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EURAXESS LINKS JAPAN

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the first 2015 EURAXESS Links Japan newsletter!

This year EURAXESS Links Japan will further commit to providing information and networking services useful to all researchers and stakeholders interested in Japan-Europe mobility and cooperation. We will hold a number of events, information days and seminars to answer the needs of Japanese and foreign researchers in Japan. Check out our website or the ELJ activities section of this newsletter for more details!

This Newsletter is also intended as a **communication tool with you all**, so please **do not hesitate to contact us** at japan@euraxess.net for comments, corrections or if you want to advertise for a particular funding scheme or event.

We will also put effort into improving the contents and readability of this newsletter and of our on-line content. As usual, your comments are valued, and we welcome any information on relevant funding, event or cooperation activity you may want to share with the community!

This edition will provide you with the latest news, developments and funding opportunities in and between Europe and Japan; along with information on jobs and events of interest. Lots of events upcoming in Japan this month-- please check the relevant section!

This month's EU insight will focus on the issue of innovation in the Union, in particular the introduction of two new measures to support SMEs and the speed with which new ideas are brought to market.

Please also remember that there is still time for you to [complete our brief satisfaction survey](#). We are looking forward to your feedback on our services!

Enjoy the reading!

Wishing you a successful month ahead,

Matthieu PY | EURAXESS Links Japan Country Representative | japan@euraxess.net





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EURAXESS Links Japan Newsletter is a monthly electronic newsletter, edited by EURAXESS Links Japan, which provides information of specific interest to European researchers in Japan and Japanese researchers who are interested in the European research landscape and conducting research in Europe or with European partners.

The information contained in this publication is intended for personal use only. It should not be taken in any way to reflect the views of the European Commission nor of the Delegation of the European Union to Japan.

Please email:

japan@euraxess.net for any comments on this newsletter, contributions you would like to make, if you think any other colleagues would be interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you wish to unsubscribe.

Editor: Matthieu PY

EURAXESS Links Japan

Country Representative



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1 EU Insight – Fast-Tracking Innovation in the EU:

As one of the central objectives outlined by the European Union, innovation plays a major role in assuring the Union's continued growth and well-being. This fact is underscored by its prominent inclusion in Horizon 2020, the current framework programme for research and innovation in Europe (2014-2020), as well as through the numerous actions and initiatives designed to ensure its fostering and support. The recent introduction of two new measures aimed at bolstering innovation—the Fast Track to Innovation (FTI) initiative and the release of additional grants under the SME Instrument—demonstrate the depth of this commitment.

Accelerating the Pace

On 9 January 2015, the European Commission, operating under the premise of speeding up the time it takes to bring original and unique ideas to market, launched its new [Fast Track to Innovation \(FTI\) pilot initiative](#). European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, Carlos Moedas outlined the initiative as focused on “help[ing] highly innovative businesses in Europe reach the finish line faster, [by] attracting more private investors to European research and innovation...”.^{1,2} As a component of Horizon 2020, and while firmly rooted in the Societal Challenges priority area of the framework programme, FTI supports a broad spectrum of innovative actors (especially those stemming from industry) to come together, regardless of topic, with the aim of bringing mature, innovative concepts to market as quickly as possible. Scheduled to run over two years (2015-2016), FTI is supported by a budget of EUR 200 million, with continuation of the initiative after this period contingent upon evaluation of initial outcomes.

Similar to other Horizon 2020 initiatives, the pilot will be implemented via a single, continuous open call with three cut-off dates occurring over the course of the initiative.³ Projects eligible for funding must be “business driven” and those

¹Ready, set, innovate: Commission steps up support to innovative companies [Press release]. European Commission, (9 January 2015); http://ec.europa.eu/commission/2014-2019/moedas/announcements/ready-set-innovate-commission-steps-support-innovative-companies_en

²Building a new innovation fast track to bring ideas to market quicker [Press Release]. European Commission, (9 January 2015); <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2015&na=na-090115>

³The three announced cut-off dates for proposal submissions are: **29 April 2015, 1 September 2015, and 1 December 2015.**



comprised of “mature innovative concepts that have been tested in an operational environment”,⁴ notably those concerning “systems validation in real working conditions, testing, piloting, business model validation as well as standard setting and pre-normative research”⁵ are particularly welcome.

Along with the FTI initiative, innovation within the Union will be supported by an additional EUR 117 million in new grants⁶ under the preexisting SME Instrument programme.⁷ Just as with the FTI initiative, money offered through this programme is specifically allocated for the operation of businesses, small and medium-sized in nature to help “finance innovation activities..., the development of their business plans or feasibility studies” associated with their projects. In total, 275 SMEs, identified for their high growth potential have been selected to benefit from this grant money following the end of the second phase.⁸

Through the SME Instrument, the European Union wants to finance the most innovative small companies with the potential for high growth. The Instrument itself is worth approximately EUR 3 billion over seven years. Furthermore, investment-ready concepts can benefit from business development advice and other services.

Application for grants available under the SME Instrument programme is easy, but only the very best projects will receive funding. Eligible topics are listed under the [Horizon 2020 Work Programme on 'Innovation in SMEs'](#). SMEs stemming from EU Member States or Associated Countries (ACs) are eligible to apply. More than 1,300 projects are expected to be funded over two years, beginning in 2014 and ending in 2015.

⁴ Building a new innovation fast track to bring ideas to market quicker [Press Release]. European Commission, (9 January 2015); <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2015&na=na-090115>

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Commission supports innovative SMEs with €117 million in new grants [Press release]. European Commission, (9 January 2015); <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2015&na=na-090115-2>

⁷ To date, the full amount of funding allocated to the SME Instrument launched under Horizon 2020 is €3 billion. With the addition of the most recent grants, the total amount of funding specifically destined for “innovative” companies is €125 million, a cumulative total based on the first two stages of the programme.

⁸ The SME Instrument programme went into effect on 1 January 2014.



2 EURAXESS Links Japan activities

2.1 EURAXESS Share Kyushu 2015

EURAXESS Share Kyushu 2015
Kyushu's networking event for researchers and research administrators involved in Japan-Europe cooperation

Learn about research opportunities in Europe, Japan and between the two
EURAXESS Links Japan, the EU Delegation to Japan as well as EUJ-Kyushu will provide you with a short overview of the research landscape and collaboration possibilities between Japan and Europe.

Get insights from researchers mobile between Europe and Japan
Learn from the experience of a Japanese researcher involved in research cooperation or mobility schemes with Europe and of a European researcher based in Kyushu.

Make new contacts in your community!
Free event open to PhD students, post-docs, senior researchers or research administrators from all fields!
Drinks and food on the house!!

REGISTRATION OPENING SOON!
APRIL 15, 2015
5:30PM - 8:00PM
JR HAKATA STATION CONFERENCE ROOM

Organised by:
EURAXESS Links Japan

With support from:
EUJ-Kyushu

Following the **success of the pilot “EURAXESS Share” event held in Osaka** last November, we are proud to announce that the series of events will continue, with the **next edition to be held in Hakata, Kyushu on 15 April**.

Researchers (including PhD candidates), administrators and stakeholders are more than welcome to attend this event, which will be a great opportunity to **learn about EURAXESS support services in Japan, about European programmes for cooperation and mobility in research, and about Japan-Europe opportunities in your domain**.

Stay tuned for further announcements in this newsletter, on our dedicated website: sharekyushu2015.splashthat.com or on social media with the hashtag #ShareKyushu2015!

2.2 EURAXESS Links Satisfaction Survey 2014

Dear EURAXESS Links community members!

EURAXESS Links would like to hear from you on how we can further improve our services to keep you updated about research mobility opportunities.

We would appreciate you taking the time to please take our brief user survey, which is designed to help us to better understand what you need. The survey should take between 3-5 minutes to complete.

Link to survey: <https://secure.pt-dlr.de/pt-survey/index.php?sid=79264&lang=en>

Thank you very much for your feedback!

Your EURAXESS Links Team



3 News & Developments

3.1 EU, Member States and Associated Countries

3.1.1 Europe's Framework Programmes – a key element of research policy in Europe

The First Framework Programme for research funding started in 1984.



Research has a long history in Europe, but the emergence of what is now **the European Union has created a novel concept of European research**. Over recent decades, it has gradually acquired the sense of **deliberate collaboration between European countries** linking first their research activities, then their policies in this field.

This wasn't always the case. In the 1950s, early EU research funding was limited to a few industrial sectors: coal, steel and atomic energy. In the decades that followed, separate research programmes were launched in energy, environment and molecular biology.

When Étienne Davignon became the European Commissioner for Industrial Affairs and Energy in 1981, he decided to rationalise these initiatives by putting them together in a single coherent framework. **From its debut in 1984, the Framework Programme has expanded in scope and scale** – matching the evolution of the EU itself. Its legal basis was strengthened and its objectives were refined and extended. **In 1986, the Single European Act included for the first time a specific chapter on research.**

As the **EU enlarged, candidate countries had the chance to participate in research collaborations** through the Framework Programmes, sometimes years before they became members. That process culminated in the **opening of all EU research programmes** to the participation of **teams from non-EU countries**. In recent years, the Framework Programmes have also pioneered the creation of large joint undertakings that bring public and private actors together in subject-specific partnerships. Schemes for collaboration between public national research organisations and programmes have also been set up.



As they have evolved, the **Framework Programmes** have enabled **better coordination of research between the European Commission and national governments**. Member States have gradually increased the level of research coordination and the growing scale and scope of the Framework Programmes has been instrumental in this. A key step in this respect was, **in early 2000, the launch of the European Research Area (ERA) initiative**.

The **impact of the Framework Programmes** is clearly visible in 30 years of cross-border collaborations between Europe's scientists, in the **rise in research activity across Europe** – particularly in the newer Member States – and in the emergence of an **increased reflex for cooperation among researchers** and heads of research organisations in Europe.

After 30 years of development, the **EU's Framework Programmes** have become a **key element of research policy in Europe**.

Source: [Horizon Magazine](#)

3.1.2 Framework Programmes have shown the vanity of borders

Etienne Davignon,
European
Commissioner for
Industrial Affairs and
Energy 1981-1985 and
Vice-President of the
Commission, played a
key role in setting up
the Framework
Programmes.



The **Framework Programmes** have given Europe a leading role in science, showing that more things can be achieved by countries working together than alone, according to **Étienne Davignon, European Commissioner for Industrial Affairs and Energy 1981-1985 and a former vice-president of the Commission, who introduced the First Framework Programme in 1984**.

