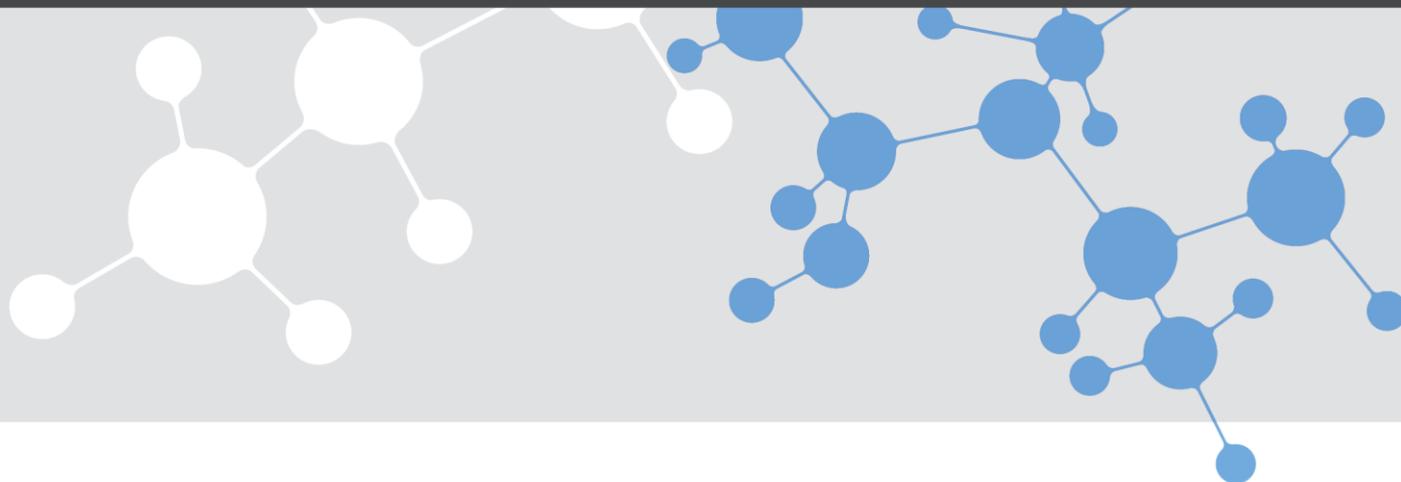




# Marie Curie Alumni Association - MCAA

Radenka Krsmanović Whiffen  
20th February 2019



# BACKGROUND

- European Commission Marie [Skłodowska] Curie Actions [M(S)CA] have been a key element of EU R&D policy across successive framework programmes
- MSCA Promotes / assists **international mobility** for researchers
- Estimated **100 000+ researchers** have benefitted from M(S)CA
- Need to ‘extend’ benefits beyond the formal contractual M(S)CA experience by creating an association – the MCAA in 2013



**The mission of the MCAA is to support the career development networking of its members, to promote science policy, and to advocate for research careers.**

*Marie Skłodowska-Curie (1867-1934)*

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions



## ITN Innovative Training Networks

### What does it offer?

High-quality research training delivered through international and interdisciplinary networks, industrial doctorates or joint doctorates

### Who applies?

International networks of research organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors

### Who is funded?

Researchers at doctoral level (less than four years of full-time research experience and no doctoral degree)

### Call details:

Opened: 2 September 2014

Closes: 13 January 2015

at 17.00.00 Brussels time

Budget: € 370 million



## IF Individual Fellowships

### What does it offer?

Opportunities to work on personal research projects by moving between countries and possibly sectors to acquire new skills

### Who applies?

Individual researchers together with the host organisation

### Who is funded?

Postdoctoral researchers

### Call details:

Opens: 12 March 2015

Closes: 10 September 2015

at 17.00.00 Brussels time

Budget: € 215 million



## RISE Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

### What does it offer?

The exchange of staff members involved in research and innovation to develop sustainable collaborative projects and the transfer of knowledge

### Who applies?

International networks of research organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors

### Who is funded?

Researchers, technical, administrative and managerial staff of any nationality and at all career levels

