

ERC funding opportunities



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AERAP Workshop

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ERCEA

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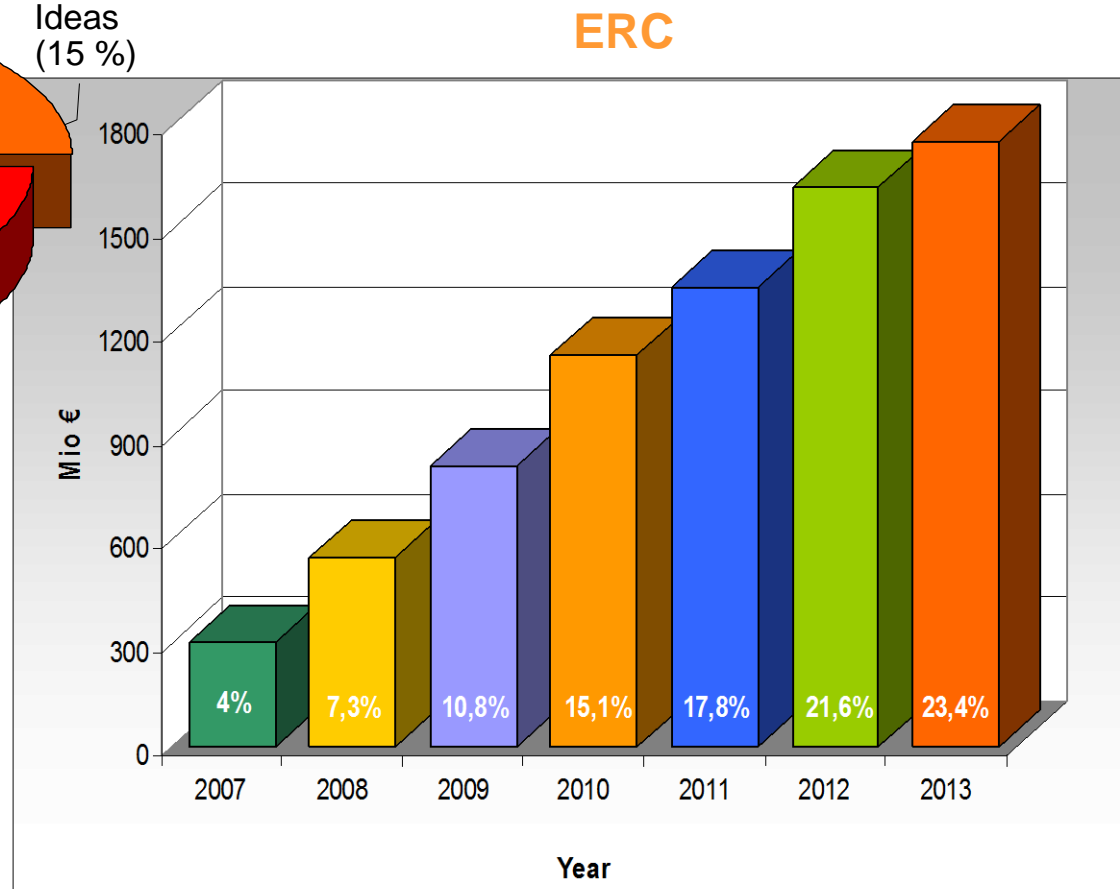
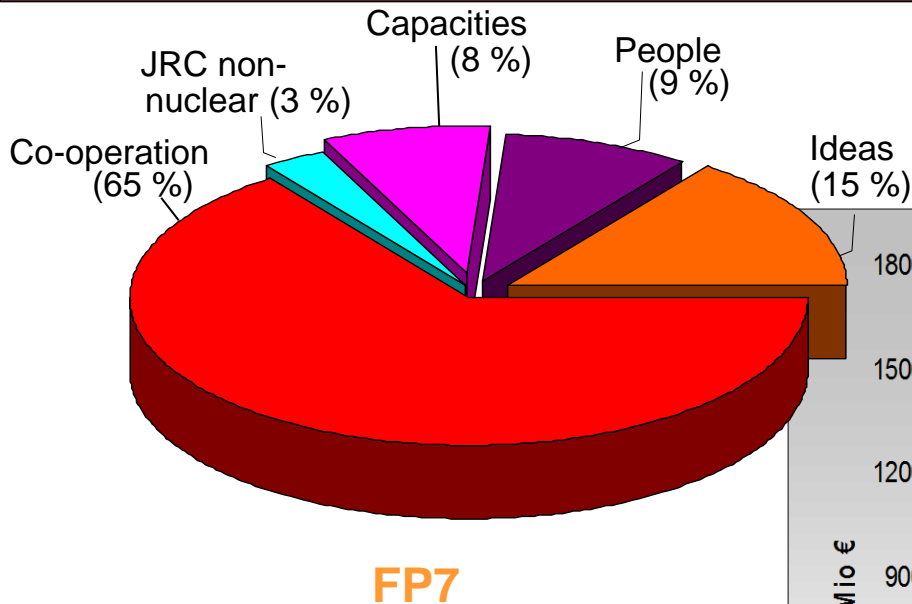


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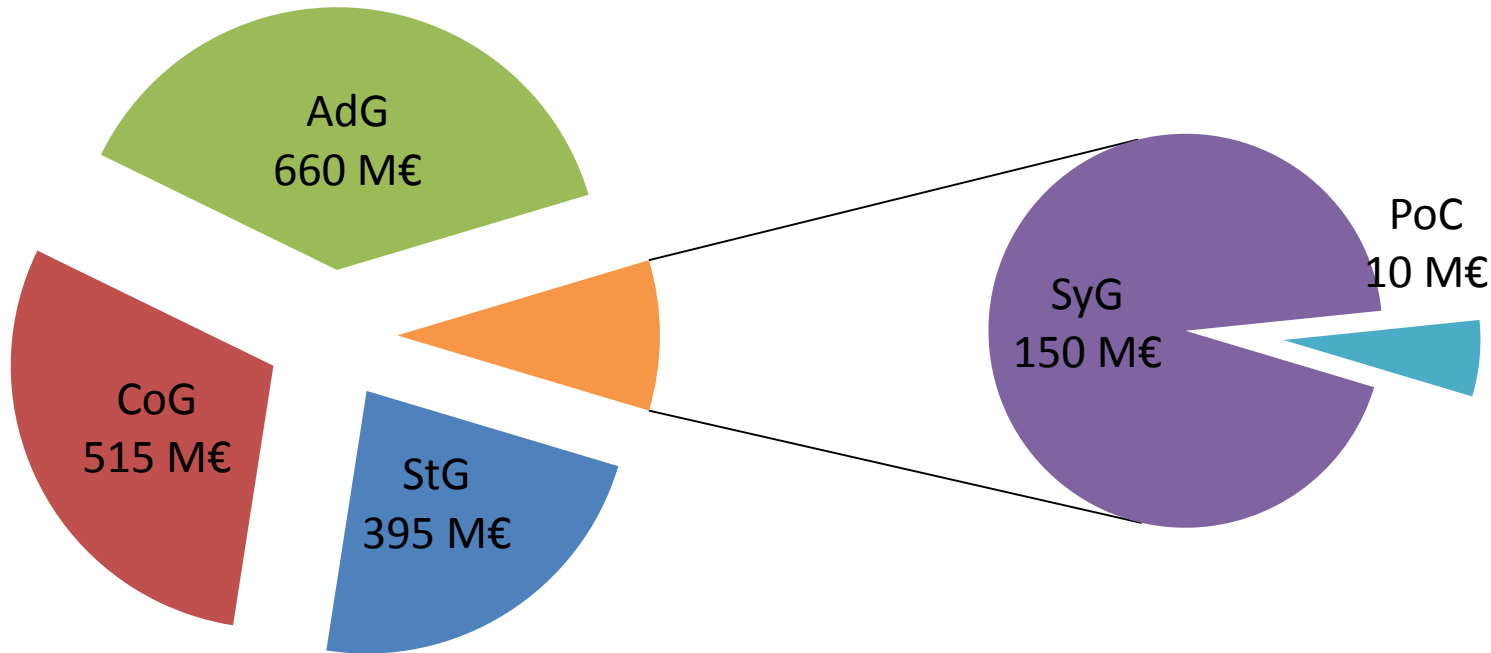
ERC Budget 2007-2013:

≈ 15% FP7 = € 7.51 billion



Grant Schemes in 2013:

€ 1,730 million



StG: Starting Grants → up to €2.0 M for 5 years

CoG: Consolidator Grants → up to €2.75 M for 5 years

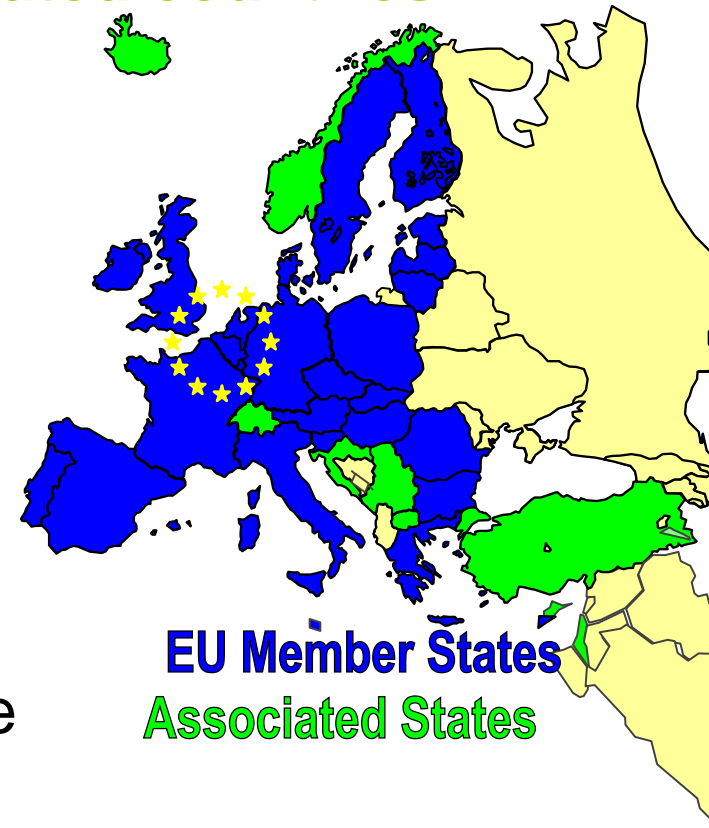
AdG: Advanced Grants → up to €3.5 M for 5 years

SyG: ERC Synergy → up to €15M for 6 years

PoC: Proof of Concept

Who can apply?

- **Any** nationality, age or current place of work, ...
- **Individual research team:** Free to choose national or transnational team, no consortia
- Host Institution based in **EU** or **associated countries**



What kind of project?

- **Frontier research**, all fields of science
- **Excellence** is the only criterion
- Innovative breakthrough research: **high risk/high gain**



2. Core Funding Schemes:

Starting Grants

Consolidator Grants

Advanced Grants

ERC Starting Grants

Size of the grant and eligibility

- **Possible requested amount:**
 - max. € 1,500,000 for 5 years**
 - + € 500,000 if: moving from third country or purchase of major equipment
- **Eligible costs:** Costs supporting the project (personnel, equipment, consumables, travel, admin)
- **Dedication:**
 - min. 50% of PI's working time in a EU MS or AC
 - min. 50% of PI's working time to the ERC-funded project
- **First PhD awarded 2-7 years** before call publication date
 - Extension may be accepted for duly justified reasons (maternity leave,...)





ERC Consolidator Grants

Size of the grant and eligibility

- **Possible requested amount:**
 - max. € 2,000,000 for 5 years**
 - + € 750,000 if: moving from third country or purchase of major equipment
- **Dedication:**
 - min. 50% of PI's working time in a EU MS or AC
 - min. 50% of PI's working time to the ERC-funded project
- **First PhD awarded >7-12 years** before call publication date
 - Extension may be accepted for duly justified reasons (maternity leave,...)





ERC Advanced Grants (AdG)

Size of the grant and eligibility

- Possible requested amount:
 - **max. € 2,500,000 for 5 years**
 - + € 1,000,000 if moving from third country or purchase of major equipment
- Eligible cost: costs supporting the project (personnel, equipment, consumables, travel, admin)
- Dedication of:
 - **min. 50% of PI's working time in a EU MS or AC**
 - **min. 30% of PI's working time to the ERC project**



ERC Starting and Consolidator Grants

The applicant's profile



“Am I competitive enough?”

- Potential for research independence
- Evidence of scientific maturity
- At least one (StG) /several (CoG) publications without participation of PhD supervisor

Promising track-record of early achievements

- Significant publications
- Invited presentations in conferences
- Funding, patents, awards, prizes

ERC Advanced Grants

The applicant's profile



- Track-record of significant research achievements in the last 10 years
- Exceptional leaders and mentors
- 10 publications as senior author in major scientific journals
- 5 granted patents
- 10 invited presentations at international conferences
- 3 international conferences where Principal Investigator was an organiser
- International prizes/awards

Submission of proposals

- Single submission
 - “1 stage, 2 step” evaluation
- Electronic submission
- Deadlines strictly enforced
- Proposals have two parts:
 - Part A: Administrative forms
 - Part B: Scientific proposal itself
 - B1 with Scientific Summary (5 pages)
 - B2 with Full Proposal (15 pages)



ERC panel structure: 25 panels (per scheme)