- When you look back over the last three decades, what were the crucial turning points in the development of the Framework Programmes?

'The crucial points came in the early years. The first is the acceptance by the scientific community of the utility of a European programme, and I think this is important because if you don't have the support of those who are active, then you don't have the legitimacy of your ambition. The second is overcoming the reluctance of Member States to understand why European programmes are useful for them.'



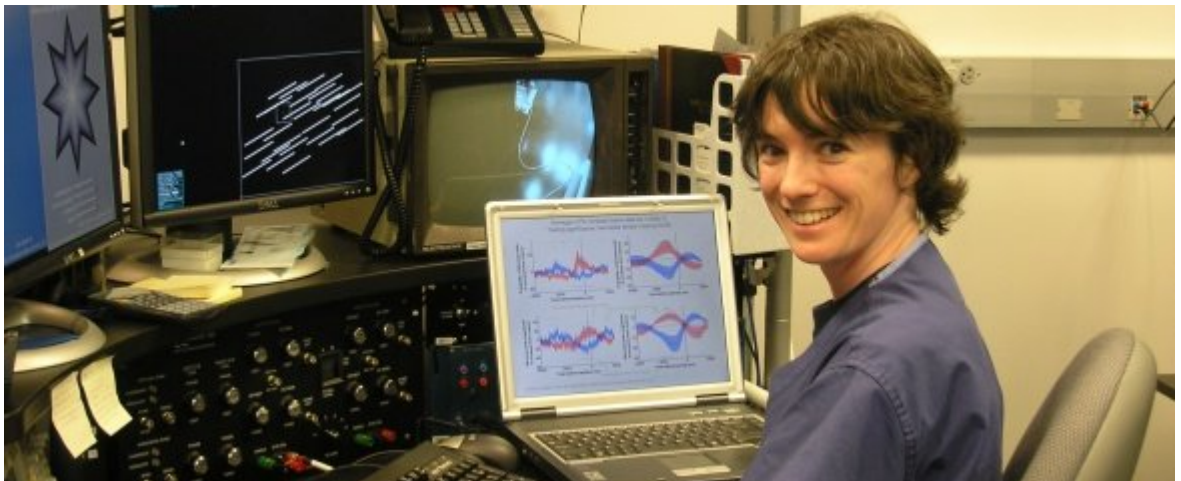
- *When you look at Europe today, what part of it has been shaped by the Framework Programmes?*

'The Framework Programmes are still a small percentage of the totality of research funding which is being spent, so you can't say that they have been a fundamental shaping factor. But, on the other hand, **they have clearly demonstrated the vanity of national borders** and, in that sense, they have not shaped but simply confirmed that you can do things better together than alone, and I think it was an important statement to re-make. It is also an element which gives **credibility to the fact that scientifically Europe is strong**. With globalisation there is a lot of feeling that Europe is on the losing side. The Framework Programmes have shown that a lot of important things can be done.'

Source: [Horizon Magazine](#)

3.1.3 The researchers who crossed borders for science

Dr Xoana Troncoso has worked in Spain, the UK and the US in her field, neuroscience. Image ©Marie Curie Actions.



In **recent decades, researchers have travelled abroad in greater and greater numbers**, and it's helped a generation of scientists learn from each other.

'In terms of research it is quite important that you are exposed to different ways of working, different people and different cultures, because in the end research is highly collaborative and interdisciplinary,' said Spanish neuroscientist Dr Xoana Troncoso. **'If you stay in the same place throughout your career you are going to miss things that you didn't even know existed.'**

Dr Troncoso first travelled from Galicia in Spain to the UK to complete her PhD studies, and then **went to the United States** where she held two postdoctoral research positions. In 2012, **she received a Marie Curie award to come back to Europe** to study how the human brain uses vision to interpret motion at France's national science centre CNRS. Her research forms part of the EU's Future Emerging Technologies project BrainScaleS.



The EU has been helping researchers like Dr Troncoso since the early days of the Framework Programmes. **Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions** have been designed to **promote excellence in research by giving grants to scientists** who needed to **move country to further their careers**.

This programme **allows researchers at any stage of their career** – irrespective of their age or nationality or field of work – to **gain experience** in laboratories, universities, and non-academic settings provided that they are **internationally mobile**. **Mobility is a crucial requirement for scientists** given the hugely collaborative nature of science itself. Working in a research institution in another country can enrich a researcher's career although it is not always easy on a continent of such varying languages and cultures.

Still, along with its predecessor, **the MSCA programme has helped so far some 80,000 researchers** overcome these barriers. During the Seventh Framework Programme alone **it funded 10,000 PhDs**, being now a benchmark of excellence.

Source: [Horizon Magazine](#)

3.1.4 Final evaluation of the Eurostars Joint Programme

[Eurostars](#) is a programme that **supports research-performing small and medium enterprises**. Eurostars does this by **providing funding for transnational innovation projects**; the products of which are then rapidly commercialized. The Eurostars programme is publicly financed with a **total budget of EUR 1.14 billion** and is supported by 34 EUREKA countries and the European Union

The **final evaluation** of the Eurostars Joint Programme for the period 2008-2013 shows that R&D-performing SMES benefitted from the funding and support offered to them in many ways:

- For such companies, the **employment growth rate was twice as high** as that of similar non-funded companies. This resulted in the creation of approximately 8000 jobs;
- Participating SMEs showed **significantly increased innovative outputs**, as measured by patent filings - 42% higher;
- Almost 80% of awardees indicated that the Eurostars grant had a high importance with respect to **increased recognition or reputation of their firm**.

A total of **783 funded projects stemmed from 11,733 applicants in the programme's 10 calls** - an unexpected success for one of the first experiments in joint programming between the EU and national governments.

The success of the programme was such that **the European Commission together, with 34 EUREKA countries participating in the Eurostars programme committed, EUR 1.14 billion for the funding and operation of the Eurostars-2 SME programme under Horizon 2020**. This budget is about **three times higher than the original financial plan** outlined for Eurostars under the Framework Programme Seven.





The two first calls of Eurostars-2 have already taken place in 2014 and the **currently running call will end on 5 March 2015**, allowing European R&D SMEs to continue reaping the benefits of one of the best innovation support tools currently available to them.

Read the full evaluation report [here](#).

Source: [EUREKA Network](#)

3.1.5 European Research Area Progress Report 2014

The conclusions of the **European Research Area (ERA) Progress Report 2014** stress the **remaining efforts to be made towards the completion of the ERA**, which remains a gradual process. The EU Council urges Member States and research stakeholders to implement the necessary reforms to make the ERA fully operational.

An **ERA Roadmap at European level is due to be developed by mid-2015**. The document will outline a shared understanding of the ERA principles and concrete measures to implement them. It will define a set of tools and best practices in order to support Member States in implementing the ERA.

The Council also calls for the **synchronisation of future ERA reforms with other underlying changes in European research**: its **internationalisation** and the development of **joint programming**. Eurostars, one of the first and most successful joint programmes, is a good example of how joint efforts between the EU and the governments can improve the coordination of national research.

The Council **encourages the strengthening of the internationalisation of research activities outside of Europe**, calling for a strategic redefinition of internationalisation as 'a specific priority of the ERA.'

Read the full report [here](#)

Source: [EUREKA Network](#)

3.2 Japan

3.2.1 R&D expenditure up 5% in JFY2013

In December 2014 the Statistics Bureau of Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) published a report on its annual survey of R&D in Japan, conducted in mid-May, 2014.

The results showed that **Japanese total R&D expenditures for JFY2013 were JPY 18,133.6 billion** (EUR 134.3 billion), an **increase of 4.7% from the previous year**. This is the **biggest increase in the past 6 years** partly because of the decline in the past 4-5 years in overall expenditures. The **rate of**



R&D investment as a percentage of GDP was 3.75%, an increase in two years.

JFY	Total R&D (JPY billion)	Δ (%)	%GDP
2008	18,800.1	-0.8	3.84
2009	17,246.3	-8.3	3.64
2010	17,110.0	-0.8	3.56
2011	17,379.1	1.6	3.67
2012	17,324.6	-0.3	3.65
2013	18,133.6	4.7	3.75

Analysis of the sources of R&D expenditures showed that **80% is by industry sector**. It also showed an increase of 4% from the previous year in the private sector investment and 7% increase in the government source of R&D funds. **Foreign R&D expenditures in Japan showed an increase of as much as 23%** from the previous year, although it continued to remain an extremely small portion of total spending.

Survey of R&D expenditures by field showed that **life science and information technology continued to represent the largest percentages of expenditures**. The remarkable **increase of 34.5% in Marine Development** represented investments in finding resources in the deep sea and marine mechanisms that cause changes in the environment.

Finally, the **number of personnel involved in R&D** as of 31 March 2014 was 1,046,600, an **increase of 0.6%** over the previous year; with, also of note, the **ratio of female researchers increased to a record 14.6%** of the total.

Source: MIC (Japanese only), [NSF Tokyo Regional Office](#)

3.2.2 JFY2015 education budget requests: pushing for internationalisation of universities

In an article published on 15 January, the Nikkei Shimbun analysed the Japanese budget requests for education for JFY2015. The article indicates that particular attention will be brought to enhancing the quality of the advanced cycles in higher education. Indeed, **budget for internationalization of the universities**, such as nurturing of “global personnel”, university reforms towards globalisation as well as measures to reduce the burden of education expenses for low-income families were **reinforced** while **cuts were made to the number of teachers for elementary and junior high schools**. Here are a few examples of budget requests for 2015 for education:

- **JPY 7.7 billion** (EUR 57 million) for the **super global universities initiative** (same as previous year)
- Reforms to be made concerning operational grants for national universities (see “in brief”)
- **JPY 32.4 billion** (EUR 253 million) for **inviting researchers from overseas** to Japanese universities (+JPY6.1 billion from previous year)



- Reduction of the number of teachers for public elementary/junior high schools (-100 when taking out the natural reduction for the falling birth-rate)

Source: [Nikkei Shimbun](#) (Japanese only)

3.2.3 MEXT to reform its Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research system

MEXT's Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (Kakenhi) is one of the most fundamental governmental research grants which **sponsor wide research areas** ranging from natural sciences to social sciences. Researchers from **any country can apply**.

MEXT is considering **reform of this fund in 2015**, in close collaboration with CSTI along with the reform of operational grants for universities and research institutions. The reform will be included in the 5th Basic Plan starting JFY2016.

Kakenhi is the largest Japanese competitive funding in research. The **annual budget for JFY2014 was JPY 230 billion** (EUR 1.7 billion), although it suffered its first decrease the same year. Faced with a **tight budget**, MEXT is exploring **ways for a more optimal allocation**.

