Disclaimer:

This is a discussion, we have some slides but please interrupt us ☺

We are not specialists but we have a certain experience, don't hesitate to share yours!

To keep track of the questions, please write them on this pad

ERC main grants

ERC fundings, depending on PI (Principal investigator) experience:

- 2 to 7 years after phD: Starting grant - 1.5M€ for 5 years
- 7 to 12 years after phD: Consolidator grant - 2M€ for 5 years
- 'Active researchers who have a track-record of significant research achievements in the last 10 years': Advanced grant - 2.5M€ for 5 years
- Eligibility periods can be extended in case of maternity/paternity, long-term illness....
- Grants fundings include 25% of indirect costs

You can apply even if you don't have a permanent position ! You can choose your host institution.

ERC fundings for collaboration of 2 to 4 PI:

- Synergy grant – up to 10M€ for 6 years
- Not every year

We'll concentrate on starting and consolidator grants

Application:

- Part A: administrative form (budget, description of resources,..) : you should get help on that from your HI (usually, the ‘Service Partenariat et Valorisation‘ of your deleguation regionale)
- Part B1:
  - Extended synopsis of scientific proposal (max 5 pages)
  - CV (max 2 pages)
  - Early achievements track-record (max 2pages)
- Part B2: scientific proposal (max 15 pages)

Evaluation process:

- Step 1: Panel members evaluate part B1. If rank A -> Step 2.
- Step 2: Evaluation of Part B1, B2 and budget by panel members and external evaluators + interview by Panel members.
- If you have been ranked B (or C) at step 1, you can’t apply for 1 (or 2) years ☹

Criteria:

The "scientific excellence" evaluation criterion will be applied in conjunction of both:(i) the ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility of the research project, and, (ii) the intellectual capacity, creativity and commitment of the PI.

Some statistics

Granted/evaluated projects for PE2 (Fundamental Constituents of Matter: Particle, nuclear, plasma, atomic, molecular, gas, and optical physics)
Numbers in () are France only

	2018	2019
Starting	20 / 151 (3/15)	17 / 124 (2/11)
Consolidator	12 / 101 (4/19)	14 / 106 (4/16)
Advanced	8 / 73 (1/6)	10 / 100 (2/9)

Some advices (based on my experience)

- You don’t necessarily have to have an incredibly original idea to apply to ERC grant (difficult in our field..) but you have to demonstrate you are the best personne to do what you propose

- It’s certainly worth waiting the good moment in your carrier to write an ERC proposal since the CV has a large weight in the evaluation process: result with high impact, talk in international conference, prize...

- The ERC application is not much more painful than an ANR one, so if you have a good idea and a good CV, go for it

- Where to find help to write the proposal?
  - Ask their proposals to some successful applicants
  - Ask people who have some experience in your field and grant applications to comment your draft

Q&A

- Where to find information?
  - https://erc.europa.eu/
  - In particular, check the guide for applicants (it changes every year!)
  - In your lab, DR or University (e.g AMU organizes coaching sessions)

- Should I rely on IN2P3/INP ?
  - Not really for step 1 (although you should let them know that you apply!)
  - IN2P3 organizes practice interviews if you passed step 1
  - More info : https://in2p3.cnrs.fr/fr/international - https://inp.cnrs.fr/fr/international

- Who are the panel members ?
  - You can know only the members of the previous years here, but you know the chair

- Please ask your question here: https://etherpad.in2p3.fr/p/ANR%2FERC_Q%26A