### Call details:

Opens: 6 January 2015

Closes: 28 April 2015

at 17.00.00 Brussels time

Budget: € 80 million



## COFUND Co-Funding of Regional, National and International Programmes

### What does it offer?

Regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development

### Who applies?

Organisations funding or managing doctoral programmes or fellowship programmes

### Who is funded?

Researchers at doctoral and postdoctoral level

### Call details:

Opens: 14 April 2015

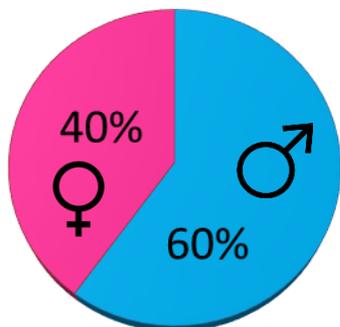
Closes: 1 October 2015

at 17.00.00 Brussels time

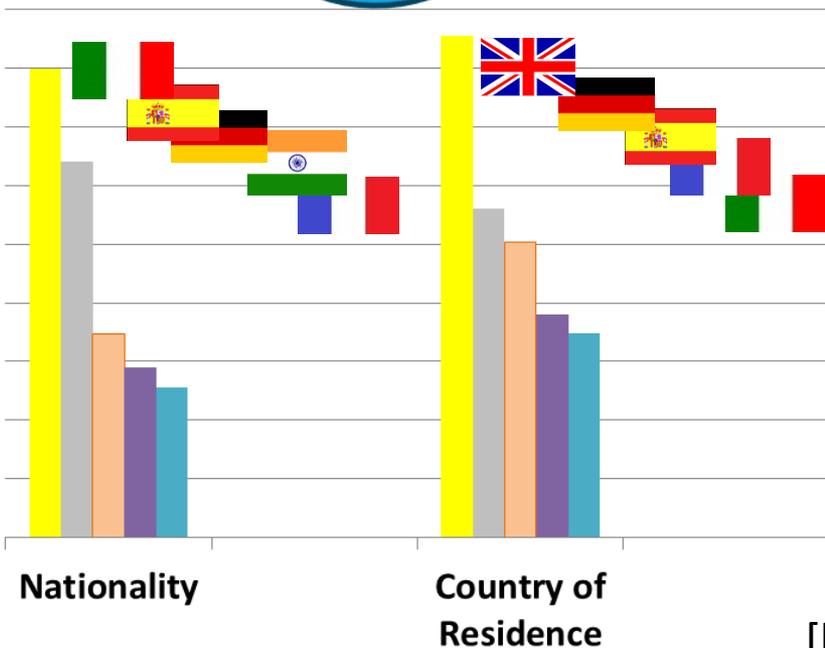
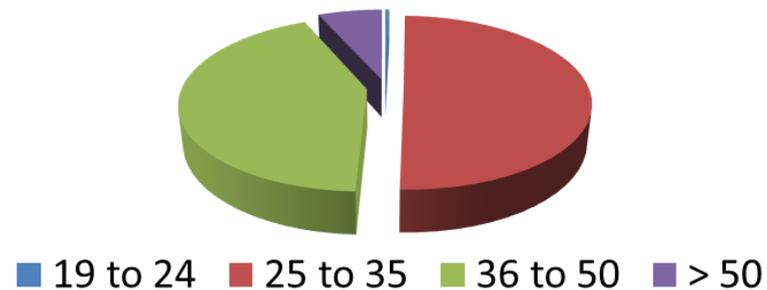
Budget: € 80 million