Kakenhi is currently categorised into 3,000 fields. Researchers must apply following this categorisation, making it difficult for researchers pioneering in a new field to apply for grants. MEXT will be setting up a task group to discuss a **fundamental reform of the Kakenhi programme in January 2015**, in cooperation with SCJ. Many items – from its **too detailed categorisation, screening, and evaluation methods** will be reconsidered. The **keyword will be “research that links to innovation”**.

Reforms are being considered also for operational grants to universities that are normally used for personnel and facilities. Since the incorporation of national universities, operational grants have been gradually reduced in the last 10 years.

Source: [Nikkei Shimbun](#) (Japanese only)

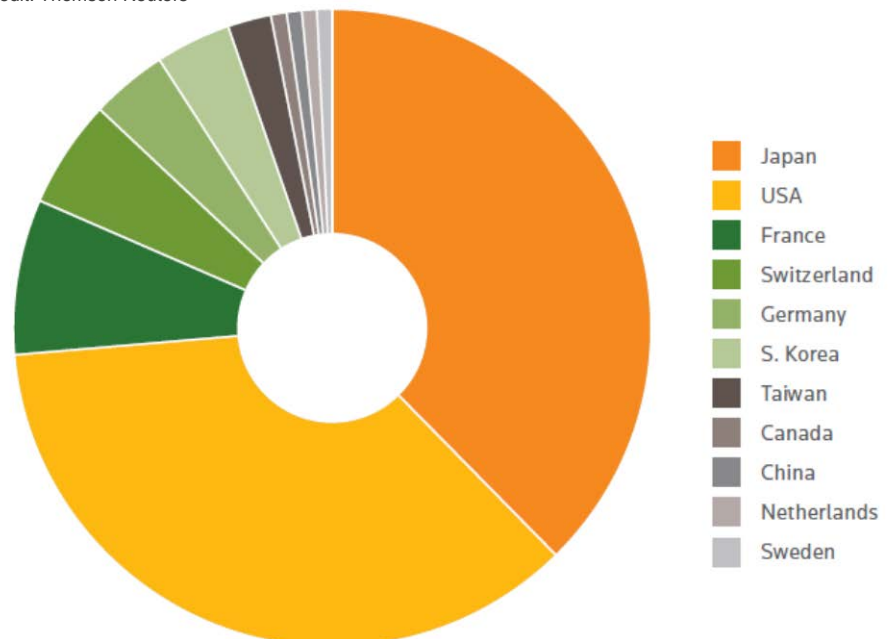
3.2.4 Japan first on Thomson Reuters' 2014 ranking of the Top 100 Global Innovators

The **Thomson Reuters Top 100 Global Innovators** index each year lists the most **innovative private companies**, based on a **comprehensive survey of their R&D and scientific output**; and particularly on patent applications volume, application success rate, globalisation of the portfolio (application to all four of Chinese, European, US and Japanese patent offices); and patent influence (number of citations).



GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF 2014 TOP 100 GLOBAL INNOVATORS

Credit: Thomson Reuters



For the first time since the inception of the Thomson Reuters Top 100 Global Innovators, **Asia takes the lead** in the global innovation landscape. Asia heads the list with **46 companies from this region**, comprising 39 from Japan, four from S. Korea, two from Taiwan and one from mainland China. **Japan's representation on this year's list jumped by 39 percent over 2013**, increasing from 28 to 39 organizations in just 12 months. Mainland China achieved its inaugural spot on the 2014 list, and both S. Korea and Taiwan increased representation. **Conversely, the U.S. and France both dropped in their standings**, from 45 to 35 and 12 to seven, respectively.

Japan's jump and the rise of Asia are **reflective of the focused innovation strategies** in these countries and the **percentages of GDP spent on R&D (3.75% in Japan in 2013)**.

Source: [Thomson Reuters 2014 top 1000 Global Innovators](#)

3.2.5 Hindered international research and declining productivity in Japanese universities

Although featuring a very innovative industrial market, **Japan lags behind the other advanced countries in internationalisation of its academia**.

Papers produced collaboratively across countries achieve higher citation rates and impact on a global scale. For example, data shows that there is a **50% increase in citations of papers with authors from more than one country**. The development has led to an increase in international collaboration in higher education.



Country	Articles	Share	Ranking
1999–2001 (average)			
US	240,912	31	1
Japan	73,844	9.5	2
UK	70,411	9.1	3
Germany	57,484	8.7	4
France	49,395	6.4	5
Italy	32,738	4.2	6
Canada	32,101	4.1	7
China	30,125	3.9	8
Russia	27,210	3.5	9
Spain	23,149	3	10
2009–2011 (average)			
US	308,745	268	1
China	138,457	12	2
Germany	86,321	75	3
UK	84,978	7.4	4
Japan	76,149	6.6	5
France	63,160	5.5	6
Italy	52,100	4.5	7
Canada	50,798	4.4	8
Spain	43,773	3.8	9
India	43,144	3.7	10

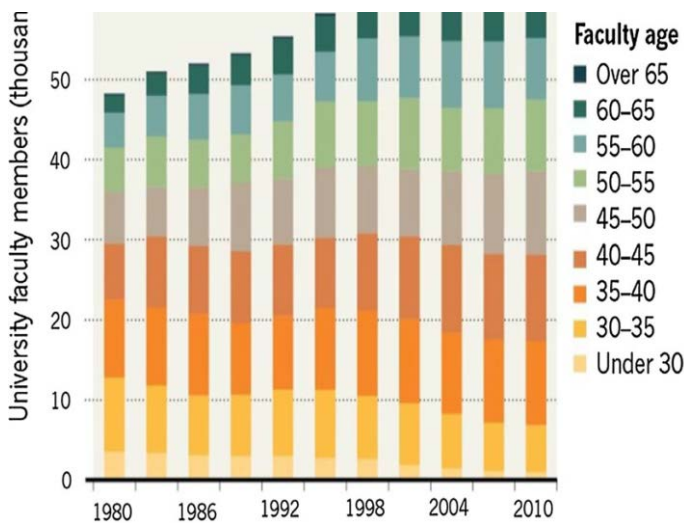
In the United States 33% of papers produced are co-authored compared to almost zero in 1981. The **UK also reports 52% of its papers had international authors in 2012**, a landmark rise compared to 15% in 1981.

In comparison, **only 25% of the almost 775,000 papers published by Japan between 2004 and 2013 were internationally authored.** Three-quarters of the papers produced by Japan were by domestic authors, a figure that remains static, unlike in other countries, which could be a limiting factor for Japanese universities' international performance. National weaknesses include a **lack of matching guidance for middle-academia seeking foreign authors and finances for universities.** One of the problems is that the **current system has supported Japanese universities to stay focused on research produced for the domestic market.** This restricts international networking and keeps English language publications, which command an international audience, on the periphery.

In a recent paper, A. Arimoto (see source) shows the problem in Japanese universities is more deeply rooted. In his work, he says **Japan is showing a symptom of declining academic productivity** in the research university sector. According to Arimoto, some of the reasons for this are: the **lack of a market mechanism** (absence of competition between national universities who get fixed funding from the government on the basis of, mainly, their number of staff and students); the **traditional hierarchical structure of the universities;** institutional **inbreeding and limited mobility** associated with a **career crisis among academics under 35 years old** (due to the ageing of Japanese society); along with a **very slow response to the rapidly changing international arena.**

Source: [University World News](#); [A. Arimoto, Higher Education 2015](#)

Arimoto, High Educ 2015



Nature News (20 March 2012)
[Education 2015](#)

3.2.6 Final report from expert committee on RIKEN STAP papers

An independent committee composed of experts and scientists from outside RIKEN and **investigating issues related to the STAP cell papers** released its findings in late December. The report concludes that “[...] **there was research misconduct by Obokata** on two points. More important is that all of the STAP



stem cells [...] originated in cultures contaminated with ES cells, a fact that **refutes all of the main conclusions of the two papers.**"

The committee says it has only been able to confirm the existence of "**very little original data for the figures in the papers**, and the responsibility for this rests primarily with Obokata who created the figures. Nevertheless, it is a serious problem that **the collaborators and co-authors overlooked this point**. In particular, **Wakayama who headed the laboratory in which Obokata worked, and Sasai, who played a major role in compiling the final version of the STAP cell papers, both bear heavy responsibility.**"

In response to that report, RIKEN's president Mr Ryoji Noyori released a statement that says **RIKEN will now take action following recommendations from this report according to its own regulations**; and will enforce the rules prescribed in the *Action Plan for Maintaining High Standards and Preventing Research Misconduct*, launched by MEXT last summer (see ELJ Newsletter September 2014 edition).

Source: [RIKEN](#)

3.2.7 In Brief

3.2.7.1 86 National Universities Designated as One of Three Groups

In JFY2015, Japan's 86 state universities will be required to become one of the following:

- (a) **World-class research and education university;**
- (b) World-class research and education university **in a particular field;** or
- (c) **Center for vitalizing the local area.**

Japan's state universities usually receive non-competitive funds annually from the central government. The calculation method has been criticized in that it is not competitive. However, if a competition principle is introduced to all the state universities, the small-scale universities would never be able to compete with the large-scale ones. To solve this problem, each group will have its own evaluation criteria so that the distribution of the non-competitive funds will be made regardless of the size of the university.

Source: [Nikkei Shimbun](#)

3.2.7.2 Space Plan putting little emphasis on Science and Exploration

The government's new basic plan on space policy, which was finalized in January, emphasizes national security and industrial development but mentions little about space exploration or other matters related to basic science. The basic plan stressed that the nation's information-gathering capacity will be enhanced by utilizing satellites. It also revealed a numerical goal of developing the aerospace-related industries in "both the public and private sectors into



industries worth JPY5 trillion over a decade” — an inclusion apparently made in consideration of industrial circles.

Source: [Japan News](#), [Cabinet Office](#) (Japanese only)

3.2.7.3 State secrets law could constrain researchers

Japan's new state secrets law which took effect last December, restricting the release of “confidential” information. Some lawyers, experts in this field, however fear that it may not only apply to bureaucrats and major defense-related firms, potentially impacting a broad range of academic research as well. While the government has named 382 subject areas as state secrets requiring protection under the law, concerns are real that any researcher could be targeted at the government's convenience as being engaged in secret work.

