

TOPICS OF 2019-2020 SEWP CALLS

Bratislava, 21 March 2019

Anna Vosečková, TC CAS

WHY SEWP IN H2020

- significant internal disparities of research and innovation performance in the EU
- some countries have low participation in the EU Framework Programmes because of:
 - insufficient national R&D investments
 - lack of synergies between national research systems and the EU research landscape
 - system learning effects
 - reduced access to international networks
 - problems with information, communication and training

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

- Composite Indicator of Research Excellence (publications, top institutions, patents and ERC grants) with a corrective threshold of 70% of the EU average – detailed info [here](#) (p 321)
- Low R&I performing or Widening countries: 27
- 15 MS (Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia)
- 12 AC (Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine)

WP 2018 - 2020

- Work Programme (WP) 2018 – 2020 published by EC on 27 October 2017
- part 15 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation, SEWP (version of 24 July 2018)
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-sewp_en.pdf
- SEWP budget – app. EUR 474,64 million
- text for 2020 still under preparation (envisaged publication in June 2019)

LAST SEWP CALLS

MEASURE	CODE	OPENING	DEADLINE	BUDGET 2019 (EUR million)	BUDGET 2020 (EUR million)
TWINNING	WIDESPREAD-05-2020	24. 7. 2019	14. 11. 2019		69
ERA Chairs	WIDESPREAD-06-2020	24. 7. 2019	14. 11. 2019		50
WIDENING FELLOWSHIPS	WF-02-2019	11. 4. 2019	11. 9. 2019	6	
	WF-03-2020	8. 4. 2020	9. 9. 2020		7
BUDGET				6	126
TOTAL				132	

WIDENING FELLOWSHIPS

- specific support to researchers of any nationality to undertake their fellowship in a Widening Country (**new in WP 2018 – 2020**)
- regular MSCA Individual Fellowships call including relevant evaluation and selection (**no special WF call**)
- proposals above threshold (70%) not retained for funding through the MSCA IF call are automatically re-assigned to the WF (**unless they opted-out**)
- WF grants awarded following the ranked list until exhaustion of budget

WIDENING FELLOWSHIPS

- **WF Call 2018 results as of mid February 2019**
 - WF 2018 budget of EUR 5 million ▶▶ 33 projects on the main list, 17 on the reserve list
 - Host countries: 13 PT, 5 CY, 4 HU, 2 CZ and 1 TR, PL, SI, MT, EE, RO, HR, LV, GE
 - Minimum points needed to succeed: 90,2
- **Call WF-02-2019**
 - ✓ Opening: 11 April 2019
 - ✓ **Deadline: 11 September 2019**
 - ✓ Budget: EUR 6 million
- **Call WF-03-2020**
 - 8 April 2020
 - ✓ **9 September 2020**
 - EUR 7 million

- **SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**

- persistent mobility barriers in Widening countries (availability of research funding, institutional rigidities, access to resources)
- creation of appropriate conditions for the mobility of high quality researchers and managers
- willingness of the institutions to achieve excellence in the chosen scientific domain
- modification of their R&I landscape

- **SCOPE:**

- attracting and maintaining high quality human resources under the direction of the ERA Chair holder
- implement structural changes to achieve excellence on a sustainable basis
- scientific field can be any domain of research and innovation addressed under the TFEU, and in
- close connection with the ERA Chair holder expertise

- **CONTENT OF THE PROPOSAL:**
 - ✓ SWOT analysis
 - ✓ structural changes
 - ✓ conditions to foster excellent research
 - ✓ compliance with ERA priorities (incl. Charter and Code)
 - ✓ description of necessary investments in research projects, facilities and infrastructures (e.g. through Cohesion funds)
 - ✓ better use of installed research capacity (in particular EU co-funded RIs and facilities – **making full use of them will be an asset**)
 - ✓ change in current practices induced by proposed activities
 - ✓ detailed description of ERA Chair position including the letter of the head of the institution describing remuneration

ERA CHAIRS 2020

- **ERA CHAIR POSITION:**

- excellent researcher and manager with a proven record of effective leadership (profile R3 Established Researcher or R4 Leading Researcher – [European Framework for Research Carriers](#))
- establishing their research team fully integrated in the institution
- adequate position allowing him/her to make resource allocation decisions and freely apply for research funding
- his role, level of responsibility and obligations (in the letter of the head of institution)
- open to all EU and non-EU nationals, appointment ASAP following an open, transparent recruitment process monitored by EC
- internal mobility is excluded (allowed only exceptionally)
- commitment for the whole project duration and on a full-time position (permanent or non-permanent)