Physical Sciences & Engineering: 44% of call budget in 2013

Life Sciences: 39%

Social Sciences & Humanities: 17%

Life Sciences

- LS1 Molecular and Structural Biology and Biochemistry
- LS2 Genetics, Genomics, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology
- LS3 Cellular and Developmental Biology
- LS4 Physiology, Pathophysiology and Endocrinology
- LS5 Neurosciences and neural disorders
- LS6 Immunity and infection
- LS7 Diagnostic tools, therapies and public health
- LS8 Evolutionary, population and environmental biology
- LS9 Applied life sciences and biotechnology

Social Sciences and Humanities

- SH1 Individuals, institutions and markets
- SH2 Institutions, values, beliefs and behaviour
- SH3 Environment, space and population
- SH4 The Human Mind and its complexity
- SH5 Cultures and cultural production
- SH6 The study of the human past

Physical Sciences & Engineering

- PE1 Mathematics
- PE2 Fundamental constituents of matter**
- PE3 Condensed matter physics
- PE4 Physical and analytical chemical sciences
- PE5 Materials and synthesis
- PE6 Computer science and informatics
- PE7 Systems and communication engineering
- PE8 Products and processes engineering
- PE9 Universe sciences**
- PE10 Earth system science**

PE9 Universe Sciences: Astro-physics/chemistry/biology; solar system; stellar, galactic and extragalactic astronomy, planetary systems, cosmology, space science, instrumentation

- PE9_1 Solar and interplanetary physics
- PE9_2 Planetary systems sciences
- PE9_3 Interstellar medium
- PE9_4 Formation of stars and planets
- PE9_5 Astrobiology
- PE9_6 Stars and stellar systems
- PE9_7 The Galaxy
- PE9_8 Formation and evolution of galaxies
- PE9_9 Clusters of galaxies and large scale structures
- PE9_10 High energy and particles astronomy – X-rays, cosmic rays, gamma rays, neutrinos
- PE9_11 Relativistic astrophysics
- PE9_12 Dark matter, dark energy
- PE9_13 Gravitational astronomy
- PE9_14 Cosmology
- PE9_15 Space Sciences
- PE9_16 Very large data bases: archiving, handling and analysis
- PE9_17 Instrumentation - telescopes, detectors and techniques

See Guide for
Applicants
(StG / CoG / AdG)

Evaluation Criteria

Excellence as sole criterion, to apply to:

1. Principal Investigator

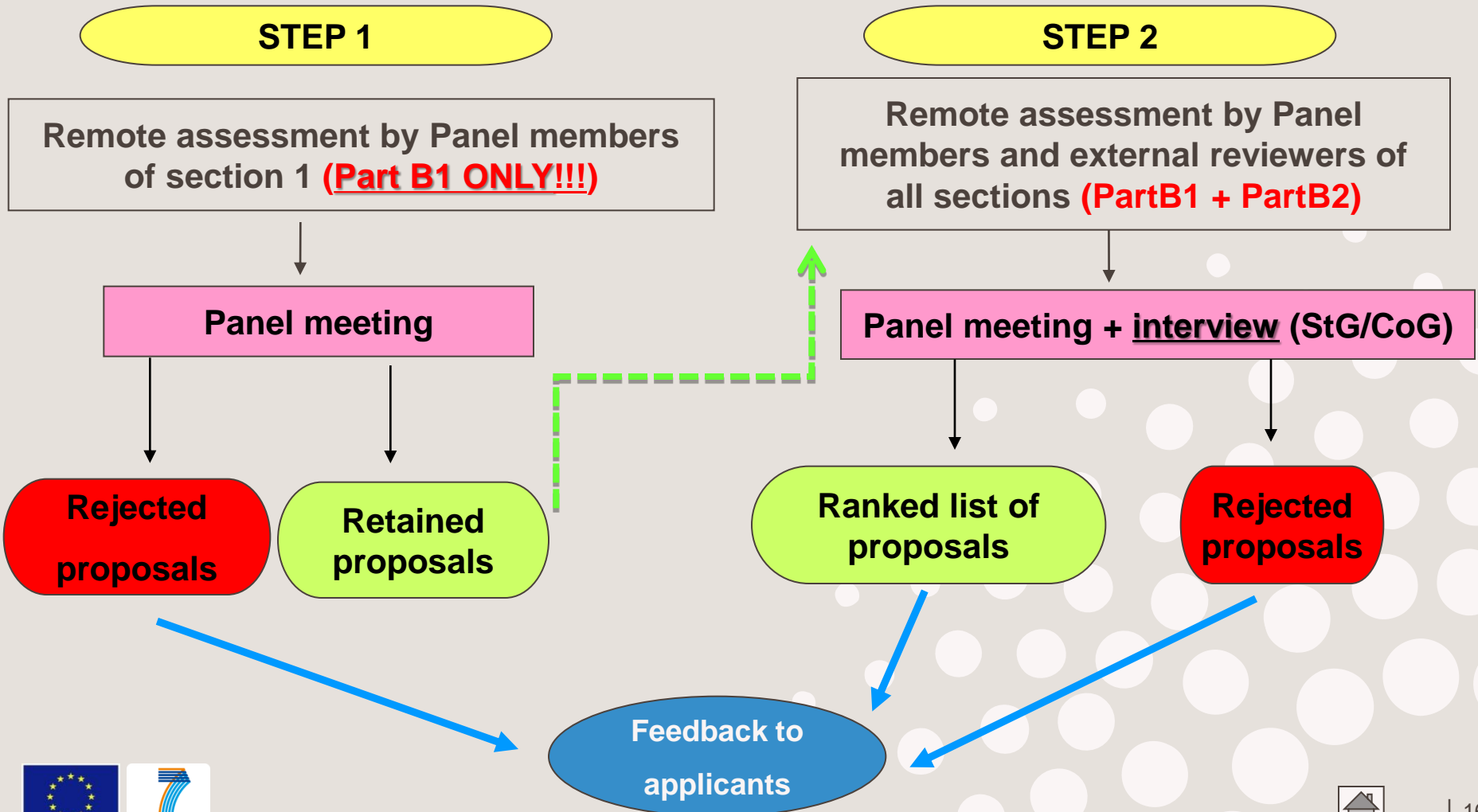
- **Intellectual capacity and creativity:** Track-record, capacity to go significantly beyond the state of the art.
- **Commitment:** Willing to devote a significant part of PI's working time

2. Quality of the research project

- **Ground-breaking nature of the research:** Important challenge? Substantially beyond the current state of art?
- **Potential impact:** Possibility of a major break-through?
- **Methodology:** Feasibility, high-gain/high-risk balance