Source: [Japan Times](#)

3.3 Cooperation EU - Japan

3.3.1 JST and ANR to fund 4 international collaborative research projects



In December 2014, the **Japan Science and Technology Agency** ([JST](#)) and the **French National Research Agency** ([ANR](#)) announced that they would commence support for **4 coordinated projects on the topic of “Molecular Technology”**. This support, within the framework of JST-ANR Coordinated Research, will be offered as an activity of **JST's FY2014 Strategic International Collaborative Research Program** ([SICORP](#)). The selected projects are as follows:

- **“Molecular Photocathodes for CO2 reduction and H2 evolution”** : PhotoCAT (Tokyo Institute of Technology - CEA Grenoble)
- **“Molecular Materials for Mg batteries”**: MoMa (The University of Tokyo - Sorbonne University)
- **“Molecular technologies for hybrid folded architectures”**: COFFIT (The University of Tokyo - Université de Bordeaux)
- **“Molecular Engineering and Controlled Assembly of Nano Objects built on porphyrins”**: MECANO (Osaka University - CNRS-Université de Strasbourg)

A total of **37 proposals** were submitted in response to the **joint call for proposals implemented by JST and ANR, which closed in April 2014**.

Support to both the Japanese and French teams will continue for about **three years with JPY 2,500,000 (EUR 18,500) per year and per project from the JST side and an approximately matching fund from ANR**.

Source: [JST](#)



4 Grants & Fellowships

4.1 European Union

4.1.1 Guide to Horizon 2020



Horizon 2020 is the largest EU research and innovation programme ever. Almost EUR 80 billion in funding is available over seven years (2014 to 2020), in addition to the private and national public investment that this money will attract. This new **guide explains the Horizon 2020 programme in greater detail.**

Download it for free [here](#).

4.1.2 Open calls under Horizon 2020

Access all **65 open calls** on the [Horizon 2020 Participant Portal](#).

Please note that the calls are allocated to the three pillars of Horizon 2020:

- **Excellent Science:** Around EUR 3 billion, including EUR 1.7 billion for grants from the European Research Council for top scientists, and EUR 800 million for Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowships for younger researchers.
- **Industrial Leadership:** EUR 1.8 billion to support Europe's industrial leadership in areas like ICT, nanotechnologies, advanced manufacturing, robotics, biotechnologies and space.
- **Societal Challenges:** EUR 2.8 billion for innovative projects addressing Horizon 2020's seven societal challenges, broadly thematised as: health; agriculture, maritime and bioeconomy; energy; transport; climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials; reflective societies; and security.



Horizon 2020

To find out more about **EU funding opportunities** for your research or innovation project please visit the [European Commission's Participant Portal](#) where all calls are published.

International researchers are also invited to join the [database of independent experts](#) for European research and innovation. Distinguished specialists are strongly encouraged to join the database of independent experts, through which they can participate in the evaluation of project proposals and monitoring of actions, submitted under Horizon 2020.

4.1.3 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions:

The **Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA)** support research training and career development focused on innovation skills. The programme funds worldwide and cross-sector mobility that implements excellent research in any field (a "bottom-up" approach).

The **flyer and pocket guide** to MSCA are available [here](#) and [here](#).



A **web-streamed training** focusing on the **IF (Individual Fellowships)** and **Cofund** calls has also been released [here](#).

Next MSCA calls: **Individual Fellowships (12 March)**
 COFUND (14 April)

4.1.4 European Research Council grants



European Research Council
 Established by the European Commission

The European Research Council's ([ERC](#)) mission is to encourage the highest quality of research in Europe and to support investigator-driven frontier research across all fields, on the basis of scientific excellence through competitive funding.

Being 'bottom-up' in nature, the **ERC approach allows researchers to identify new opportunities and directions** in any field of research, rather than being led by priorities set by politicians. It is a **highly competitive funding scheme** (10% success rate on average for Starting and Consolidator grants, 14% for Advanced grants).

Researchers from anywhere in the world can apply for a European Research Council (ERC) grant to come to Europe and conduct research (for at least 50% of their working time). Currently, over 300 ERC grantees out of nearly 4,000 are non-Europeans. Research teams set up by ERC grantees are highly international – an estimated 20% of team members are non-Europeans.

Open Calls: [ERC Starting Grant](#) (deadline 3 February)
 [ERC Proof of Concept Grant](#) (deadline 5 February)
 [ERC Consolidator Grant](#) (deadline 13 March)

4.1.5 Erasmus+ Joint Master Degrees



Erasmus+ Joint master degrees (JMD) are delivered by an **international consortium of higher education institutions**. A JMD corresponds to a high-level integrated international study programme of 60, 90 or 120 ECTS (corresponding to one or two years of studies).

Students at **Master's level can apply for these degrees** which take place in at least two of the Programme countries represented in the consortium. **121 different consortia are proposing JMDs**. Between approximately **13 and 20 student scholarship holders and 4 invited scholars/guest lecturers can take part in each programme annually**. In addition to the student scholarship holders, self-funded students can also be enrolled.

Deadlines: various (depending on each consortium's rules for application)

Further information [here](#), list of the consortia and JMDs [here](#)



4.1.6 COST 2015 Call for proposals in Science and Technology

COST is an intergovernmental framework for **European Cooperation in Science and Technology**, supporting the **coordination of nationally-funded research**. It aims at reducing the fragmentation in European research investments and **opening the European Research Area (ERA) to cooperation worldwide**. It anticipates and complements the activities of the [EU Framework Programmes](#).

Participation in COST actions is **open to [International Partner Countries](#)**, among which is **Japan**, on the basis of ascertained mutual benefit.

Successful proposals receive on average EUR 130,000 in financial support per year for a four-year period (in the case of Japan, a matching fund must be countered by any received fund).

Application deadline: 24 March

Further information [here](#)

4.1.7 ERS/EU RESPIRE 2 Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

The European Respiratory Society ([ERS](#)) coordinates the **RESPIRE 2 Fellowships**, established to enable promising researchers in carrying out **advanced research projects (24 months)**. The Fellowships are **open to all nationalities**, but need to be undertaken in a European country within a [certified RESPIRE 2 Host Centre](#).

This programme targets experienced investigators, clinicians & respiratory professionals with a PhD or at least 4 years' full-time research experience. Applicants are also required to have at least one first author publication in an international peer-reviewed journal at the time of application.

Deadline: 31 July

Further information [here](#)

4.1.8 EMBO Fellowships

The **European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO)** brings together more than 1,500 leading researchers from 27 Member states and promotes excellence in the life sciences.

Young scientists actively seek **EMBO Long-Term Fellowships** for postdoctoral research to fund their internationally mobile careers. Hundreds of scientists also benefit each year from **EMBO Short-Term Fellowships**, returning to their home laboratories with new skills as well as contacts for future collaborations.

EMBO Long-Term Fellowships are awarded for a period of up to two years and support postdoctoral research visits to laboratories throughout Europe. International exchange is a key feature in the application process.



COST is supported by the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020.



The RESPIRE 2 Fellowships are co-financed by the EU under the PEOPLE Marie Curie Actions [COFUND](#) programme.





Short-Term Fellowships fund research visits of up to three months to laboratories in Europe. The aim is to facilitate valuable collaborations with research groups applying techniques that are unavailable in the applicant's home laboratory.

Deadlines: 13 February (Long-Term), rolling basis (Short-Term)

Further information [here](#)

4.1.9 Erasmus Mundus: TEAM project call for applications

The **Technologies for information and communication, Europe – east Asia Mobilities (TEAM)** project brings together world class higher education and research institutions as well as industrial partners in the field of ICTs. The **objectives of the TEAM partnership are to create a network of excellence in ICT between Europe, Japan and the Republic of Korea.**

The TEAM project is an **Erasmus Mundus Action, funded by the European Commission.** Throughout the project duration, **110 scholarships will be awarded at a doctorate, postdoctorate and staff level:** 72 for mobility from Europe towards Japan and the Republic of Korea, and 38 for mobility of Japanese and Korean candidates towards Europe.

This is the first call for applications within this project. The **TEAM project is open to doctorates, postdoctorates and academic and administrative staff from the 12 European, Japanese and Korean [partner universities](#), studying and/or doing research in the field of Information and Communication Technologies.**

The first scholarships will **start September 2015, for durations from 6 months to one year.**

Deadline: 1 February 2015 for doctorate, postdoctorate and staff scholarships

Further information [here](#)

4.1.10 National EURAXESS Portals

The **latest information on open calls for national grants and fellowships** in the 40 member countries of the EURAXESS network can be accessed on the respective **national EURAXESS portals:**

[Austria](#), [Belgium](#), [Bosnia-Herzegovina](#), [Bulgaria](#), [Croatia](#), [Cyprus](#), [Czech Republic](#), [Denmark](#), [Estonia](#), [Faroe Islands](#), [Finland](#), [France](#), [Macedonia](#), [Germany](#), [Greece](#), [Hungary](#), [Iceland](#), [Ireland](#), [Israel](#), [Italy](#), [Latvia](#), [Lithuania](#), [Luxembourg](#), [Malta](#), [Moldova](#), [Montenegro](#), [Netherlands](#), [Norway](#), [Poland](#), [Portugal](#), [Romania](#), [Serbia](#), [Slovakia](#), [Slovenia](#), [Spain](#), [Sweden](#), [Switzerland](#), [Turkey](#), [UK](#).



Besides providing information on funding opportunities for incoming international and European researchers, staff at the [EURAXESS Service Centres](#) offer individual assistance on all aspects of researcher mobility.



4.2 EU Member States and Associated Countries

4.2.1 Global

4.2.1.1 HFSP Frontier Research Grants



The HSFP is a program of **funding for frontier research in the life sciences**.

It is implemented by the HFSP Organization, of which the EU, several of its Member States, and Japan among others are Supporting Parties.

The **Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP)** supports **novel, innovative and interdisciplinary basic research** focused on the complex mechanisms of living organisms. A clear **emphasis is placed on novel international collaborations** that bring biologists together with scientists from other fields to focus on problems at the frontier of the life sciences.

Guidelines for 2016 **Program Grants** and **Young Investigator Grants** applications are now available. Applications have to be made via the HFSP extranet website, which will be operational from mid-January 2015. Successful projects may receive up to USD 450,000 (EUR 350,000) per year.

The **Principal Applicant representing the international team must be located in one of the member countries**, but participants can be located in any country.

Application deadline: 19 March 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.2.1.2 UNU-IAS Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

UNU-IAS

Institute for the Advanced Study
of Sustainability

The **United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)** is a leading research and teaching institute **based in Tokyo, Japan**. Its mission is to advance **efforts towards a more sustainable future, through policy-oriented research** and capacity development focused on sustainability and its social, economic and environmental dimensions.