- **EXPECTED IMPACT:**
 - institutional changes allowing full participation in ERA
 - increased attractiveness of the institution for internationally excellent and mobile researchers (including compliance with ERA priorities)
 - increased research excellence of the institution in specific field covered by grant holder illustrated quantitatively and qualitatively through indicators
 - improved capability to compete successfully for internationally competitive research funding
 - **describe previous/current ERA Chair grants (if any) and demonstrate clearly added value and impact of the proposal compared to already funded project/s**

- **FREQUENT MISTAKES:**

- weaknesses and threats in SWOT analysis are not reflected ►► SWOT justifies the proposal and structural changes should be motivated by weaknesses and threats
- objectives (main and specific) should be described in detail, must be measurable and address the needs adequately ►► down to the level of WPs and tasks
- convincing strategic and long-term sustainability vision is missing
- ERA Chair: research topic is very broad, team is not defined in terms of profiles and number
- interactions with national/regional authorities, research funders, research bodies, stakeholders and private sector lack details
- RIS3 and compliance with ERA priorities are missing
- KPIs are not clearly explained and not defined appropriately

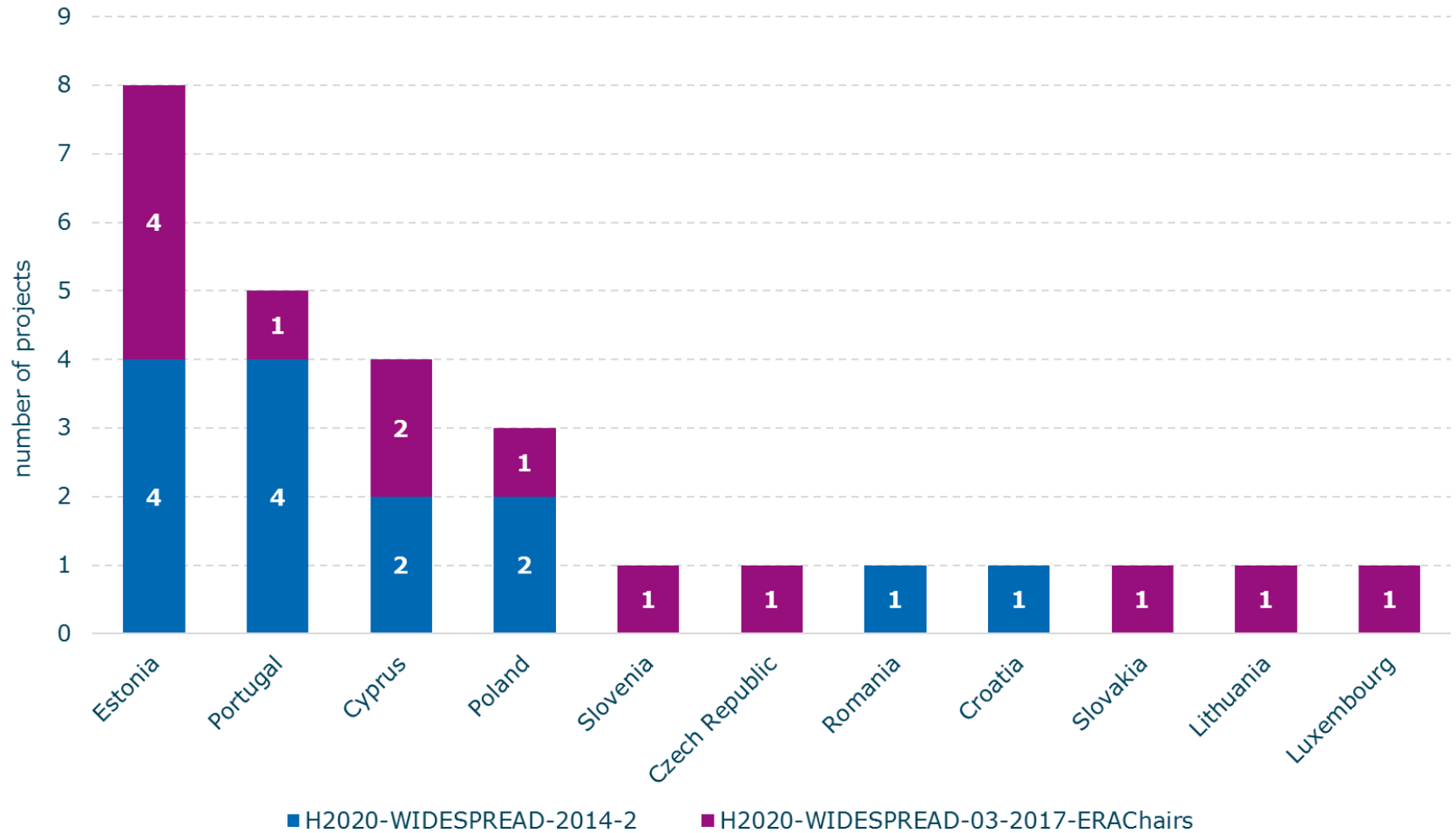
- **FREQUENT MISTAKES 2:**
 - no convincing explanation on how attractiveness and international recognition will be achieved
 - IPR and data management procedures are insufficiently elaborated though need to have such policy is recognized but only briefly outlined
 - effective communication channels have not been identified and target groups are not clearly defined
 - too many work packages with no interconnection
 - deliverables are not in line with tasks and objectives
 - high travel costs are insufficiently justified, cost of conference venues and speakers are overestimated
 - distribution between the scientific and management tasks is not appropriate as it is excessively biased towards the scientific activities

