and supervise the researcher during the action
- Organisations hosting researchers for secondment shall participate as “Associated Partners”

# Beneficiary vs. Associated Partner

## Beneficiary



- Signs the Grant Agreement
- Minimum number of beneficiaries per project
- Geographical requirements
- Receives funding **directly**

## Associated Partner



- Contributes to the action (e.g. hosts staff/researchers)
- Does **not directly** receive funding

# MSCA-PF: Eligible Researcher

- **European Postdoctoral Fellowships (EF):** open to all nationalities
- **Global Postdoctoral Fellowships (GF):** open to European nationals or long-term residents
- The researcher must be in possession of a doctoral degree or have successfully defended their doctoral thesis before call deadline.
- Proposals submitted for the **MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2022 call** and having received a score of less than 70% **must not be resubmitted under the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023 call**, if the proposals **involve the same recruiting organisation** (and for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships also the associated partner hosting the outgoing phase) **and the same individual researcher**.



# MSCA-PF: Limited research experience

- **Min.** – PhD degree is required by the submission deadline, or a PhD eligibility certificate. In case of multiple PhDs: Date of completion of the first PhD will be used to calculate the scientific age limit
- **Max.** – Up to 8 years since the date of completion of the first PhD

The following cases will not be considered in the 8 years count:

- **Maternity leave** (18 months – i.e. 548 days) per child born after the PhD award date, or exact duration of leave taken, whichever is longest)
- **Paternity leave** (exact duration per child born after the PhD award date)
- **Compulsory national service;**
- Time spent **not working in research**
- **Long-term sick leave** (periods longer than 30 days)
- **For European Fellowships ONLY – Research in a non-associated Third Countries** (only for nationals or long-term residents of EU Member States or Associated Countries, wishing to reintegrate in Europe)

# MSCA-PF: Mobility Rule

Researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of

- the beneficiary (for European Postdoctoral Fellowships), or
- the host organisation for the outgoing phase (for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships)

for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline.

# MSCA-PF: Unit cost Contributions

Contributions for recruited researchers per person-month					Institutional unit contributions per person-month	
Living allowance <sup>1</sup>	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term Leave Allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 5 800	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit X (1/number of months) <sup>2</sup>	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

<sup>1</sup> Gross amount, including all taxes to be deducted by the employer and employee. A country correction coefficient will apply to ensure equal treatment to all researchers. For Israel, the correction coefficient is 107.2%. Please Refer to Table 1 in the [MSCA 2023-2024 Work Programme](#) for the full list of countries and their correction coefficients.

<sup>2</sup> The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

# The Evaluation Criteria

## › Excellence:

- › Project's scientific quality
- › Project's scientific quality
- › Supervision quality – both supervisors' professional level and institutional levels
- › Researcher's professional compliance

## › Impact:

- › Researcher's career perspectives and employability
- › Advancement of the scientific field(s)
- › Dissemination/, Exploitation and communication activities

## › Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation:

- › The project's design
- › Activity types
- › Monitoring and mitigation plan
- › Host suitability

› Max score of 5 in each, total score out of 15

› “Above threshold” proposals must score over 10 points with at least 3/5 in each criterion

# Choosing Host Organisation and Supervisors



# Career Development Plan



<http://elitebusinessmagazine.co.uk/people/item/why-there-s-still-space-for-career-development-in-a-startup>

# Supervision “wish list”

- A supervisor who can support boosting your career!
- High recognition and scientific expertise
- Match with the research proposed
- Match with your professional experience
- International and/or intersectoral connections and networks
- Experience in supervising and mentoring post-doctoral researchers
- Has the capacity to support you
- When more than one supervisor is involved, the quality and complementarity of each of the supervisor is evaluated



# Host Organisation “wish list”

- Supervision is correlated with the quality of the training programme, two-way transfer of knowledge
- Provides meaningful training programme which fits your
  - scientific background and expertise
  - needed relevant transferable skills and
  - personal development goals

# MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

## ➤ 2023 Call

➤ 12 April - 13 Sep 2023

➤ Budget:

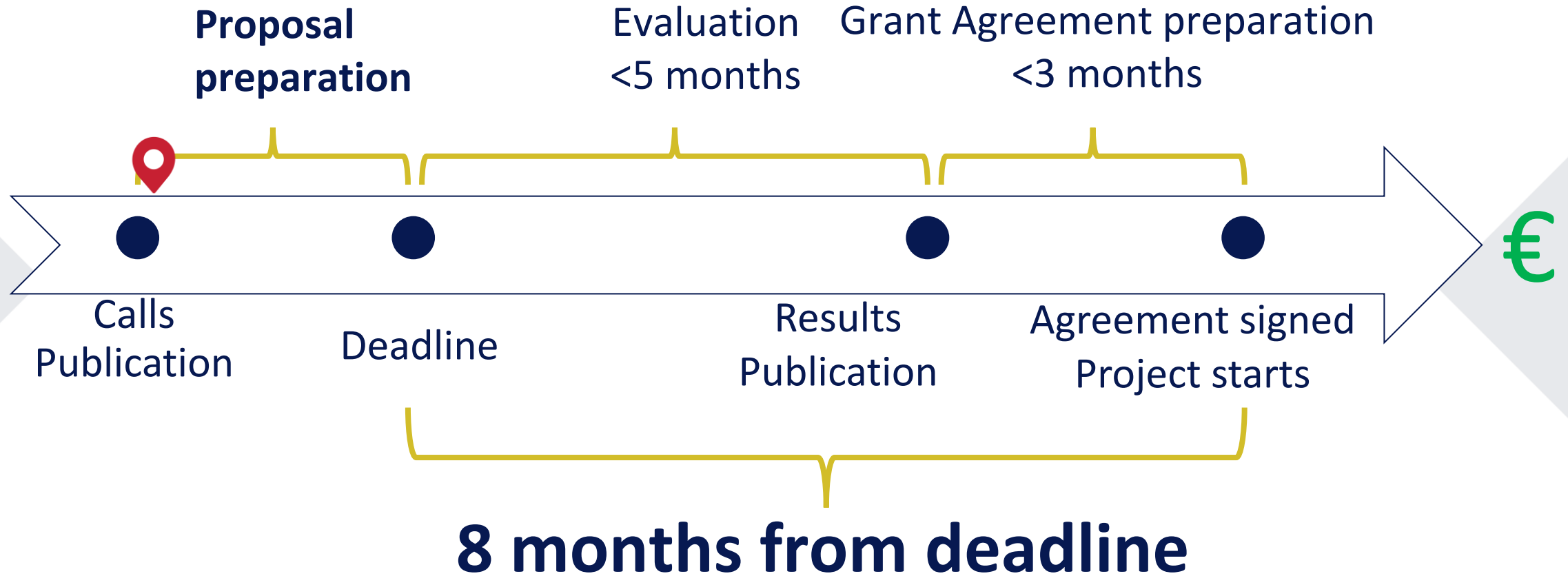
➤ European Fellowships: 221.40 M€

➤ Global Fellowships: 39.07 M€

➤ **Resubmission restrictions** for applications receiving a score **below 70%** in the 2022 call

➤ [Call information](#)

# Submission Timeline



# How can ISERD Help You?

- Consultation - does your project fit with the call objectives?
- Keep you posted on new opportunities
- Vacancy search - support YOUR efforts
- Proposal check
  - Free check of proposals
  - Confidentiality guaranteed
  - Submit at least a month before the deadline

# Funding and Tender Portal - Information on Calls

The screenshot shows the European Commission's Funding & tender opportunities portal. The main heading is "MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023" with the topic ID "HORIZON-MSCA-2023-PF-01-01". A "Grant" button is visible. The left sidebar contains navigation options: General information, Topic description, Destination, Conditions and documents, Partner search announcements, Submission service, Topic related FAQ, Get support, and Go back. The main content area displays the following details:

- Programme:** Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)
- Call:** MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023 (HORIZON-MSCA-2023-PF-01) [See budget overview]
- Type of action:** HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-PF-EF HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - European Fellowships
- Type of MGA:** HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN] (Forthcoming)
- Type of action:** HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-PF-GF HORIZON TMA MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - Global Fellowships
- Type of MGA:** HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]
- Deadline model:** single-stage
- Planned opening date:** 12 April 2023
- Deadline date:** 13 September 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time

## [MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023 \(HORIZON-MSCA-2023-PF-01\)](#)

# Additional Material

- ISERD [website](#) - information, newsletter
- [Funding and Tender portal](#) - calls for proposals, manuals, submission training,
- [MSCA-Net project - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships \(PF\)](#)
  - PF Handbook 2023 – expected to be published soon
- [CORDIS](#) - details of funded projects
- [Dashboard](#) - data on Horizon 2020 and Horizon EU previous projects
- Self assessment tool for calculation of the 8-years research experience:
  - [Guidelines on the calculation of 8-years research experience in Postdoctoral Fellowships under Horizon Europe](#)
  - [Postdoctoral Fellowships Self-assessment tool for the calculation of the 8-years research experience](#)
- [6 steps to prepare Postdoctoral Fellowship application](#)



המינהלת הישראלית למו"פ האירופי  
Israel-Europe R&I Directorate

THANK YOU

INNOVATION  
BREAKS BOUNDARIES



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