UNU-IAS offers **two Postdoctoral Fellowships** to recent PhD graduates for a **period of 12 months, starting in September**. The Fellows are residents at UNU-IAS in Japan for the full term of the fellowship. Eligibility for a second 12-month appointment may be considered based on the Fellow's performance.

Applicants must have obtained a PhD in an area broadly associated with one of the UNU-IAS thematic focus areas ([here](#)). Language proficiency in English is essential.

Deadline: 28 February

Further information [here](#)

4.2.2 Austria

4.2.2.1 Lise Meitner Programme for Scientists from Abroad

This programme targets **highly qualified scientists of any discipline** who can contribute to the scientific development of an Austrian research institution by working at it. It funds **12 or 24 months postdocs** with an annual personal allowance between EUR 62,500 and EUR 68,700.



Requirements: completed doctoral studies, record of international scientific publications, invitation from an Austrian research institution and co-application with an Austrian researcher. No age limit.

Applications continuously reviewed.

Further information [here](#)



4.2.2.2 DART – Doctoral Programme in Accounting, Reporting, and Taxation

The **Doctoral programme in Accounting, Reporting, and Taxation DART** is a PhD level education programme proposed by [Graz University](#) and [Vienna University](#), Austria.

The programme offers a stimulating learning and research environment plus financial support to **outstanding students from around the world**. Applicants must have a record of academic excellence, a **master degree in a relevant field as well as proof of English proficiency** (TOEFL or IELTS degree).

Deadline: 31 March 2015

Further information [here](#)



4.2.2.3 ISTFELLOW Postdoctoral Fellowships

ISTFELLOW is a programme **open to applicants from all over the world** who are interested in spending the postdoctoral stage of their scientific research career **at the Institute of Science and Technology Austria** ([IST Austria](#)). Core research areas are **physics, chemistry, and mathematics**, but this programme gives preference to scientists who have a strong interest in cross-disciplinary approaches.

The ISTFELLOW programme funds approximately **40 fellows per year for a two year stay**, which may be extended under favourable conditions.

Next deadline: 15 March 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.2.2.4 Erwin Schrödinger Fellowships

The purpose **of the Erwin Schrödinger Fellowships** is to allow young scientists doing research in Austria to perform work stays at leading foreign research institutions.

Young and highly qualified scientists of any discipline and nationality currently affiliated with an Austrian research institution may apply for research stays abroad of **10 to 24 months in length** (without return phase) or a stay 16 to 36 months in length (including return phase of 6 to 12 months). The **applicants must find and obtain an invitation from host institutions** both abroad and in Austria (in case they apply to the fellowship scheme including a return phase).

Applications accepted continuously

Further information [here](#)



Institute of Science and Technology

ISTFELLOW is partially funded by the European Union under the Marie Curie Co-funding of Regional, National and International Programmes ([COFUND](#)).



4.2.2.5 Ernst Mach Grants

The **Ernst Mach Grants** programme is financed by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy. It invites students and young researchers from foreign universities to come to Austria for a research stay.

Two types of grants are proposed:

- The **Ernst Mach Grant Worldwide** is open to PhD students and postdoctorates active abroad. Duration of the stay is limited to a maximum of 9 months.

- The **Ernst Mach Grant for studying at an Austrian University of Applied Sciences** is open to graduates and undergraduates who are studying at a university outside Europe and who are participating in a master's program or have successfully completed at least four semesters of their studies for a bachelor's degree. The duration of stay with this grant is 4 to 10 months.

Deadline: 1 March 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.2.2.6 Franz Werfel Grant and Richard Plaschka Scholarship

The **Franz Werfel Grant** addresses itself to **young university teachers** whose work focuses on **Austrian Literature**. The grant programme, which was initiated in 1992, is **open to applicants from all over the world**.

The **Richard Plaschka Scholarship** is for **foreign university lecturers** of history whose main academic focus is **Austrian history**. Grant recipients should focus on eastern and south-eastern European area history with an emphasis on cross-border collaboration.

Recipients of Werfel grants and Plaschka Scholarships can work as **visiting researchers at university departments** and carry out specialist studies in libraries, archives or at research institutions.

Both of these grant schemes **offer material support for up to 18 months**.

Two calls per year.

Next deadline: 1 March 2015

Further information [here](#) (Franz Werfel Grant) and [here](#) (Richard Plaschka Scholarship)

4.2.2.7 Marietta Blau Grant for PhD students

The Marietta Blau Grant offers **financial support for carrying out part of a doctoral programme abroad at Austrian universities** (6-12 months): it enables scientific research worldwide in any field of study. It is intended as a financial support tool for early stage researchers.

There is no age limit, but the programme is exclusively intended for people who do not receive public funds for their doctoral studies apart from the Austrian study grant. An English proficiency test is required.

Next deadline: 1 February 2015



Further information: [Scholarship Portal](#)

4.2.3 Belgium

4.2.3.1 *Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) - PhD and Postdoctoral fellowships*



The **Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO)** is the main funding agency for basic, frontier research in Flanders. The FWO is very keen to promote international collaborations as a driving force for excellence.

It awards **PhD and Postdoctoral fellowships in various domains**. **PhD Fellowships are open to non-EU candidates** but they **must have obtained a basic master's degree within the European Economic Area** (or Switzerland). **Postdoctoral fellowships: no nationality requirements**

Duration: **PhD fellowships: 2 years, renewable once; Postdoctoral fellowships: 3 years, renewable once**

Deadline: 1 February

Further information [here](#) (PhD) and [here](#) (Postdoctoral)

4.2.4 Czech Republic

4.2.4.1 *Scholarships for Academic Year 2015/2016*

The **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Czech Republic (MSMT)** annually offers **scholarships to foreign nationals** of a number of countries, including Japan.

These scholarships are designed for **university students or Ph.D. candidates in any field of study** (exceptionally also for university researchers and teachers) who wish to **conduct a study or research stay at one of the Czech public institutions of higher education**. The usual length of a stay ranges **from 2 to 10 months**.

Prospective applicants are advised to contact the selected host university directly and request a letter of invitation from the appropriate department. Application dossiers must be **submitted to the MSMT by the competent authorities (usually government agencies) of eligible countries**.

Deadline: 31 March

Further information [here](#)

4.2.5 Denmark

4.2.5.1 *Danish Council for Independent Research Call for Proposals*

The **Danish Council for Independent Research (DFR)** supports **independent research** based on the researchers' own ideas, within and across all the main



fields of science. It supports **specific and time-limited research activities** aiming to strengthen and develop the internationalisation of Danish research. The Council therefore **welcomes applications that involve international activities**.

DFE calls for proposals in various programmes, including **mobility grants (MOBILEX)**, **funding schemes** (*Sapere Aude* and *Research Project*), **fellowships (Individual Postdoctoral)**, etc. Most of these programmes are **open to applications from Danish as well as from foreign researchers**.

Two application rounds per year.

Next deadline: 27-29 April 2015

Further information [here](#) and [here](#)

4.2.6 Estonia

Government Scholarships

The **Estonian government offers a number of scholarships intended for university students, researchers or lecturers** studying and doing research at Estonian public universities and institutions. Most scholarships are for the master's and doctoral degrees, but some bachelor degree scholarships are also available. Most universities in Estonia propose scholarships for international degree programmes, which may be combined with other international scholarships.

Further information [here](#) and [here](#)

4.2.7 Finland

CIMO Fellowships

The CIMO Fellowships programme is **open to young doctoral level students and to researchers from all countries and from all academic fields**. Master's level studies or postdoctoral studies/research are not supported in the programme. The primary target group in the CIMO Fellowship programme are **doctoral level students** who will be doing their doctorate (or double doctorate) **at a Finnish university**.

There are **no annual application deadlines** in the CIMO Fellowship programme. However, please note that applications should be submitted at least 5 months before the intended scholarship period. The **scholarship period may vary from 3 to 12 months** with a monthly allowance of EUR 1,500 to cover living expenses in Finland.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Further information [here](#)





4.2.7.2 Finnish Government Scholarship Pool programme

The **Finnish Government Scholarship Pool programme** offers **scholarships of 3 to 9 months for doctoral level studies and research at Finnish universities or public research institutes**. It is open to **young researchers from all academic fields, from a number of countries, including Japan**. It is not an application for a study/research placement and is merely an application for funding.

In order to be an eligible applicant for this scholarship, **one must first successfully apply for a study/research placement at a Finnish university/public research institute**. Successful applicants may receive a monthly stipend of EUR 1,500.

Deadline: 16 February (can be earlier depending on your country of origin)

Further information [here](#)

4.2.7.3 FiDiPro Finland Distinguished Professor Programme 2015

The Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation, [Tekes](#), coordinates the **FiDiPro Finland Distinguished Professor Programme**. It enables distinguished researchers, both international and Finnish expatriates, to work with the Finnish academic research community and commit to **long-term cooperation with a Finnish university or research institute**.

FiDiPro funding **covers the top researcher's salary and travel expenses and the costs of the research project**. Funding is awarded to projects for a fixed term with a **funding period of 2 to 5 years**.

Applications for FiDiPro funding are **submitted by a Finnish research organisation** under two categories:

FiDiPro Professor funding is intended for inviting highly merited international professors to Finland.

FiDiPro Fellow funding is intended for inviting international top researchers past the postdoctoral stage to Finland.

Next deadline: 28 February 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.2.8 France

4.2.8.1 EFEO Field Scholarships

The **École française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO)** awards **scholarships to research students for periods of research in an EFEO or ECAF Centre in Asia** (2 in Kyoto, Japan).

These scholarships grant successful candidates a **monthly stipend** varying between EUR 700 and EUR 1,360 for a **duration of 1 to 6 months**. For 2015, scholarships may take place **between June and December**.





The applicants must propose directly to EFEO a research project in **humanities or social sciences** applied to the **history and civilizations of Asia** and in line with the working theme of the selected Centre. Good command of the language(s) required to successfully complete the field research project is required.

Deadline: 31 March

Further information [here](#)

4.2.8.2 LE STUDIUM® Fellowships Programmes

LE STUDIUM® [Loire Valley Institute for Advanced Studies](#), operating in the region Centre of France, has as its members the University of Orléans, University François-Rabelais Tours, INSA Centre Val de Loire, Superior School for Art and Design in Orléans (ESAD), national research institutions including BRGM, CEA, CNRS, INRA, INSERM and other Poles of competitiveness.