- **LESSON LEARNED (EC):**
- clearly define objectives towards institutional changes
- demonstrate the role and autonomy of the ERA Chair holder
- Work Packages should be consistent and contribute to an overall Action Plan
- management structures need to be well defined and simple

ERA CHAIRS 2020

- **RECAPITULATION:**
 - Type of action: Coordination and Support Action (CSA)
 - Consortium agreement: NO (mono beneficiary action)
 - **Duration: up to 6 years**
 - **Opening: 24 July 2019**
 - **Deadline: 14 November 2019**
 - Budget per project: EUR 2,5 million max.
 - Budget of the call: EUR 50 million
 - **Approximate no. of successful projects: 20**

ERA CHAIRS 2014 & 2017



Source: Daniel Frank, TC CAS

- **SPECIFIC CHALLENGE:**
- enhance networking activities between Widening research institutions and at least 2 internationally-leading counterparts from 2 different MS or AC
- break into the closed clubs of research intensive institutions cooperating among themselves
- **SCOPE:**
- enhance S&T capacity of the linked institutions with a principal focus on Widening institution
- help raise the research profile of the Widening institution as well as the research profile of its staff

- **CONTENT OF THE PROPOSAL:**
 - ✓ SWOT analysis
 - ✓ scientific strategy for stimulating scientific excellence and innovation capacity:
 - arrangements for formulating joint research projects
 - enlargement of the scope of research partnership
 - set of activities (e.g. short-term staff exchange, expert visits, short-term trainings, workshops, conference attendance, joint summer schools, dissemination and outreach)
 - ✓ dedicated WP **or task** targeting early stage researchers (MSCA definition) from coordinating institution
 - ✓ **dedicated WP or task for improving research management and administration skills as a concrete deliverable and setting up/upgrading a special unit would be beneficial**

TWINNING 2020

- **EXPECTED IMPACT:**
 - increased research excellence of the coordinating institution in particular field of research
 - enhancing reputation, attractiveness and networking channels
 - improved capability to compete successfully for national, EU internationally competitive research funding
 - illustrate quantitatively and qualitatively expected potential impact based on indicators
 - contribution of leading partners to providing new research avenues, creativity, and acting as source for increased mobility
 - benefits for leading partners should be substantiated
 - **describe previous/current TWINNING grants (if any) and demonstrate clearly added value and impact of the proposal compared to already funded project/s**

- **LESSON LEARNED (EC):**
- clear definition of the scientific strategy towards excellence in the relevant research field
- better illustration of the scientific qualities of "advanced" partners and their added value to the project
- outline the expected impact of the twinning exercise on the institution in the Widening country (and even at the national/regional level) based on specific indicators

