





ERAF projekts Nr. 1.1.1.5/1/24/I/001 "Atbalsts Latvijas dalībai starptautiskās pētniecības un inovācijas programmās"



The European Research Council (ERC) Proposal Writing Training

Agenda | Advanced ERC Proposal Writing Training:

Date: 27th May 2025

Duration: 09:00 to 17:00 Latvia Time

Location: Riga/Latvia

09:00 - 09:45 | Introduction to ERC - Frontier Research & Ambitious Nature

- Overview of ERC grant schemes (StG, CoG, AdG, SyG)
- Key factors to consider before applying
- What is frontier research?
- ERC's bottom-up approach & project vision
- Choosing the right scientific panel
- Eligibility of Principal Investigators & Host Institutions
- ERC evaluation process: structure, criteria & scoring system

09:45 – 10:30 | Scientific Excellence - Foundation of a Competitive Proposal

- The central role of scientific excellence in ERC success
- Presenting a visionary, original, and bold scientific idea
- Validating the frontier research and ambitious nature of your proposal
- · Demonstrating ambition & originality
- Building a compelling narrative

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 | Profile of a Principal Investigator

- Building a Strong PI Profile & Track record by grant type
- Demonstrating independence and leadership
- Highlighting career achievements and potential

Tips for presenting your CV and Early Achievements

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:30 | Structuring the Scientific Proposal: Strategy & Content Mastery

- Effectively structuring Part B1 and Part B2
- Positioning your proposal in the state of the art

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- Crafting a strong hypothesis, clear objectives, and solid methodology
- Implementation strategy, impact, and risk mitigation
- Open science, data management, and ethics considerations
- Budget planning, resource justification, team structure

Hands-On Analysis of selected samples from successful proposals

15:30 - 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 16:30 | Preparing for the ERC Interview

- Interview format and expectations
- Best practices for presenting your project
- Common panel questions and how to respond confidently
- Communicating ambition, clarity, and leadership

16:30 - 17:00 | Questions & Answers 17:00 | End of Training

Trainer: Jitka Eryilmazova, Ph.D.



Jitka Eryilmazova, Ph.D., is the Director of the Horizon Europe Pre-Awards Services at EFMC (European Fund Management Consulting) in Estonia and the CEO of EFMC in the Czech Republic. She has also served as a **Senior Expert Evaluator** and Project Monitor, appointed by the European Commission. Jitka has extensive experience as an Expert Evaluator for Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe, where she reviewed proposals for both individual and collaborative programs from 2016 to 2022.

Jitka holds a First-Class BSc in Medicinal Chemistry from the University of Hertfordshire and a Ph.D. in Structural Biology from Birkbeck College, University of London. She has been honoured with prestigious awards, including the Mary Radcliffe Prize in Medicinal Chemistry and the Chemistry Prize for exceptional academic performance.

With over 18 years of experience spanning both industry and academia, she brings a strong foundation in life sciences, encompassing Biology, Chemistry, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Crystallography, Nanotechnology, Smart Materials, and Environmental Science. Her career includes roles at prominent institutions such as the University of London, the University of Toronto, Sabancı University, and global companies like GSK and the Structural Genomics Consortium.

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Jitka has supervised numerous Ph.D. and M.Sc. students, published over 50 refereed articles and patents, and coordinated multiple international projects, many of which received prestigious funding from organizations such as the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, FP7, Horizon 2020, and TÜBITAK.