LE STUDIUM® welcomes to the Centre senior international researchers, typically for a one year residence. **All foreign public and private laboratories and enterprises** are invited to submit applications to either of the available programmes:

- **Research Chair:** 6-month position to provide recommendations regarding organisation and development of a novel scientific sector;
- **Research Professorship:** four 3-month stays on a 4 year period to introduce a new research activity complementary to those already existing;
- **Research Fellowship:** 12-month residency to lead a collaborative research project.

To be eligible, **incoming researchers must be non-French citizens and non-French resident**. An average of **8 to 10 positions are available each year**.

Deadline: 16 February

Further information [here](#)

4.2.9 Germany

4.2.9.1 Humboldt Research Fellowships for Postdoctoral and Experienced Researchers

The [Humboldt foundation](#) promotes academic cooperation between excellent scientists and scholars from abroad and from Germany. It funds **research fellowships for excellent young and experienced researchers of any nationality and any discipline** to come for long stays in Germany.

The **Fellowships for Postdoctoral Researchers** scheme are for researchers with no more than 4 years of experience after their PhD who wish to carry out a research stay in Germany for a **period of 6 to 24 months**.



The **Fellowships for Experienced Researchers** scheme are for researchers with between 5 and 12 years of experience after their PhD who wish to have a research stay in Germany for a **period of 6 to 18 months**.

Successful applicants must have, outside of an outstanding research record, a good command of English.

Applications reviewed on a rolling basis

Further information [here](#) (Postdoctoral) and [here](#) (Experienced Researchers)

4.2.9.2 Emmy Noether Programme

The **Emmy Noether Programme** provides early career foreign researchers (or German researchers working abroad) with the **opportunity to rapidly qualify for a leading position in research** by leading an independent junior research group and assuming relevant teaching duties **in Germany**.

Early career researchers from all disciplines and nationalities may apply.

Applicants **must have at least 2 years of postdoctoral experience, but no more than 4 years** of experience after completion of their PhD degree. **Foreign applicants are expected to continue their scientific career in Germany** following completion of the **funding period of 5 or 6 years**.

Applications reviewed continuously.

Further information [here](#)

4.2.9.3 DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships in the fields of Space, Aeronautics, Energy and Transportation Research

DLR – DAAD Research Fellowships is a new programme implemented by the German Aerospace Center ([DLR](#)) and the German Academic Exchange Service ([DAAD](#)).

This special programme is intended **for highly-qualified foreign doctoral and postdoctoral students, as well as senior scientists**. Proof of English proficiency is necessary, while knowledge of German is a plus.

DLR-DAAD Fellowships are defined and awarded on an individual basis. Each fellowship announcement will indicate the specific qualification requirements and terms of the visit. **There are currently fellowship offers available in Space and Energy**. Application deadline varies according to the call.

List of open calls [here](#)

Further information [here](#)

4.2.9.4 Max Planck IMPRS Doctoral Programme call for applications

The [Max-Planck-Institute for Plant Breeding Research](#), the University of Cologne and the Heinrich Heine-University Dusseldorf invite applications for **three-year doctoral fellowships** in the **International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS)** in Cologne, Germany.

DAAD



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT



The IMPRS is intended for highly motivated students, and provides strong training in plant molecular sciences. The training includes regular seminars, yearly retreats, supervision by a thesis committee, and soft skill and practical courses on modern laboratory techniques.

The program is **taught in English and open to students from all countries holding a master's or equivalent degree.**

Deadline: 11 February 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.2.9.5 Anneliese Maier Research Award

The **Anneliese Maier Research Award** rewards foreign researchers in the fields of the **humanities and social sciences** whose scientific achievements have been internationally recognised.

Applications for the award may only be submitted through **nominations by established academics in Germany**. Award winners are expected to **spend a period of up to five years cooperating on a long-term research** project with the nominator and/or specialist colleagues at a research institution in Germany.

The Humboldt Foundation grants **each year up to eight Awards**, with an individual value of EUR 250,000.

Deadline: 30 April

Further information [here](#)

4.2.9.6 Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences PhD programme

Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS) invites applications to its **PhD programme**.

Under this programme, up to **15 PhD candidates may receive monthly stipends** of EUR 1,300 Euros for 36 months, as well as **funds for conducting, presenting and publishing research**.

Successful applicants will **pursue a topic in one of BIGSSS' three Thematic Fields**: Global Governance and Regional Integration; Welfare State, Inequality and Quality of Life; and Changing Lives in Changing Socio-Cultural Contexts, **starting September 2015**.

Applicants must hold an excellent MA degree in a discipline pertinent to at least one of BIGSSS' these fields and **proof of C-1 level English skills** or equivalent (TOEFL >600, etc.)

Deadline: 15 February

Further information [here](#)



4.2.10 Greece

4.2.10.1 Summer Intensive Course in Modern Greek Language Scholarship



These **one-month scholarships** are awarded to **foreign undergraduate or postgraduate students of universities abroad** for the purpose of attending a [Summer Intensive Course in Modern Greek Language](#) between **mid August to mid September**. The course takes place at the [Aristotle University School of Modern Greek Language](#), Thessaloniki, Greece.

The scholarship covers the registration and tuition fees of the course and may also award a EUR 450 living stipend.

Deadline: 28 February

Further information [here](#)

4.2.11 Ireland

4.2.11.1 President of Ireland Young Researcher Award



The **President of Ireland Young Researcher Award** is Science Foundation Ireland's (SFI) most prestigious award to **recruit and retain early career researchers to carry out their research in Ireland**.

The award recognises outstanding engineers and scientists of any nationality who, early in their careers, have already demonstrated exceptional potential for leadership at the frontiers of knowledge. Awardees will be selected on the basis of exceptional accomplishments in science and engineering in all areas covered by SFI's legal remit in order to **perform their research project in Ireland**.

Applicants should have received their last degree less than eight years ago and have accomplished at least 36 months of postdoctoral research activity. All **applications must be submitted by an eligible Irish Research Body**.

Research projects may last up to five years and receive up to EUR 1 million total.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

Further information [here](#)

4.2.11.2 SFI's Research Professorship Programme

The purpose of the **Research Professorship Programme** is to **recruit global research talent to Ireland** to build the national research base. The ambitions of the appointed SFI Research Professor will be **consistent with the strategic plans of the host research body**.

Submission of proposals will be by invitation only following an expression of interest phase during which SFI will work closely with the research body. **Funding of up to EUR 5 million** (does not cover the professor's salary) will be provided to each successful applicant for a **five-year programme** of work.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.



Further information [here](#)

4.2.11.3 Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme 2015

The **Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme** offers scholarships for suitably qualified individuals to pursue a postgraduate degree in any discipline at an eligible Higher Education Institution within Ireland.

This scheme **funds excellent researchers across all disciplines and encourages interdisciplinary research** and engagement with enterprise. **Candidates can be of any nationality, but must be full-time students affiliated with an eligible HEI in Ireland.**

Deadline: 11 February

Further information [here](#)

4.2.12 Israel

4.2.12.1 Call for SCHOLARSHIP nominations 2014: Dan David Prize

The [Dan David Prize](#) awards scholarships to **registered doctoral and postdoctoral** researchers doing research in selected fields. For the year 2015, the **selected fields are: *historians and their sources*** (humanities), ***information revolution*** (ICTs) and ***bioinformatics***.

The Dan David Prize laureates **annually donate twenty scholarships** of USD 15,000 (EUR 12,000) each to outstanding doctoral and postdoctoral students (ten scholarships to students at universities throughout the world and ten scholarships at Tel Aviv University).

The Dan David Prize and scholarships are granted according to merit solely.

Deadline: 10 March 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.2.12.2 The Asian Sphere Doctoral Scholarships

The **Asian Sphere Doctoral Scholarship programme** is a joint programme between the [University of Haifa](#) and the [Hebrew University](#). It is a structured **graduate program of excellence in the humanities and social sciences** that addresses **cross-regional contacts and processes among Asian societies**.

Applicants, of **any nationality**, must hold a Master degree or equivalent, proven academic excellence and research interest in cross-Asian topics.

Successful candidates may be awarded a scholarship of NIS 60,000 (EUR 13,000) per year and **full tuition for the duration of the programme (three years)**.

Deadline: 28 February

Further information [here](#) or by mail to Gideon.shelach[at]mial.huji.ac.il



4.2.13 Lithuania

Lithuanian Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowships

Researchers from Lithuania and abroad who have been awarded a PhD degree no more than three years ago can apply for the Lithuanian Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowships. Any higher education institution, research institute, research centre or other research establishment and enterprise in Lithuania can act as a host institution.

Next call planned for Q1 2015.

Further information [here](#)

4.2.14 Luxembourg

4.2.14.1 FNR's PhD and Postdoctoral Grants

The Fonds National de la Recherche ([FNR](#))'s AFR Grant Scheme (Aides à la Formation-Recherche) provides funding for research training projects in Luxembourg, up to 4 years for PhDs and up to 2 years for postdocs.

The AFR scheme has two strands:

- [AFR PhD](#) provides funding for **doctoral candidates**,
- [AFR Public Private Partnerships](#) provides funding for **postdoctoral candidates** collaborating with an accredited company based in Luxembourg.

The AFR programme has **no thematic limitations** and is **open to all researchers, regardless of their nationality**. In the selection process, the interest of the project in the context of Luxembourg R&D will nevertheless be evaluated.

Candidates for a doctoral grant must have obtained their master degree; those for a postdoctoral grant must have obtained their PhD less than 8 years ago.

Deadline: 17 March

Further information [here](#) (PhD) and [here](#) (Postdoctoral)

4.2.15 Netherlands

4.2.15.1 NWO's Visitor's Travel Grant

The aim of this grant, provided by the **Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research** ([NWO](#)), is to facilitate cooperation between Dutch and foreign researchers.

Researchers with a tenured position at one of the Dutch universities, KNAW institutes, NWO institutes, NKI, MPI Nijmegen, researchers from the Dubble Beamline at the ESRF in Grenoble, NCB Naturalis, and the Advanced Research Centre for NanoLithography (ARCNL) can apply for a visitor's



The AFR funding scheme is in line with the principles advocated in the [European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers](#).





grant. With this grant, highly qualified **senior researchers from abroad who hold a PhD can stay in the Netherlands for a maximum of four months.**

Applications reviewed continuously

Further information [here](#)

4.2.16 Norway

RCN's Personal Visiting Researcher Grant

The **Research Council of Norway** ([RCN](#)) funds this grant, the objective of which is to help strengthen Norwegian research groups by **offering visiting foreign researchers (postdoctorate level or higher) the opportunity to perform research in Norway.** The grant may cover stays for visiting researchers **from one to 12 months.** The applicant must be from a Norwegian research institution.