- **FREQUENT MISTAKES:**

- Article on „Most Frequent Mistakes in Twinning Proposals: What to be Aware of“ by Anna Vosečková, 12 October 2018
- Short version in NCP_WIDE.NET e-Bulletin 4th edition
- Full version on NCP_WIDE.NET web in Publications section
- For both versions, click [here](#)



TWINNING 2020

- **RECAPITULATION:**
 - Type of action: Coordination and Support Action (CSA)
 - Consortium agreement: YES
 - Duration: up to 3 years
 - **Opening: 24 July 2019**
 - **Deadline: 14 November 2019**
 - **Budget per project: EUR 0,9 million max.**
 - Budget of the call: EUR 69 million
 - **Approximate no. of successful projects: 77**

TWINNING 2015 & 2017

COUNTRY CODE	COUNTRY NAME	H2020-TWINN-2015	H2020-TWINN-2017	TOTAL
PT	Portugal	11	8	19
CY	Cyprus	5	5	10
RO	Romania	9		9
CZ	Czech Republic	5	2	7
EE	Estonia	7		7
HR	Croatia	4	3	7
PL	Poland	7		7
RS	Serbia	2	3	5
HU	Hungary	3	1	4
MT	Malta	2	2	4
LV	Latvia	3		3
MD	Moldova	1	2	3
BG	Bulgaria	2		2
LU	Luxembourg	1	1	2
SI	Slovenia	2		2
SK	Slovakia	2		2
TN	Tunisia		2	2
LT	Lithuania		1	1
TR	Turkey	1		1
TOTAL		67	30	97

Source: Daniel Frank, TC CAS

TWINNING 2018

- **RECENT INFO**

- Main list – 37 projects
- Reserve list – 5 projects
- Other projects over threshold – 276
- Projects under threshold – 138
- Minimum points needed for a grant: 14
- Main list countries:
 - 7 - PT
 - 5 - EE
 - 4 - CZ
 - 3 - PL, RS
 - 2 - AM, LV, MT, TN
 - 1 - CY, HR, RO, SI, SK, TR, UA

Both for ERA Chairs and TWINNING 2020

1. Change in prioritisation of ex aequo proposals

- Aim: better spread of impact across Widening countries
- Prioritisation based on sub-criteria applied in the following order
 - Proposals from Widening countries not otherwise covered by more highly-ranked proposals
 - Approach described in Annex H, para 3b to 3e (scores in Excellence, followed by Impact, budget for SMEs and gender balance of consortia)
- Will be applied successively for every group of ex aequo proposals starting with the highest scored group

Both for ERA Chairs and TWINNING 2020

2. Costs for equipment and consumables

- ✓ can be accepted up to 10% of the total budget requested, and
- ✓ if they are deemed necessary to fulfil the scope and objective of the project
- Infrastructures costs remain to be ineligible

RECOMMENDATIONS 1

Both for ERA Chairs and TWINNING

- SWOT analysis is the basis of a good proposal (be self-critical and especially weaknesses and threats should be well elaborated)
- objectives should be reflected in WPs, Tasks and Deliverables
- not too high no. of WPs (5-7 max.)
- roles and responsibilities of people involved in management should be clearly described
- text should be clear and brief, structured in short paragraphs, simple sentences, avoiding buzzwords and abbreviations
- national and regional RIS3 strategies and use of ESI Funds should be mentioned

Both for ERA Chairs and TWINNING

- describe in detail interactions with national/regional authorities, research funders, research bodies, stakeholders and private sector
- make reference to relevant important EU documents and strategies (not only to national ones)
- define long-term sustainability and continuation of partnership
- updated English version of Widening institution website with direct link to participation in EU and international projects (for evaluators 😊)

Both for ERA Chairs and TWINNING

- Social Media Guide published by EC in April 2018 – [here](#)
- IPR Helpdesk brochure on Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation from March 2018 – [here](#)
- blog article by Angela Hengsberger on all aspects of Innovation Management from October 2018 – [here](#)
- IP Management fact sheet by IPR Helpdesk – [here](#)
- Guidance Note on Ethics and Data Protection by EC from November 2018 – [here](#)
- Toolkit of activities by SPARKS project from June 2018 – [here](#)
- CORDIS database ► projects ► results (reports, deliverables, publications) - [here](#)

**THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION
and
GOOD LUCK !!!**

voseckova@tc.cz