ERC Peer review evaluation

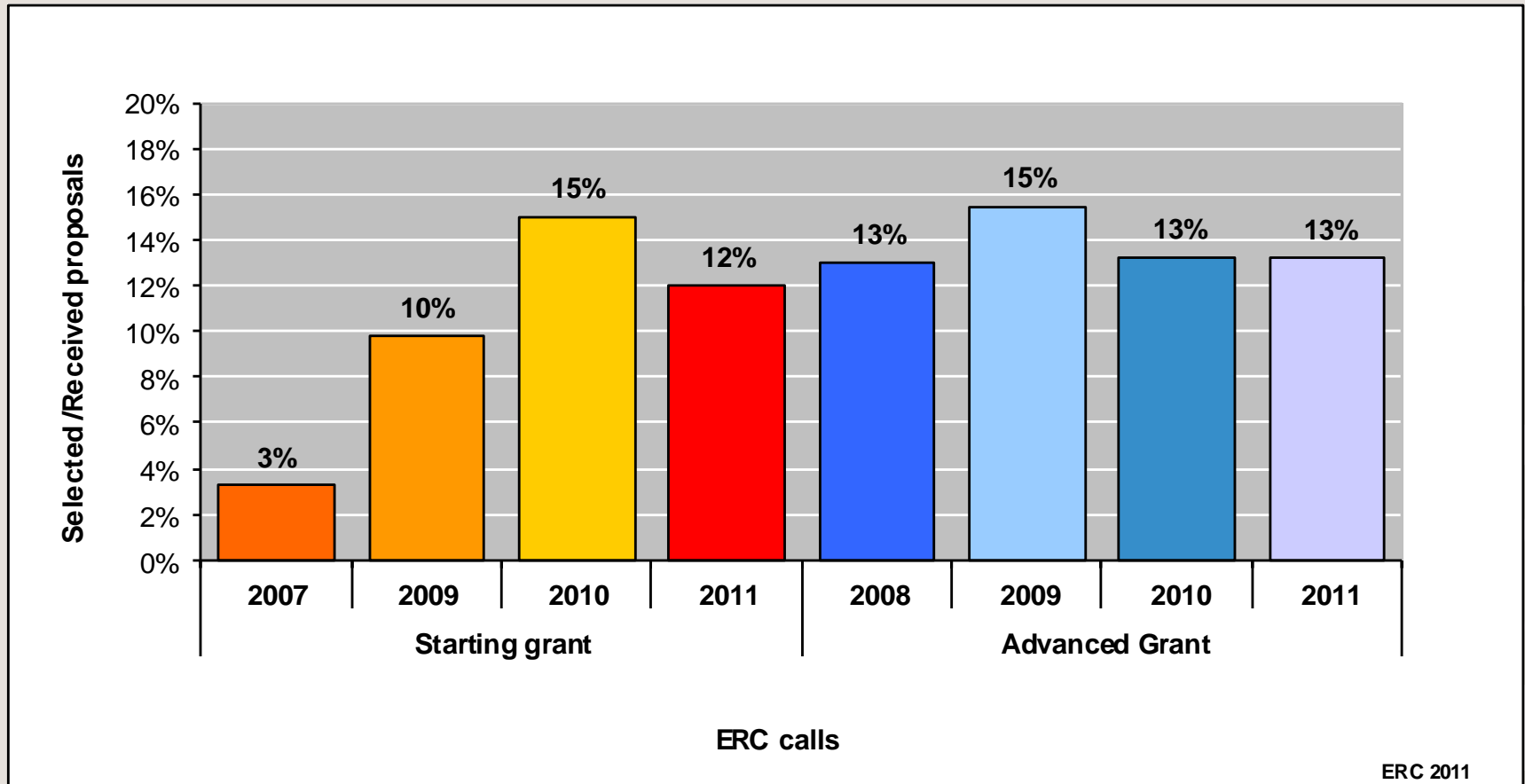
Single submission, two-step evaluation



ERC Grant agreements

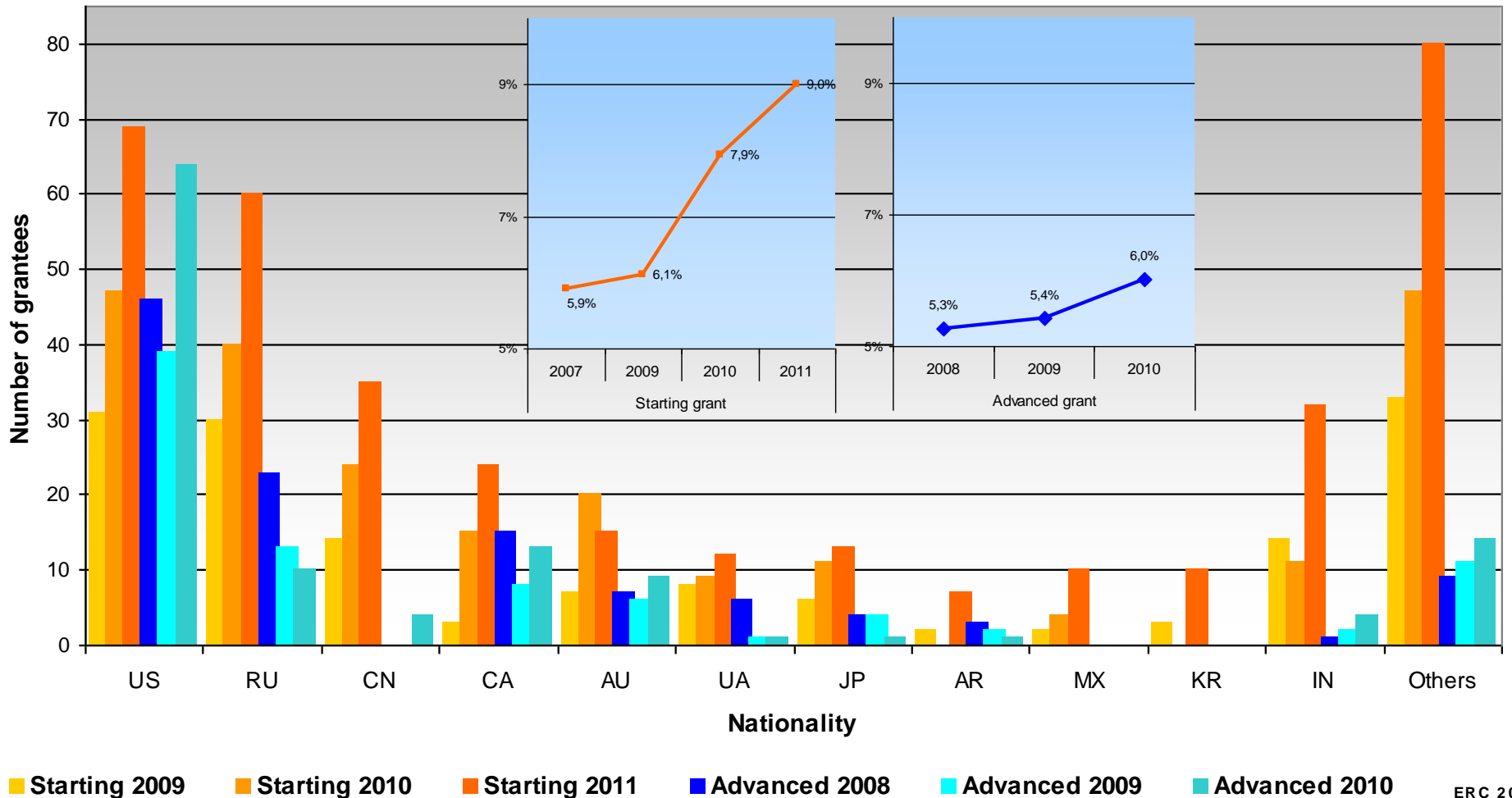
- **Simple and flexible**, no negotiations
- **Are portable**
- Cover 100% total eligible costs plus 20% indirect costs