Next deadlines: 11 February, 15 April 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.2.17 Poland

IDEAS FOR POLAND

The objective of this program is to **encourage young, brilliant researchers from around the world to choose Poland as the place to carry out research projects successfully funded by the ERC Starting Grant scheme.** The program is designed for people whose previous scientific record demonstrates that they are highly independent as researchers, and warrants that they will conduct world-class quality research.

Subsidies can be granted directly after winning an ERC grant and during the project. The maximum subsidised period is 3 years.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Further information [here](#)

4.2.18 Sweden

VINNOVA: VINNMER Marie Curie Incoming Fellowship

The purpose of this call funded by [VINNOVA](#) is to support experienced researcher careers through mobility and international collaborations.

VINNMER Marie Curie Incoming Fellowships fund the incoming **mobility of experienced researchers** in possession of a doctorate or at least four years' full-time equivalent research experience.

The researcher should be from outside of Sweden at the time of the application and **spend at least 67 % of the project duration in Sweden.**



The Research Council
of Norway



This programme is partially funded under the H2020 programme [Mobility for growth](#).



The grant is intended to fund half the salary of the researcher (project leader) for the duration of the project (one to three years). It also covers additional relevant and justifiable costs relating to mobility.

Several calls are opened throughout the year. About 20 successful applicants will be selected each year.

Next deadline: 17 March 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.2.19 Turkey

4.2.19.1 TÜBİTAK "2216" - Research Fellowship Programme for International Researchers



TÜBİTAK grants fellowships for international highly qualified PhD students and young post-doctoral researchers to pursue their research in Turkey in the fields of Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technological Sciences, Medical Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities.

Application is **open to candidates of any nationality**, enrolled in a PhD programme abroad or having obtained their PhD abroad, and **aged less than 35 years**. Successful candidates may receive a **monthly stipend** of TRY 2,250 (EUR 830), **travel costs and part of the research costs** of the successful candidate for a **maximum duration of 12 months**.

Two application rounds per year.

Next application round: 16 March - 20 April

Further information [here](#)

4.2.19.2 TÜBİTAK "2221" - Fellowships for Visiting Scientists and Scientists on Sabbatical Leave

Three types of visits are granted within this program: **Short-term (up to 1 month)**, **Long-term (up to 12 months)** and **Sabbatical Leave (from 3 months to 12 months)**. All types of grants cover monthly stipend and travel costs.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Further information [here](#)

4.2.20 United Kingdom

4.2.20.1 British Academy International Partnership and Mobility Scheme

The [British Academy's](#) International Partnership and Mobility Scheme aims to **support the development of partnerships between the UK and other areas of the world** in the field of **humanities and social sciences**.





The scheme is open to **one-year and three-year awards for research partnerships** between scholars in the UK and scholars in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, Eurasia, South Asia, East and South-East Asia. The main purpose of the funding (maximum EUR 12,500 per year) is to **cover travel and maintenance costs for the creation of new networks**.

Applicants must be of postdoctoral or equivalent status. Research must be in the field of the humanities or social sciences. Successful awards must start on or after 1 September 2015 and no later than 31 March 2016.

Deadline: 11 February 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.2.20.2 Newton International Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Newton International Fellowship scheme is run by the [British Academy](#) and the [Royal Society](#). It selects **excellent early stage post-doctoral researchers from all over the world**, and **offers support for two years at UK research institutions**. The long-term aim of the scheme is to encourage long-term international collaboration with the UK.

The Fellowships cover the **broad range of physical, natural and social sciences and the humanities**. They provide grants of GBP 24,000 (EUR 30,700) per annum to cover subsistence and up to GBP 8,000 (EUR 10,200) per annum to cover research expenses.

Deadline: 25 February

Further information [here](#)

4.2.20.3 Daiwa Foundation Awards/Small Grants

The [Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation](#) is a UK charity enabling British and Japanese students and academics to further their education through exchanges and other bilateral initiatives.

Daiwa Foundation Awards can cover projects in most academic, professional, arts, cultural and educational fields in the context of an institutional relationship. Awards seek to encourage the development and sustainability of UK-Japan partnerships. Any project which involves a significant level of collaboration between British and Japanese partners can be considered.

This award's amount can vary from £7,000 to £15,000 (EUR 8,700 to EUR 18,800).

Daiwa Foundation Small Grants can cover all fields of activity, including educational and grassroots exchanges, research travel, the organisation of conferences, exhibitions, and such. New initiatives are especially encouraged.

This program grants usually between £3,000 to £7,000 (EUR 3,750 to EUR 8,700) per project.

Two calls per year: spring and autumn.





Next deadline: 31 March 2015

Further information [here](#) (Awards) and [here](#) (Small Grants)

4.3 Japan

4.3.1 JSPS Invitation Fellowships Programmes for Research in Japan

The **JSPS** carries out programs that provide overseas researchers who have an excellent record of research achievements with an opportunity to conduct collaborative research, discussions, and opinion exchanges with researchers in Japan. These programmes are intended to help advance the overseas researchers' research activities, while promoting science and internationalization in Japan.

This program is designed to enable **Japanese researchers to invite their foreign colleagues to Japan to participate in cooperative work. Researchers from all countries with diplomatic relations with Japan and of any field of study are eligible.**

Applications must be submitted to JSPS by the inviting researchers who wish to host foreign researchers in Japan, through an overseas nominating authority. A list of nominating authorities in partner countries: France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden (for Europe) are listed [here](#).

Various fellowship categories are provided: three for postdoctoral fellowships and three for invitation fellowships (researchers). Approximately 320 postdoctoral fellowships and 290 invitation fellowships should be awarded for 2015 through two to four calls (see [here](#) for further details on the different categories).

Next application rounds:

- 6-10 April (Short-term postdoctoral)**
- 28 April - 8 May (Standard postdoctoral)**
- 28 April - 8 May (Short-term invitations)**

(see [here](#) for a list of the future calls)

Further information [here](#)

4.3.2 JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Foreign Researchers (Long Term)

JSPS is calling for applications to its **Postdoctoral Fellowship for Foreign Researchers (Long Term)** scheme. This scheme provides the opportunity for researchers based outside of Japan to conduct collaborative research activities with leading research groups at Japanese universities and research institutions for **visits of between 12 to 24 months.**

Eligible applicants should be **citizens of the EU** and need to **have finished their PhD at a EU university or research institution** at the time of applying to





start their fellowship in Japan or have obtained their PhD **after 2 April 2009**. **Fellowships must be started between 1 April to 30 November 2015**. Eligible research fields are **limited to natural sciences**.

Applications for this fellowship should be **submitted to each countries' nominating authorities**: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and the UK are partners (a complete list of nominating authorities available [here](#)).

Deadlines: February - April (may vary upon nominating authority's policy; e.g. 16 February for UK)

Further information [here](#)

4.3.3 JSPS Bilateral Programmes: Joint Research Projects/Seminars

The JSPS opened applications for their bilateral programs on 14 November. Bilateral programs support joint research projects, seminars between Japanese researchers and those residing in countries with a diplomatic agreement with Japan in order to form sustained networks evolved from individual scientist exchanges.

Teams or individuals affiliated with a Japanese research institute can ask either for support in the setup of **international joint projects** (up to 2 years and JPY 2.5 million/year - EUR 17,250) or **international seminars** (of a maximum duration of one week, funded by JSPS up to JPY 2.5 million - EUR 17,250).

Deadline: 4 February 2015

Further information [here](#)

4.3.4 JSPS–UNU Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme

Jointly organized by the **United Nations University** ([UNU-IAS](#), based in Tokyo) and the **JSPS**, this programme is designed to provide highly qualified young researchers with the opportunity to **conduct advanced research in the UNU areas of interest**: Ecosystem Services Assessment, Governance for Sustainable Development, Water and Urban Initiative, Satoyama Initiative, Peace and Security Policies at the UN, or Post-2015 UN Development Framework.

This fellowship is aimed at **candidates who have completed their PhD degrees in the past six years** and also have professional and/or research experience. UNU will assist in securing acceptance from host researchers for short-listed candidates. Fellowships are **awarded for a period of 24 months** and feature among other advantages, a monthly stipend of JPY 362,000 (EUR 2,600). **Japanese nationals are not eligible**.

Deadline: 28 February



Further information [here](#)

4.3.5 JSPS Summer Programme 2015: Call for Applications in the UK, France, Germany and Sweden

The **JSPS Summer Programme** is offered to **young pre- and postdoctoral researchers** from the US, the **UK, France, Germany**, Canada and **Sweden**.

Held over a two-month period in the summer, it provides participants with an **orientation in the Japanese language**, culture, and an **opportunity to do cooperative research at a Japanese university or research institute**.

Applications are to be submitted through [nominating authorities](#) in each country participating in the programme. **Applicants should be either nationals** from a country participating in the programme **or affiliated with a university or a research institution** of a country participating to the programme.

The fellowship covers return international airfare, maintenance allowance, research support allowance (JPY 158,500 - EUR 1,100) and overseas insurance policy.

The stays have to take place between 9 June and 19 August.

Deadlines: 6 March 2015 (Sweden)

Further information: [here](#) (France), [here](#) (UK), [here](#) (Germany) and [here](#) (Sweden)

4.3.6 RIKEN BSI Summer Programme

The **RIKEN Brain Science Institute** ([RIKEN BSI](#)), offers a **summer programme to train advanced students interested in brain function**. Applicants may choose either a **two-month laboratory internship** (Plan A, starting 10 June) within a RIKEN BSI laboratory, or an **intensive 5-day lecture course** (Plan B, starting 20 July) featuring a distinguished international faculty. Those participating in the internship may also enroll in the lecture course.

Typically **around 45 international students are accepted** to the Summer Programme each year. Master students, PhD candidates, early postdocs as well as candidates holding other research positions are encouraged to apply.

Financial support can be requested at the time of application by the applicants.

Deadline: 28 February

Further information [here](#)





4.3.7 Kyoto University CiRA International Postdoctoral Research Fellowships



The Center for iPS Cell Research and Application ([CiRA](#)), Kyoto University, has allocated funding for **hiring foreign postdoctorates to advance research on induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC)**.

CiRA is directed by Nobel Laureate Shinya Yamanaka and is designed to develop iPSC technology for human health care and spread it globally.

The **fellowships are provided for a duration of 1 to 3 years** and include a monthly stipend, travel to and from Japan, and research expenses.

