

Call and topic ID: Enhancing the European R&I system (HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02)

Talent ecosystems for attractive early research careers – pilot

HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02-03

Coordination and Support Actions

Opening date: 15 May 2024

Deadline date: 25 September 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-widera-2024-era-02-03?isExactMatch=true&status=31094501,31094502&frameworkProgramme=43108390&callIdentifier=HORIZON-WIDERA-2024-ERA-02&order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate>

Short description of the project:

This project supports the creation of ecosystems to enhance research careers across Europe, focusing on early-stage researchers. It aligns with the 2020 Commission Communication on 'A New ERA for Research and Innovation' and Action 4 of the ERA Policy Agenda 2022-2024. The aim is to develop a European framework for research careers, upgrade existing tools like the Charter for Researchers, and introduce new support instruments.

The project will implement standards for attractive research careers, fostering cooperation between academic, private, and public sectors to create environments that ensure promising career prospects. It aims to supply the labour market with skilled research talent, meeting the needs of the Green Deal, digital transition, and deep tech sectors. Expected outcomes include:

1. Establishing research position ecosystems connecting academia, research institutions, and businesses.
2. Broadly implementing standards for diverse and interoperable research careers.
3. Improving early-career researchers' skills and employability within and beyond academia.

Consortia will create 'talent ecosystems' with good training and working conditions, enhancing employability and career interoperability. This action supports whole organizations in implementing attractive research career standards, focusing on organizational change and collaboration across sectors. Activities include mapping challenges, developing action plans, and fostering sector relationships for talent circulation. The project will provide policy feedback to the European Commission and Member States.

Partner expertise searched:

Type of a partner sought - We are looking for a partner organization or coordinator that are experienced legal entities that can effectively fulfil the expected outcomes of this project and form a consortium to apply for this call. Ideal partners will have a proven track record in managing or participating in similar projects, particularly those funded under the Horizon framework. Experience in public engagement, science communication, and community outreach will be highly valued.

The Croatian Science Foundation (CSF) is prepared to play a versatile role within the project, including but not limited to:

- Partner: Collaborating closely with other entities to achieve the project's objectives.
- Task Participant: Contributing specific expertise and resources to various tasks and activities within the project.
- Task Leader: Taking a leadership role in organizing and managing specific tasks or work packages, ensuring that they are completed efficiently and effectively.

Why Partner with Us?

Partnering with the Croatian Science Foundation, which collaborates closely with the Institute for Anthropological Research, brings significant benefits. The Foundation is renowned for its commitment to advancing scientific research and innovation, leveraging its extensive experience in managing both national and international research endeavours. Their robust network within scientific communities enhances collaborative opportunities and facilitates access to broader funding and expertise.

Additionally, partnering with the Institute for Anthropological Research in Zagreb offers compelling advantages due to its unique strengths and affiliations. Firstly, the Institute boasts a diverse team of researchers with backgrounds spanning medical, natural, biotechnological, social, and humanistic sciences. This interdisciplinary composition enables them to approach anthropology from various angles, fostering comprehensive and innovative research methodologies.

In summary, partnering with these two Croatian institutions promises access to a diverse, interdisciplinary research environment supported by substantial funding and extensive networking opportunities. This collaboration would undoubtedly enrich scientific endeavours, fostering impactful discoveries and innovations in the field of anthropology.

CROATIAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION

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Croatian Science Foundation's short description:

[Croatian Science Foundation](#) is a leading institution that fosters scientific research and innovation in Croatia. Established in 2001 by the Croatian Parliament, the Croatian Science Foundation is committed to advancing science, higher education, and technology in Croatia, and it functions under the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education. Our mission is to support and promote excellence in science, and to facilitate international collaboration and partnerships. In addition, Croatian Science Foundation is a member of Horizon Europe [national support landscape](#) in Croatia, being a [host institution](#) for national contact points (NCP) for the European Research Council (ERC) and the European Innovation Council (EIC/EIE). Croatian Science Foundation is also a member of the [Science Europe](#) organization.

We believe that collaboration is vital for advancing research and addressing global challenges. Therefore, we are reaching out to explore potential opportunities for collaboration. We are particularly interested in joint projects and programmes, such as Horizon Europe and Interreg, leveraging our respective expertise and resources to tackle pressing scientific questions and societal issues.

So far, we have been part of the [QuantERA ERA-NET Cofund](#), a network of 32 organizations from 26 countries funding international research in quantum technology, in which your institution is also one of the partners. The Croatian Science Foundation also joined the [ERA-NET Cofund in Blue Bioeconomy](#), replacing the Ministry of Science and Education. This Consortium, also funded by Horizon 2020, focused on aquatic bioresources. Furthermore, we were involved in the [HERA-NORFACE ERA-NET Cofund](#), which comprises 27 organizations from 24 European countries funding research in Social Sciences and Humanities. This program, now called CHANSE, is coordinated by the Polish National Science Centre. For more details on our international cooperation projects, visit our website: [International cooperation – HRZZ](#).

INSTITUTE FOR ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH:

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Institute for Anthropological Research's short description:

The [Institute for Anthropological Research](#) is a public research institute based in Zagreb, Croatia, that carries out scientific, expert and educational activity in the field of anthropology as a medical, natural, biotechnological, social and humanistic science. Researchers at the Institute have different basic education (medical doctors, molecular biologists, archaeologists, social anthropologists, forensic scientists, psychologists, chemists, etc.) and are oriented towards anthropology during their PhD studies or through their research projects. Such diverse profiles of the Institute's staff allows inter- and multidisciplinary in designing and implementing research. The Institute's activities are funded by Croatia's state budget, and national and international foundations and programmes, such as National Institutes of Health (USA), EU framework programmes for research and innovation, and others.

[Centre for Applied Bioanthropology](#), as a part of the Institute, is a highly sophisticated, interdisciplinary centre consisting of five laboratories (Laboratory for Molecular Anthropology, Laboratory for Evolutionary Anthropology and Bioarchaeology, Laboratory for Chemical Analytics, Laboratory for Microbial Ecology, Laboratory for Chemical and Biomedical Informatics), each equipped with top-end instruments. Research fields of the Centre include molecular anthropology, evolutionary anthropology and bioarchaeology, analytical chemistry in anthropology, microbial ecology, human growth and development, aging and personalized medicine. The Centre also offers professional laboratory services (specific laboratory analyses, forensic expertise, professional studies and projects). In addition to the scientific and professional services, the work of the Centre includes education of students (undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level), mentoring of graduate and doctoral dissertations, methodological training, public lectures, summer schools, workshops etc.

Since its establishment, the Institute has been continuously striving for scientific excellence and global networking, it is connected with top-class leading organizations, and it is open for new collaborations in future projects.

The [Institute for Anthropological Research](#) has comprehensive experience in:

- research and study of the population structure;
- rich biobank and human skeletal collections;
- organization of International Conferences and Symposiums, Study Abroad programs, Workshops;

- research work with five interdisciplinary laboratories;
- anthropological studies from diverse perspectives;
- European Research and Innovation activities, Coordination and Support activities;
- active work with young people (volunteers, domestic students), PhD students and Erasmus+ students;
- popularisation of Science