# MCAA Membership (over 10,000 members)

## Gender



## Age Group



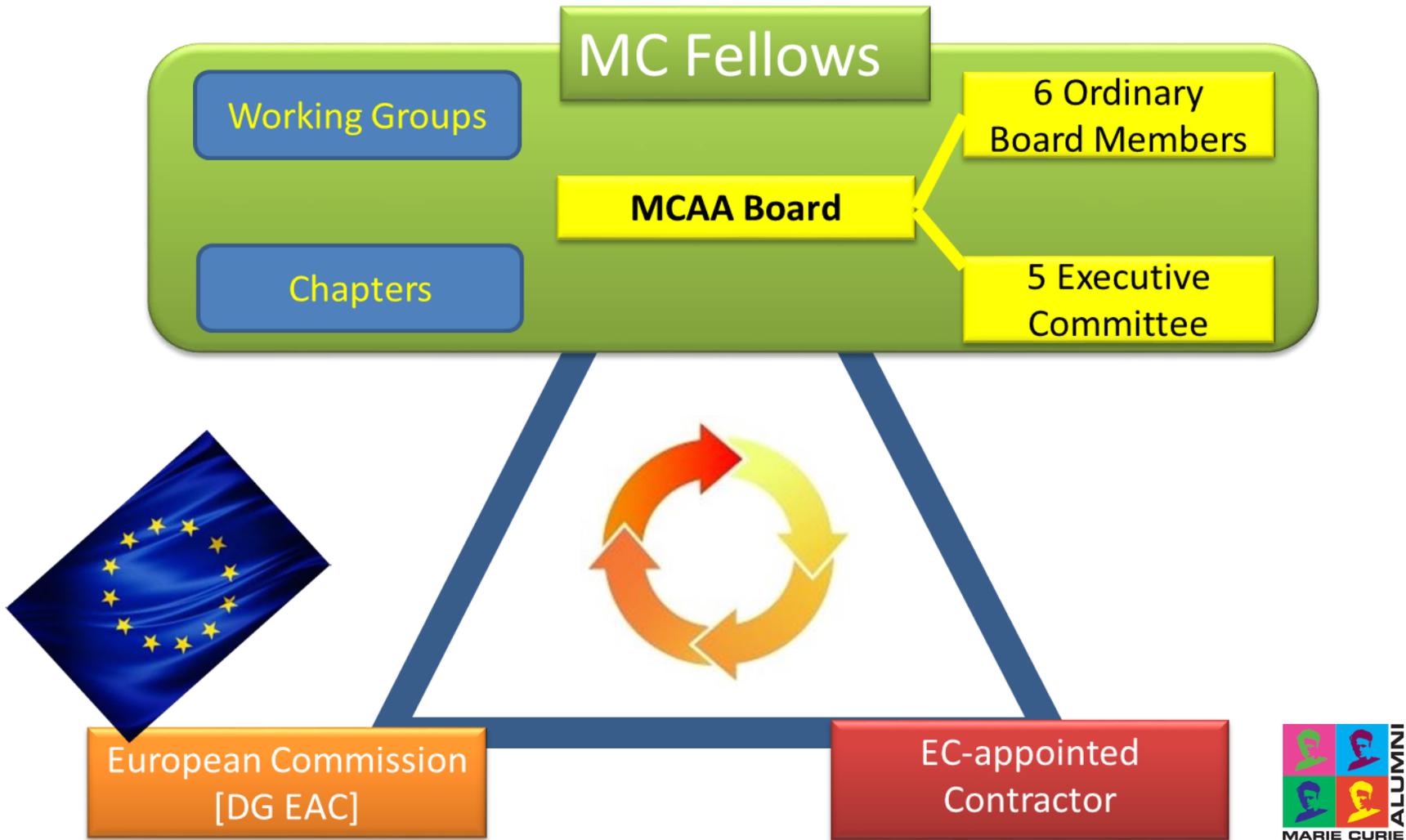
## Scientific Panel

- LIF
- ENG
- PHY
- SOC
- CHE
- ENV
- MAT
- ECO



[<https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/charts>]

# MCAA Structure



# MCAA Web Site

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<https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu>

