

Preliminary Information on the forthcoming 2024 Call for Applications to MSCA4Ukraine

With a recent top up of €10 million from the European Commission, the MSCA4Ukraine initiative will be able to support additional researchers displaced from Ukraine. Due to technical issues, the second call for applications is delayed and expected to be published in June 2024. Please find below key information and tentative timeframe of the call. For future updates, kindly subscribe to our mailing list. Please refrain from sending any specific enquiries via email until the full call information is published.

Furthermore, a launch event and info day will be held on 14 June 2024, from 14.00h to 16.00h CEST. Please visit this webpage for further information and to register for the event.

Key information:

- **Applicant organisation:** Applications must be submitted by prospective host organisations on behalf of displaced researchers from Ukraine (candidates). Host organisations can be academic or non-academic organisations in any EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country. Organisations located in Ukraine are not eligible to apply as primary host organisations but can host researchers during a secondment arrangement.
- **Eligibility of the candidates:**
 - a. Candidates are (1) Ukrainian nationals, or (2) stateless persons, or (3) nationals from third countries other than Ukraine, with their primary residence in Ukraine on 24 February 2022.
 - b. Candidates have been displaced from Ukraine on or after 24 February 2022.
 - c. Current and former MSCA4Ukraine fellows are not eligible to be nominated.
 - d. Candidates are
 - (1) postdoctoral researchers at the date of the call deadline, i.e. in a possession of a doctoral degree (PhD or кандидат наук). Applicants who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but who have not yet formally been awarded the doctoral degree are considered as postdoctoral researchers and eligible to apply. The successful defence must be unconditional (no further requirements/corrections that need to be addressed) and take place before the call deadline. Supporting documentation may be requested.

Or

(2) researchers who, on or after 24 February 2022, were enrolled as doctoral candidates at a higher educational institution in Ukraine.

e. Candidates have the language skills required to successfully conduct their research activities at the envisaged host organisation, as confirmed by the host organisation in the application.

- **Mentor:** Any individual academic mentor can only support one application.
- **Disciplines:** MSCA4Ukraine fellowships are open to all domains of research and innovation.
- **Duration:** Fellowships will be awarded for a minimum of 6 months, up to a maximum of 24 months.
- **Value:** Fellowship rates will be in line with those of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Doctoral Networks (p. 75) and MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (p. 83) as specified in the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. Host organisations will receive the same monthly contribution of EUR650 towards institutional management costs, and EUR1,000 towards research, training and networking costs, per fellow, regardless of whether they host doctoral or postdoctoral fellows.
- **Number of awards:** We expect to award approximately 50 fellowships.
- **Evaluation process:** In case of a large volume of applications (over 200), a two-stage evaluation process may be implemented. In this case, during the first stage, application outline and statements of the mentor and of the host organisation will be evaluated by external experts with expertise in broad research areas within one of ten pre-selection review panels. All applications, or in the event of a large volume of applications received, a sub-set of the applications short-listed after the first evaluation stage, will be fully evaluated in the second stage, with the full application proposal being evaluated by external evaluators with subject-specific expertise. In case of a two-stage evaluation process, those applications that were not short-listed will not be fully evaluated.

Tentative timeframe:

- **June:**
 - Call information and call documents, including the Terms of Reference for Applicants, are published on the MSCA4Ukraine website.
 - June 14th, 14:00h-16:00h CEST: Launch webinar and Info-day
 - June 20th, 11:00h-12:30h CEST, and June 24th, 14:00-15:30h CEST: Q&A webinars for potential applicants (no registration is required, access link will be provided at <https://sareurope.eu/msca4ukraine/information-for-applicants/>.)
- **August 5th:** Online portal open for submission of applications. Access link will be provided at <https://sareurope.eu/msca4ukraine/information-for-applicants/>. Additional Q&A webinar(s) for potential applicants will be organised.
- **September 5th:** By 23.59h CEST, the online portal will close and no further application submissions will be accepted. In case of a large volume of applications, a two-stage evaluation process may be implemented.

- **September:** Decision to carry out one- or two-stage evaluation process, depending on the volume of applications received, will be communicated via the programme website.
- **October 2024 - February 2025:** Evaluation and selection process.
- **December** (in case a two-stage evaluation process is being implemented): The outcomes of the first stage of the evaluation will be communicated.
- **March 2025:** Selection committee meeting and fellowship offers.
- **April-June 2025:** Expected start of the fellowships.
- Applicants from the reserve list will be offered funding should any awarded fellowship offers be declined, until all available funds have been disbursed.

As preparations for the second MSCA4Ukraine call for project proposals are currently in progress, we kindly ask to refrain from sending any queries on the forthcoming call until further notice.