Success rates StG and AdG 2007 – 2011



Submitted proposals from researchers with non-European nationality

ERC Starting & Advanced Grant calls 2007-2011

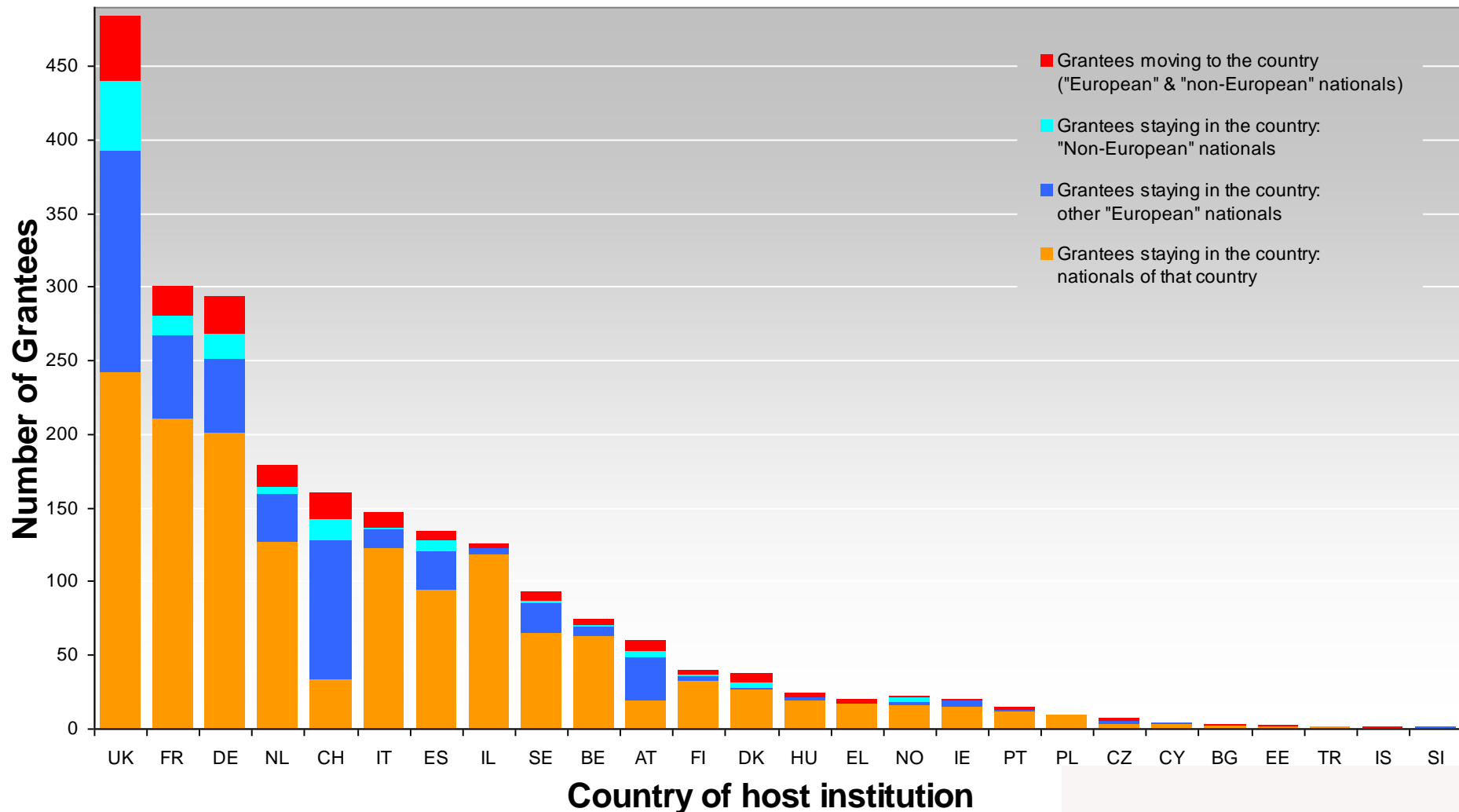


Grant distribution per host institution country

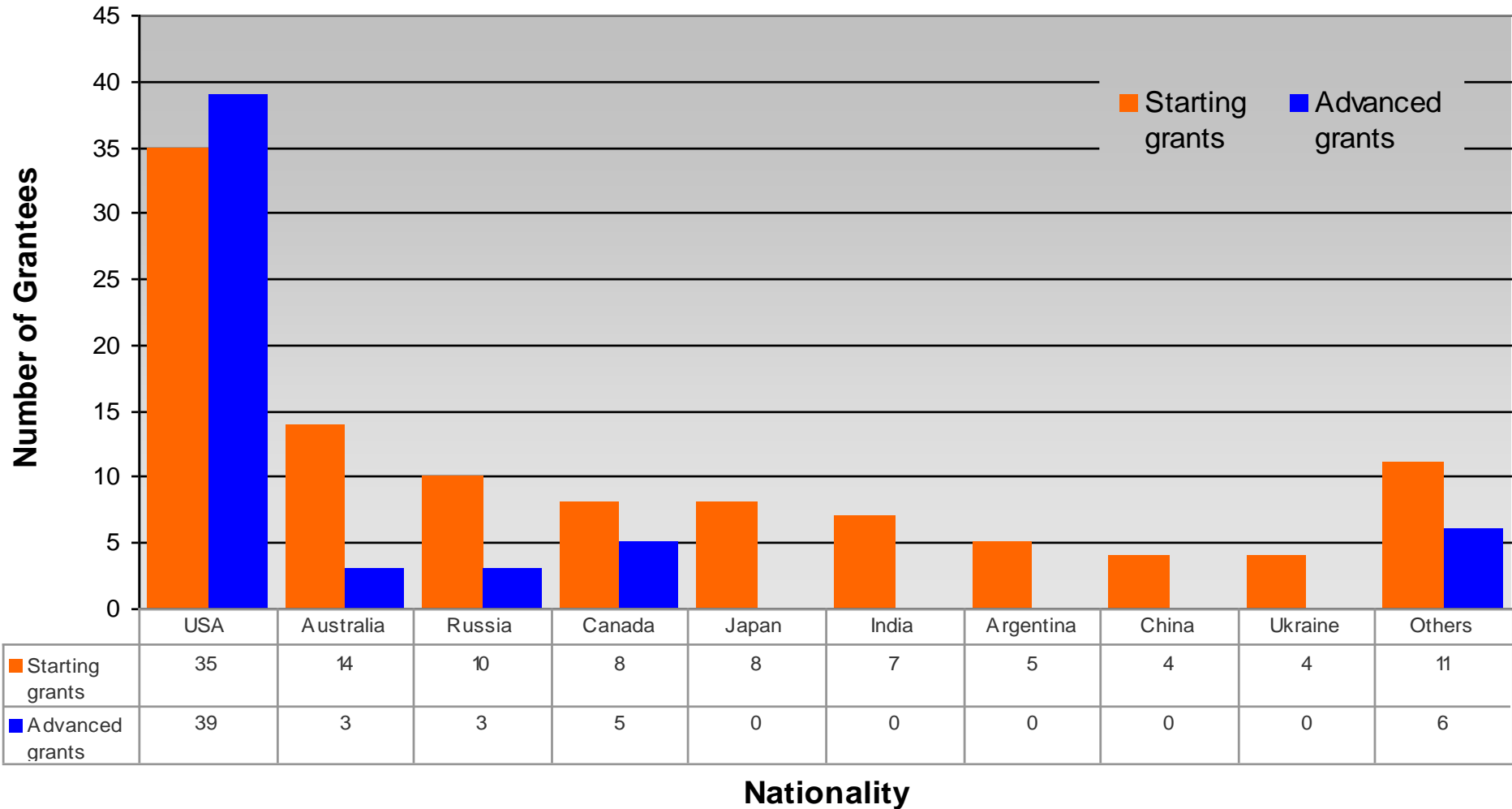
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StG and AdG 2007 – 2011