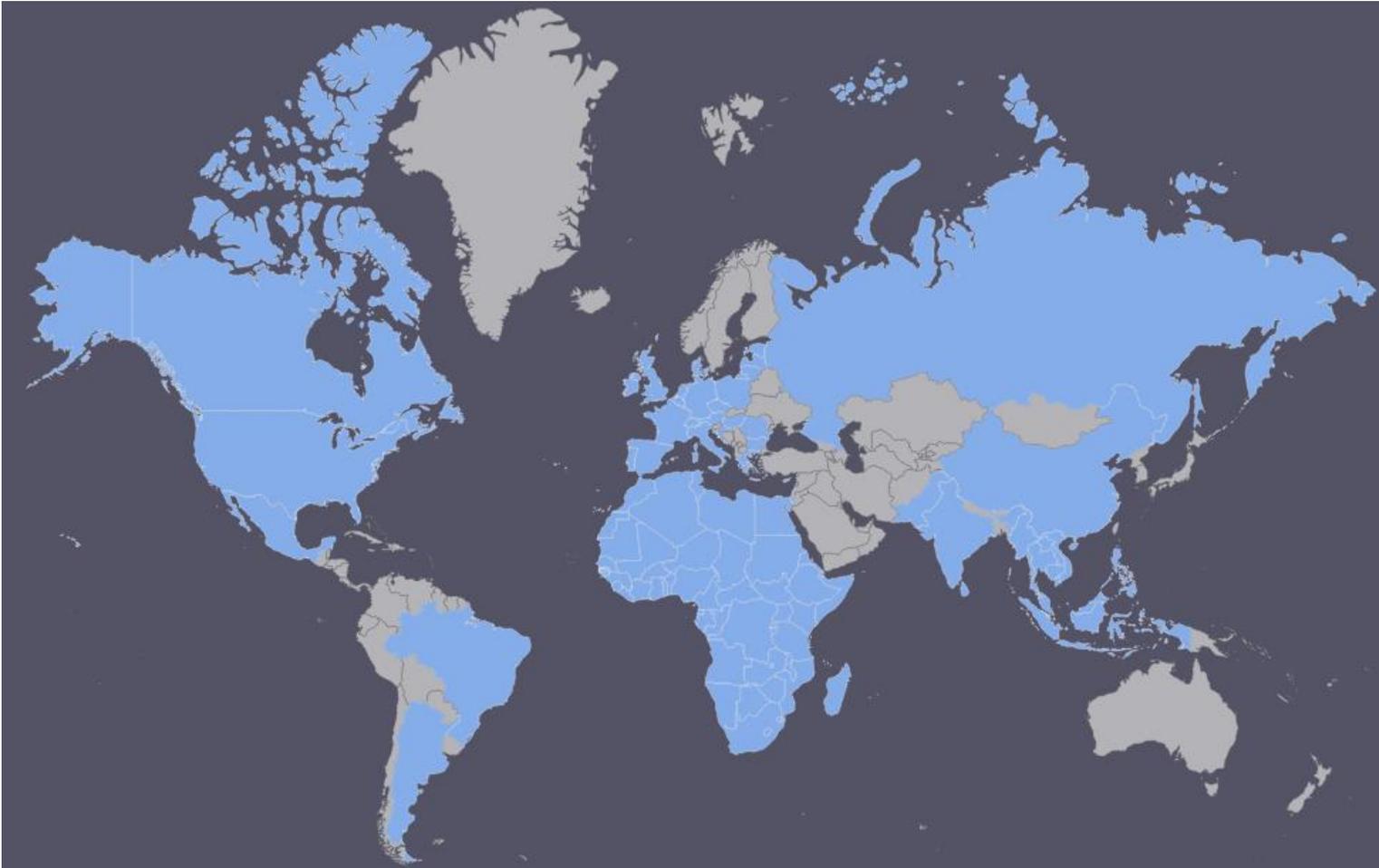


The screenshot shows the homepage of the Marie Curie Alumni Association. At the top, there is a blue header with the MCAA logo on the left, the text "MARIE CURIE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION" in the center, and "Sign up | Log in | Q" on the right. Below the header is a navigation bar with "HOME" highlighted and other menu items: "ABOUT US", "GROUPS", "EVENTS", "NEWS", and "JOBS". Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn are on the right. The main content area features a large image of a hand in a white glove holding a glowing orange test tube. A dark overlay on the left contains the heading "Services" and a paragraph: "If you have been, or are currently, involved in a Marie Curie Programme project, you may enjoy the benefits of MCAA membership. The on-line facilities currently offered are just a start, and preparations are in hand for a wider range of useful features, benefits and services for MCAA members." Below this is a yellow box with the text: "The Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA) is promoting an active community of researchers benefiting from the European Commission's Marie Curie programme. An Association providing high-quality services to enhance research and professional collaboration. Find out about our activities! Join us!"

Membership opens to current and past fellows, supervisors and coordinators  
Twitter [@Mariecurie\\_alum](#) LinkedIn Facebook YouTube



# Global Chapter Coverage



# European Chapter Coverage



# Western Balkans MCAA Group

Sign up | Log in | [f](#) [t](#) [in](#)



MARIE CURIE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Search



[HOME](#) [ABOUT US](#) [CHAPTERS & GROUPS](#) [EVENTS](#) [NEWS](#) [JOBS](#) [BLOG](#)

[MCAA](#) > [Groups](#) > [Western Balkans Group](#)

## Western Balkans Group

The Western Balkans Group has been created as a forum for interaction between MCAA members originating from, and/or currently based in, territories in the Western Balkans region [Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo (under UN Security Council Resolution 1244), FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia] where there is no existing MCAA Chapter.

The aim is to cooperate with a view to setting up a formal MCAA Chapter for this region, for which there are already well over 100 members in the MCAA:

Country	Nationality	Resident
Albania	11	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	15	3
FYR Macedonia	11	3
Montenegro	7	1
Serbia	86	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>28</b>

Moderated group  
[Join group](#)

## Membership

### Contributors



administrator member



Membership opens to current and past fellows, supervisors and coordinators from the Western Balkans.

