



Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend
Nederland



10 years of ERC grants

**A success story for the
Netherlands**



10 years of ERC: A European success story

- Around **7,000 “Principal Investigators”** and over 50,000 team members funded with **€12 billion Euro**
- **6 Nobel Prizes**, 4 Fields Medals and dozens of important prizes awarded to ERC grantees
- **100,000 articles** published in scientific journals, including over 3,000 articles in the 1% most cited scientific journals
- Over 180 researchers **moved to Europe** with the ERC grant, of which most are returning Europeans.
- ERC projects have led to over **800 patent applications** and over 75 new ventures



10 years of ERC: A Dutch success story



Over **1 billion euro** awarded to Dutch institutions



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NL ranks 4th in number of granted ERC projects, with **672 ERC projects** awarded



Attracting **181 top talents** from abroad



74 Projects exploring **Commercial Application**



Projects **ranging** from **black holes** to understanding **positive emotions**



Statistics – *Success rates*

		Success rates	
		EU	NL
StG	2015	12,2%	
	2016	13,0%	
CoG	2015	14,9%	
	2016	13,6%	
AdG	2014	8,5%	
	2015	14,4%	



Statistics – *Success rates*

		Success rates	
		EU	NL
StG	2015	12,2%	19,4%
	2016	13,0%	16,8%
CoG	2015	14,9%	23,8%
	2016	13,6%	19,9%
AdG	2014	8,5%	12,2%
	2015	14,4%	17,8%





ERC @Leiden

(awarded)

33 Starting Grants

10 Consolidator Grants

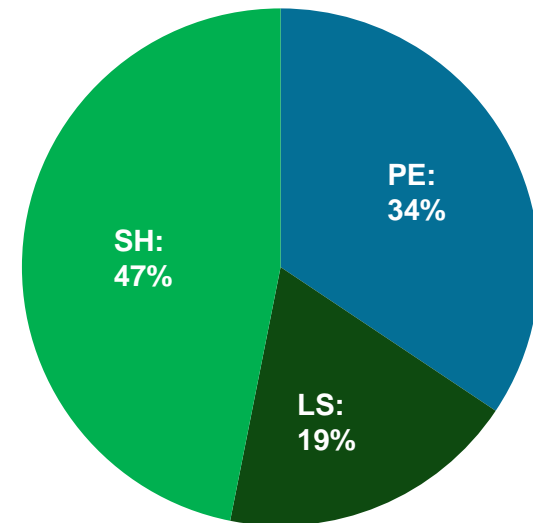
21 Advanced Grants

6 Proof of Concept Grants

→ 47% in SH

most awarded areas:

- PE 9 'Universe Sciences' (8 projects) and PE5 'Synthetic Chemistry and Materials' (6 projects)
- SH6 'The Study of the Human Past' (12 projects) and SH4 'The Human Mind and Its Complexity' (8 projects)
- LS7 'Diagnostics, Therapies, Applied Medical Technology and Public Health' (7 projects)





Synergy Grant: A Dutch (*and* Leiden) Success Story

Aim: to address ambitious research questions that can only be answered by the coordinated work of a small group of PIs

2012-2013: two pilot Synergy grant calls

- 1,5-3% success rate: only 24 projects selected
- 5 Dutch projects successful;
- 7 Dutch host institutes involved;
- Leiden researchers part of two different Synergy Grants!

Draft Work Programme 2018: a new SyG call!

- Indicative budget: **250 M€**
- To select **25-30 projects**
- Calls foreseen on a **yearly basis**



Synergy Grant 2018: Key aims

Enabling PIs to bring together complementary skills, knowledge, and resources in new ways, to jointly address ambitious research problems:

- to promote substantial advances at the **frontiers** of knowledge
- to **cross-fertilize** scientific fields
- to encourage **new** productive lines of enquiry and new methods and techniques at the **interface** between established disciplines
- Research not only at the forefront of European science but also **a benchmark on a global scale**
- Research that could lead to **breakthroughs not possible** by the individual PIs **working alone**



Synergy Grant 2018: Key features

- **2 or 3 or 4 PIs**
- **No location** constraints:
 - PIs can come from the same corridor in one HI, different HIs within one country, or from different countries (within EU or AC)
- Budget of up to **10 M€ per project**
 - additional 4 M€ more in case of PI moving to EU, purchase of major equipment and/or access to large facilities
- **≥30%** of working time on the ERC project

- Indicative call opening: 19 July 2017
- Indicative call closure: **14 November 2017**
- Proposals to be evaluated between November 2017 and September 2018.



Bezint eer ge begint.. (look before you leap!)

ERC foresees SyG to be a highly competitive call

- only exceptional proposals are likely to be funded that show ambition and joint effort

'Synergy' is not simply a successful collaboration

- The interaction needs to yield more than just the sum of the individual parts

Tough future restrictions on submissions planned

- Think twice before applying: PIs evaluated with a **C score in 2018** will **not** be able to apply to **any** ERC call in 2019!



Thank you!

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