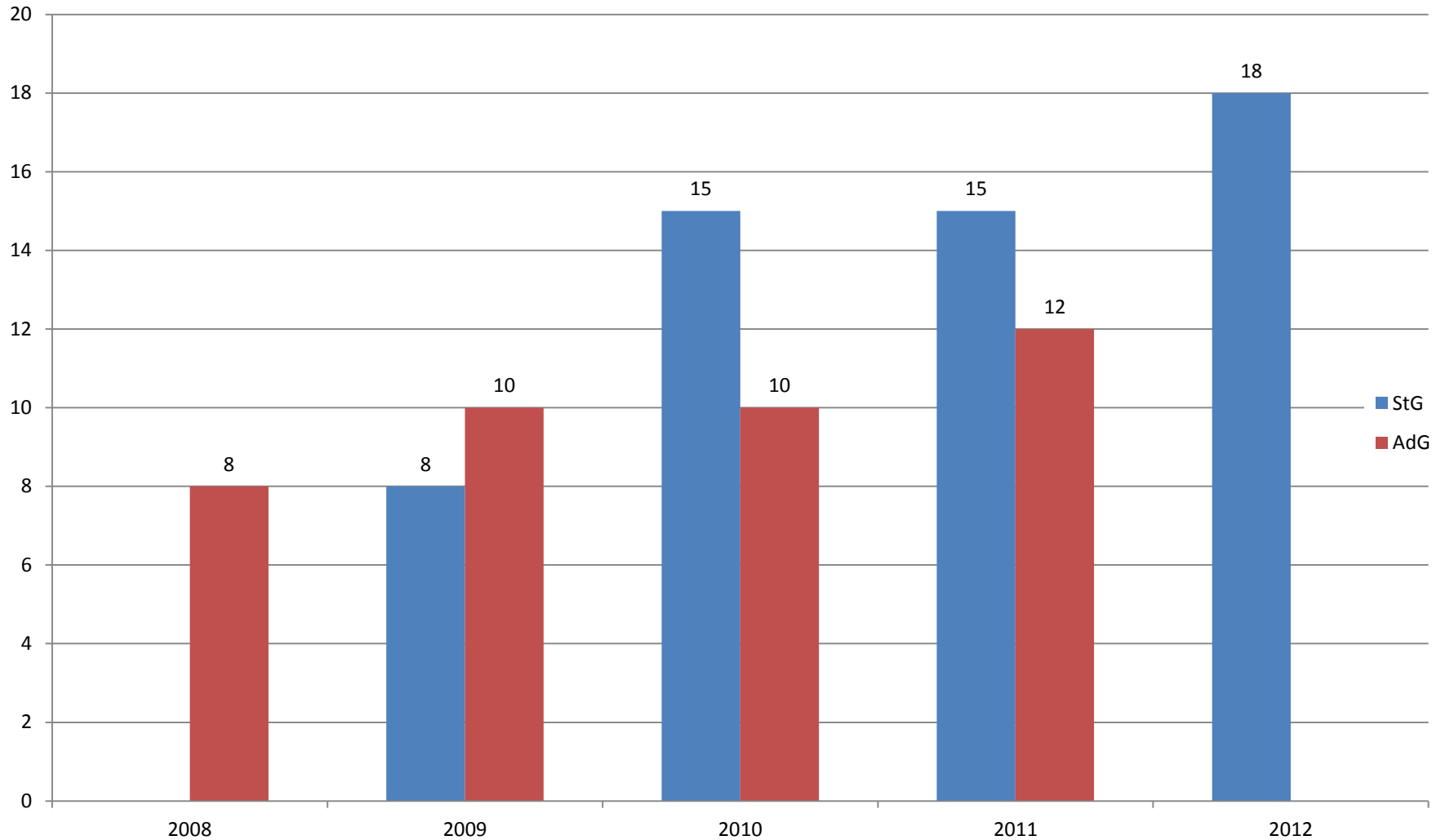
Non EU grantees (2011)