Twitter [@MCAA\\_WB](#) (MCAA Western Balkans Group)



# Western Balkans MCAA Group

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- The Western Balkans Group has been created as a as a General Interest Group, which we hope will provide a forum for the **exchange of ideas, experience and best practice** across MCAA alumni from the Western Balkan region.
- The aim is to cooperate with a view to setting up a formal MCAA Chapter for this region, for which there are already well over 100 members in the MCAA.
- A secondary objective is to encourage other Marie Curie beneficiaries from, or based in, the region to join the MCAA, and to become involved in regional and international networking activities.
- We welcome suggestions on real-life issues that relate to both research and researchers working in the Western Balkan region. Through that, we can use our group to better support the key issues which the MCAA is focusing on.
- **The mission of the MCAA is to support the career development networking of its members, to promote science policy, and to advocate for research careers.**

# Working Groups



# ESOF 2018 Toulouse

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9-14 JULY 2018  
SHARING SCIENCE:  
TOWARDS NEW HORIZONS



MCAA has a very strong presence at the EuroScience Open Forum in Toulouse and lead 8 sessions and contribute to the MSCA Satellite event.



# Researcher Career Development

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**We support the career development of our members** regardless of whether they want to make career in academia, in industry or in some completely different role.



**dkfz.**  
GERMAN  
CANCER RESEARCH CENTER  
IN THE HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION  
Research for a Life without Cancer

Follow me  
#acadcd17

**Career Day Academia**

**Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
DKFZ, Communication Center

➔ **Register now: [www.dkfz.de/careerday](http://www.dkfz.de/careerday)**  
Get a copy of exclusive interview with P. Campbell (*Nature*)

IN COOPERATION  
WITH  
MARIE CURIE  
ALUMINI

WORKSHOPS Die Zeit/academics, DAAD, MCSA & CORBEL

## MCAA

- Runs events
- Runs surveys
- Gives Feedback to the Commission
- Advises Members
- Training
- Builds good relations with MSCA Projects



# Science Communication

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Science Slams



## STANDING UP FOR SCIENCE EU

Media and policy workshop  
Friday 10th November, 9am - 4pm,  
University of Warsaw

Standing Up For Science Workshops



European Researchers' Night



# Training Courses



**Critical thinking for Public Discourse**  
University of Amsterdam, 3rd and 24th November 2017  
[transkills.eu](http://transkills.eu)



**Communicating science**  
7-8 December



**Digital learning solutions  
for higher education**



Research



Teaching



Studying



Leadership  
and Management



# Bridging Science/Business

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Innovation and Technology Transfer are a topic that win great interest from our membership and are an important part of our focus.



Sciencepreneurship: Research is done.  
What's next?  
MCAA Austrian Chapter  
TU Wien



Joint Meeting of the MCAA Polish  
Chapter and Bridging Science Business  
Working Group  
Gdańsk



# MCAA GA and Annual Conference 2019

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## 6TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

RESEARCH  
AND  
INNOVATION  
BEYOND THE  
INFORMATION  
AGE



24 - 25  
FEBRUARY 2019

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

#MCAAGA2019



# MCAA GA and Annual Conference 2019

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MEET THE #MCAACONF19 SPEAKERS



**RADENKA  
KRSMANOVIĆ  
WHIFFEN**

SESSION  
**WIDENING  
PARTICIPATION  
IN MSCA**



MEET THE #MCAACONF19 SPEAKERS



**DALIBOR  
DRLJAČA**

SESSION  
**WIDENING  
PARTICIPATION  
IN MSCA**

## **WIDENING PARTICIPATION IN MSCA, SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**

**Speakers:** Dalibor Drljača, Radenka Krsmanović Whiffen, Sandra Vidović, Fernanda Bajanca, Maja Miše (moderator)

### **Session Description**

The interim evaluation of Horizon 2020 has provided insight into striking discrepancies between different participating countries and this gap affects excellent researchers that are still continuing to face intrinsic difficulties in participating in the programme. In the "Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation" document the Commission has identified these "low R&I performing" or "widening participation" countries and proposed different programs to bridge this gap.

The MCAA supports the process of "widening participation" of all EU countries within current and the next Horizon framework programme. In our panel discussion, with researchers coming from the "widening participation" countries, we will tackle the issues of different programs of "widening participation" and how they are affecting researcher from "widening countries". The aim of the discussion is to propose a set of recommendations to EU policymakers and national governments how to improve the current performance of the "widening countries".



# Widening Fellowships

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Consider the **Widening Fellowships** applications to the call for **MSCA-IF**, where the host organisation is located in an eligible widening country, will be automatically resubmitted to this call in case their proposal fails to reach an adequate place in the ranking to be funded in the regular MSCA-IF call.

## Widening countries

**Member States:** Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

**Associated Countries:** Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, North Macedonia, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine.

# Thank you for your attention

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Without science there's  
no knowledge and  
without knowledge  
there's no democracy!  
I invite all scientists  
to be vocal about the  
importance to invest  
in fundamental science.

Carlos Moedas - #ESOF2018 Toulouse