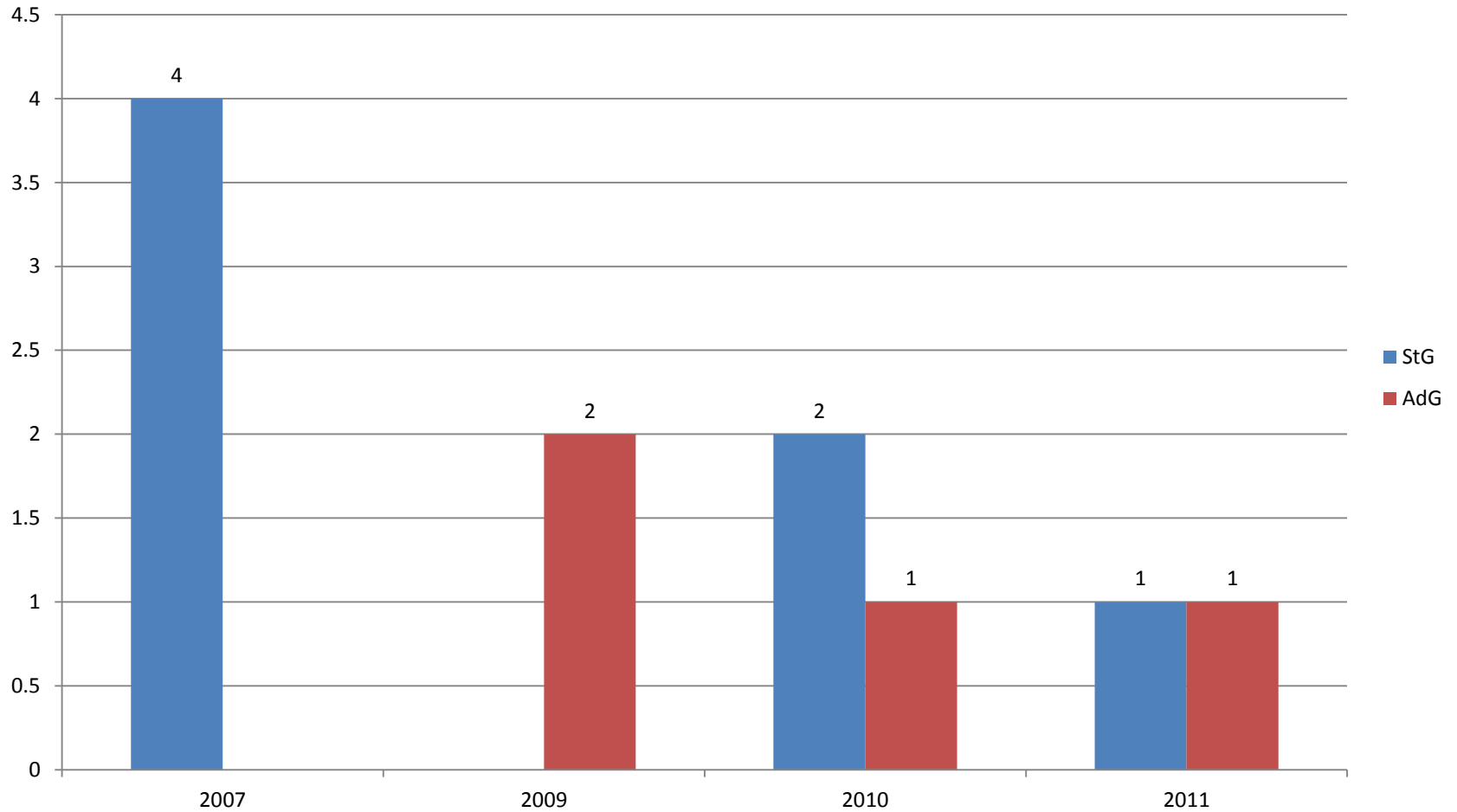
PE9 applicants



PE9 grantees



South-African applicants



Achievements of the ERC - so far



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- > 2.600 funded proposals
- > 480 host institutions in 26 countries

3. ERC Synergy Grant:

Funding small groups of scientists

ERC Synergy

- pilot for 2012 -

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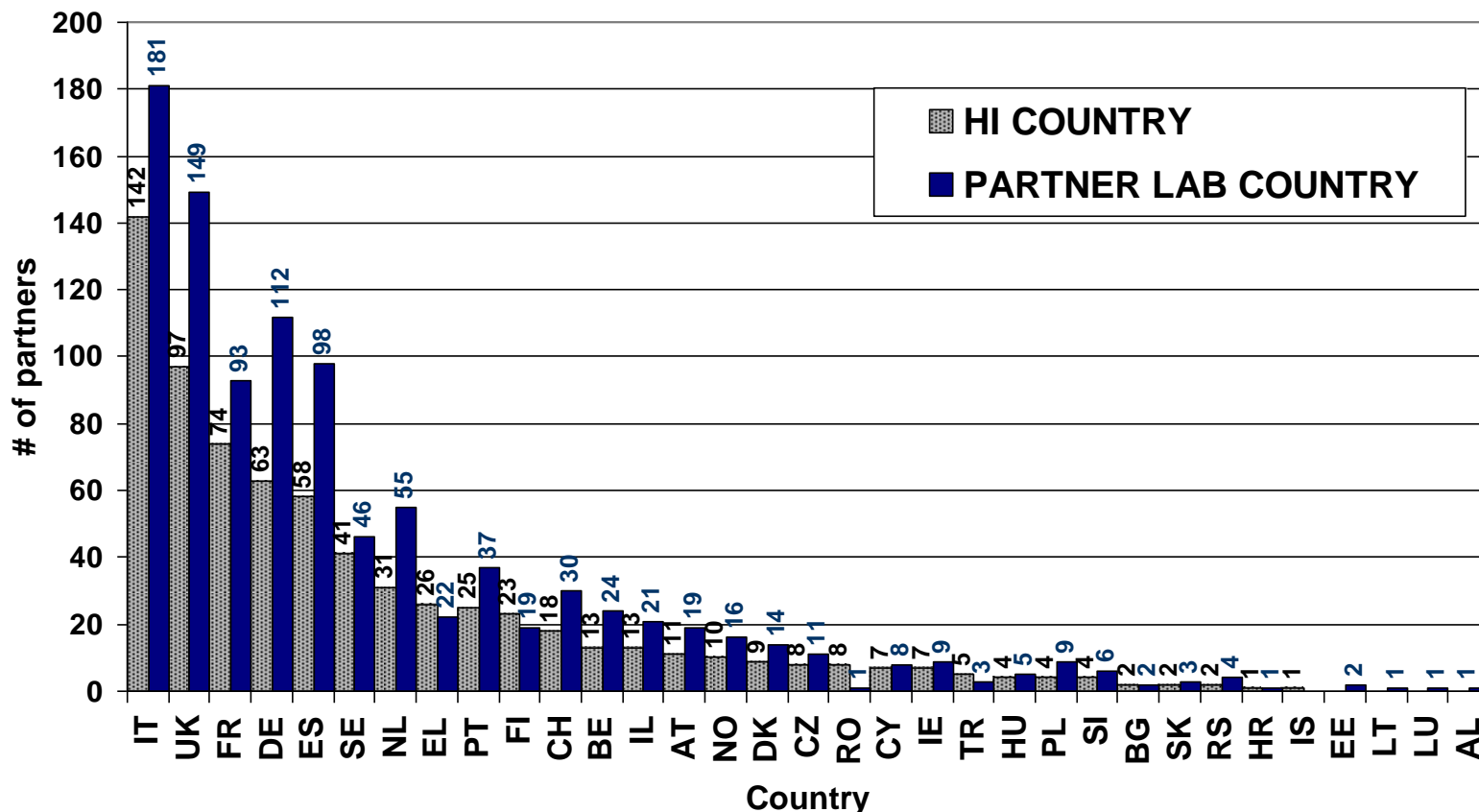


- For small groups of 2 to 4 excellent Principal Investigators (PIs) with complementary skills, knowledge and resources.
- Unique configuration of PIs to jointly identify and tackle exciting research problems aiming at breakthrough discoveries.

ERC Call Name	Call Budget	Grant Size
ERC Synergy Grant ERC-2012-SyG	€150M (10% total 2012 budget)	Max. €15M for up to six years

ERC Synergy 2012 – submissions

- 710 proposals submitted
- 2255 PIs in total (3.1/proposal)
- Average duration: 5 y. 5 m.
- Average budget requested: € 8.3 million

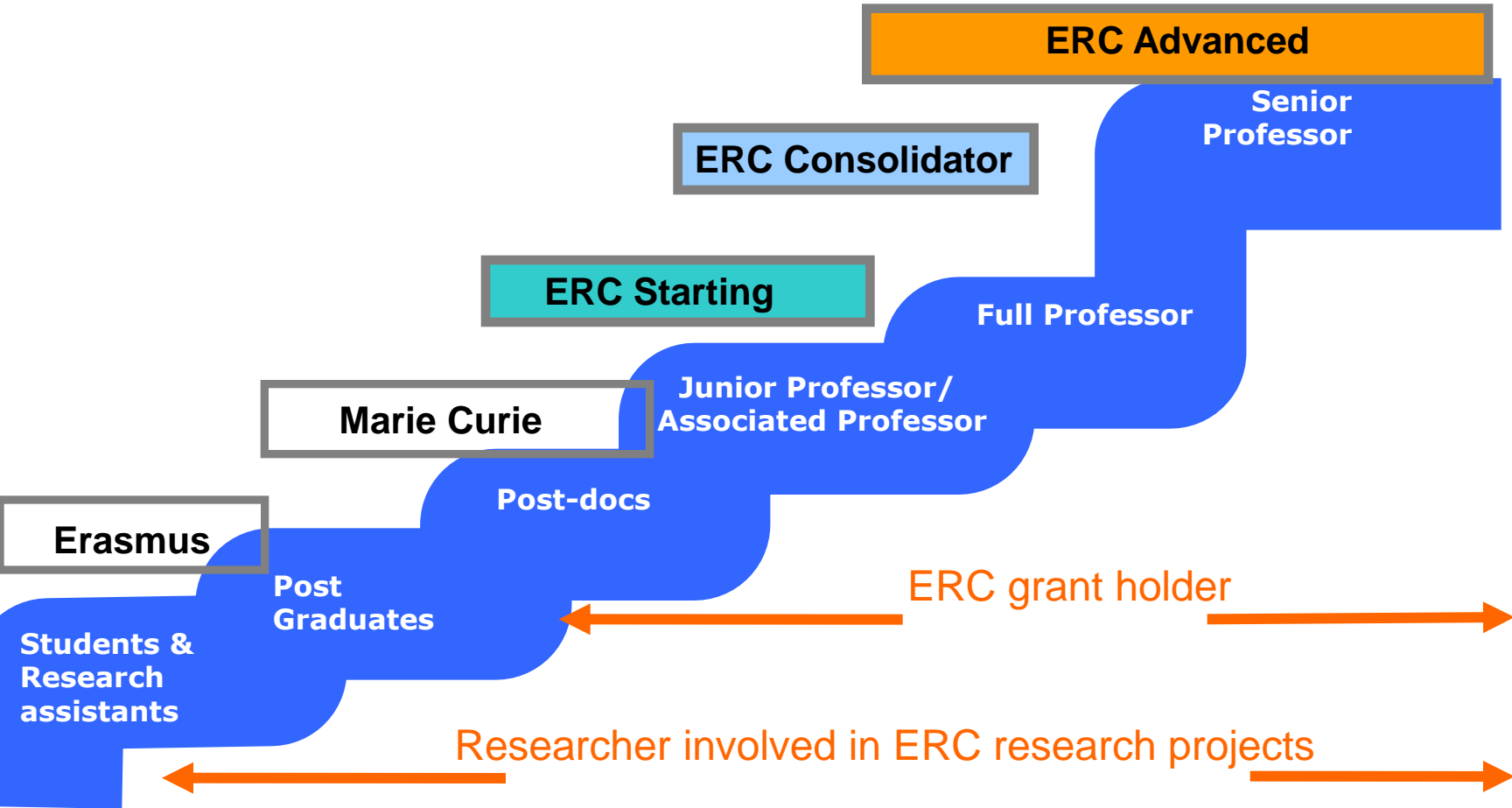


4. Summary & Outlook

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SUMMARY: complementary ERC funding schemes



Freedom of the individual grantee

ERC offers independence, recognition & visibility

- to work on a research topic of **own choice**, with a team of **own choice**
- to gain true **financial autonomy** for 5 years
- to negotiate with the host institution the **best conditions** of work
- to attract **top team members** (EU and non-EU) **and collaborators**
- to move with the grant to any place in Europe if necessary (**portability of grants**)
- **to attract additional funding and gain recognition**; ERC is a quality label

Attractive features for researchers from outside Europe



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Incentive:

- Additional “start-up” funding for scientists moving to Europe (EUR 500 000 for Starting and EUR 1 Million for Advanced grantees)

Flexibility:

- Host institution shall be in an EU member state or an FP7 Associated Country
- Grantee can keep affiliation with home institute outside Europe (“significant part” of work time in Europe)
- Team members can be based outside Europe
- Grantee can move within Europe with the grant

Negotiation:

- Several European countries/host institutes assist applicants and reward grantees with top-up funds or long-term professorships



Timetable of 2013 ERC calls

Single deadlines for all Calls



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ERC calls	Call Publication	Submission Deadline
Starting Grants ERC-2013-StG	10 July 2012	17 Oct. 2012
Advanced Grants ERC-2013-AdG	10 July 2012	22 Nov. 2012
Synergy Grants ERC-2013-SyG	10 October 2012	10 Jan. 2013
Consolidator Grant ERC-2013-CoG	7 November 2012	21 Feb. 2013





Horizon 2020

- European Commission proposal for a 80 billion euro research and innovation funding programme (2014-2020)
- Proposed funding ERC:
 - \approx 13.2 billion euro, 2014-2020
 - ERC President Professor Helga Nowotny: “... *bid for a very significant increase of the ERC budget can be seen as recognition of the outstanding success of the ERC, as evidenced by the entire scientific community, Member States and all other stakeholders ...*”



Support and service



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ERC website: <http://erc.europa.eu>

Documentation, detailed statistics, news alert

ERC National Contact Points

inform, raise awareness and provide advice on
ERC funding opportunities, application, follow-up

ERC helpdesk

<http://erc.europa.eu/send-us-message>