Two calls per year.

Next deadline: 31 January 2015

Further information by contacting Dr Karagianis: peter@cira.kyoto-u.ac.jp



5 Jobs

5.1 EURAXESS Jobs

There are currently **6290 jobs and fellowships** advertised on the **EURAXESS Jobs webpage**. They can be viewed by country, level of seniority, field or research or via free text searches. Please note that these jobs also include doctoral fellowships.

All the positions can be viewed at the [EURAXESS Jobs page](#).

You can also **advertise for jobs and fellowships at your organisation, free of charge**, on the [EURAXESS Links Japan website!](#)

Research organisations (public and private) can upload their job vacancies located in Japan.



Researchers can post their CVs for free [here](#). Do not hesitate to do it and increase your visibility.

The screenshot shows the EURAXESS Jobs homepage with the following elements:

- Header:** "JOBS" navigation bar with "SERVICES", "RIGHTS", and "LINKS" buttons. A "Login / Register To post your advert or CV" button is in the top right.
- Search Bar:** "I'm looking for..." with a search input field containing "Enter keyword" and a "Country" filter dropdown. Below the search bar, it says "8615 offers available!".
- Filters:** "...in this place" (Country), "...in this field" (Research field), and "More filters".
- Latest offers:**
 - Chair in Clinical Psychology and Experimental Psychopathology:** NETHERLANDS | AcademicTransfer | Research fields: Medical sciences
 - Tenure Track Associate Professor Organization Studies; Change Management:** NETHERLANDS | AcademicTransfer | Research fields: Economics
- Fellowships & Grants external links:** Under European funding, At national level, At international level.
- National Portals:** Find your National EURAXESS Portal.
- Want to publish your positions offline?:** Click here to get the Guidelines and start the process!
- EURAXESS WIDGETS:** Add Job Vacancies Search to your web pages.
- Marie Curie Actions:** Logo for Marie Curie Actions.
- Footer:** "euraxess JOBS" logo.



5.2 Jobs in Europe

5.2.1 Postdoctoral position in Hybrid femtosecond laser microfabrication

The **Femtosecond laser micromachining** group at the **Istituto di Fotonica e Nanotecnologie (IFN-CNR)** is offering a **1+1 year postdoctoral position** in experimental Multiphoton polymerization, under the **CONCERT-Japan project** "FEmtosecond laser advance manufacturing for Ship-In-a-Bottle Lab-on-chips Environment" (FEASIBLE).

Requirements: **PhD degree in physics** or related discipline, **experience in Femtolaser micromachining** and good command of English.

Deadline: 31 January 2015

Further information [here](#)

Applications to: rebeca.martinez@polimi.it

5.2.2 European Research Career Sites:

- Find A Postdoc: <http://www.findapostdoc.com/>
- Find scholarships in Europe: <http://www.scholarshipportal.eu/>
- Find PhDs in Europe: <http://www.phdportal.eu/>
- Career.edu: <http://www.career.edu/index.php>
- Academic Jobs EU: <http://www.academicjobseu.com>
- Euro Science Jobs: <http://www.eurosciencejobs.com/>
- European Job Mobility Portal: <http://ec.europa.eu/eures/home.jsp?lang=en>
- Careers with the European Union: [European Personnel Selection Office](#)
- Careers with the European Union (EPSO), [non-permanent positions](#)
- EuroBrussels: <http://www.eurobrussels.com/>
- European Southern Observatory (ESO) [recruitment portal](#)
- CERN [job portal](#)
- Joint Research Centre [external staff recruitment portal](#)

5.2.3 Jobs and Call Portals in Member States and Associated Countries:

- Austrian Database for Scholarships and Research Grants:
<http://www.grants.at/home/EN/>
- Belgian Federal Portal for Research and Innovation:
<http://www.research.be/ListURL/list.asp?keyid=619&up=9999>



- Cyprus' Research Promotion Foundation Database:
http://www.research.org.cy/EN/user_info/useful_websites.html
- Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science Funding Guide:
<http://ufm.dk/en/research-and-innovation/funding-programmes-for-research-and-innovation/guide-to-funding>
- Estonian Research Portal:
<https://www.etis.ee/index.aspx?lang=en>
- France PhD portal:
<http://www.phdinfrance.net/>
- CNRS external examination portal:
<http://www.dgdr.cnrs.fr/drhchercheurs/concoursch/default-en.htm>
- CEA PhD and Postdoctorate offers portal:
<http://www-instn.cea.fr/-By-Scientific-domain-.html>
- DAAD's Research in Germany Portal:
<http://www.research-in-germany.de/dachportal/en.html>
- DAAD Research Fellowships and Grants Portal:
<https://www.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-scholarship-database/>
- Max Planck Society's job portal:
<http://www.mpg.de/jobboard>
- Helmholtz Association's job portal:
http://www.helmholtz.de/en/working_at_helmholtz/job_vacancies/
- Irish Research Council Funding Portal:
<http://www.research.ie/funding-opportunities>
- Italian National Research Council vacancies:
<http://www.eitictlabs.eu/nc/about-us/vacancies/>
- BBSRC vacancies (UK):
<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/organisation/vacancies.aspx>
- Science and Technology Facilities Council vacancies (UK):
<http://www.topcareer.jobs/>



5.3 Jobs in Japan

5.3.1 JREC-IN

The **Japanese job portal for researchers JREC-IN** is currently advertising **2390 positions in Japanese**, and **250 positions in English**.

All positions can be viewed at the JREC-IN portal in [English](#) or in [Japanese](#).

5.3.2 Research Scientist and Postdoctoral Researcher positions at RIKEN

The [Synthetic Genomics Research](#) team at [RIKEN](#) is working on the development of new synthetic metabolic pathways in plants and production of bioplastics. In the frame of JST's Strategic Innovation Promotion Programme, the team **recruits a Research Scientist and a Postdoctoral Researcher** who will work on improvement of lignin-degradation enzyme and isolation of new lignin-degradation bacteria.

Applicants to the former (Research Scientist position) must have a **PhD degree and more than 5 years** of experience; candidates to the latter (Postdoctoral Researcher position) must have **obtained their PhD less than 5 years ago** or expect to receive it by March 2015.

Call open until position are filled.

Further information [here](#)

5.3.3 Still open positions (see previous newsletters)

- Postdoctoral Positions at WPI-AIMR (Tohoku University)

Additional information [here](#)

- WPI-iCeMS University Research Administrator (Kyoto University)

Additional information [here](#)

- Associate Professor position at RIKEN BSI

Further information [here](#)

- Research Associate and Research Support Staff openings at WPI-iCeMS (Kyoto University)

Further information [here](#) and [here](#)

5.3.4 Careers at Japanese Research Institutes

Each of the **main Japanese research institutes have an active recruitment policy for international researchers**, and thus offer numerous positions (usually "on-project") advertised in English in the following links.



For better insight into the full recruitment campaigns, please check the Japanese version of their website.

5.3.4.1 Applied Sciences:

ψ [AIST:](#)

http://www.aist.go.jp/aist_e/humanres/

ψ [JAEA:](#)

<http://www.jaea.go.jp/english/news/index.html>

ψ [JAIST:](#)

<http://www.jaist.ac.jp/english/information/index.html#employment.html>

ψ [JAXA:](#)

<http://global.jaxa.jp/about/employ/index.html>

ψ [NICT:](#)

http://www.nict.go.jp/en/general_affairs/employment/employment/research_staff-e.html

ψ [NII](#) (Japanese only):

<http://www.nii.ac.jp/about/recruit/>

ψ [NIFS:](#)

<http://www.nifs.ac.jp/en/jinji/index.html>

5.3.4.2 Life Sciences and Clinical Research:

ψ [Kanagawa Cancer Center](#) (Japanese only):

<http://kcch.kanagawa-pho.jp/medical/recruit.html>

ψ [NARO](#) (Japanese only):

<http://www.naro.affrc.go.jp/acquisition/index.html>

ψ [NIBB:](#)

<http://www.nibb.ac.jp/en/about/recruit/>

ψ [NIRS:](#)

<http://www.nirs.go.jp/ENG/careers/opportunities/index.shtml>

ψ [OIST:](#)

<http://www.oist.jp/careers>



5.3.4.3 Mathematics and Fundamental Sciences:

- ψ [ISM:](#)
http://www.ism.ac.jp/jobs/index_e.html
- ψ [Kamioka Observatory:](#)
<http://www-sk.icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp/index-e.html>
- ψ [KEK:](#)
<http://www.kek.jp/en/Jobs/>

5.3.4.4 Natural Sciences:

- ψ [IMS](#) (Japanese only):
<http://www.ims.ac.jp/recruit/>
- ψ [JAMSTEC:](#)
<http://www.jamstec.go.jp/e/about/recruit/>
- ψ [NAOJ:](#)
<http://www.nao.ac.jp/en/about-naoj/recruit.html>
- ψ [NIES:](#)
<http://www.nies.go.jp/osirase/saiyo/index-e.html>
- ψ [NIMS:](#)
<http://www.nims.go.jp/eng/employment/>
- ψ [RIKEN:](#)
<http://www.riken.jp/en/careers/researchers/>

5.3.4.5 Social Sciences and Humanities:

- ψ [GRIPS:](#)
http://www.grips.ac.jp/en/job_openings/
- ψ [IRCJS:](#)
<http://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/employment/index.html>
- ψ [NINJAL:](#)
<http://www.ninjal.ac.jp/english/newsyears/2014/>



5.3.5 Careers at Japanese Universities

Each of the **main Japanese universities are very proactive in the recruitment of international staff**. These universities often offer a number of positions (postdoctoral, project-based, tenure-track) advertised in English through the following links.

For better insight into the full recruitment campaigns, please check the Japanese version of their website.

ψ Hokkaido University:

<https://www.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/about/jobs-at-hokkaido-university/>

ψ Keio University:

<http://www.keio.ac.jp/en/jobs/>

ψ Kyoto University:

<http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/profile/acceptance/other>

ψ Kyushu University:

<http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/g30/employment.html>

ψ Nagoya University:

<http://en.nagoya-u.ac.jp/employment/index.html>

ψ Osaka University:

<http://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/news/employ>

ψ Tohoku University (Japanese only):

http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/japanese/2014/cate_recruit/

ψ Tokyo Institute of Technology:

<http://www.hyoka.koho.titech.ac.jp/eprd/recently/koubo/koubo.php?lang=en>

ψ Tokyo University:

<http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/news/jobs01/>

ψ Tsukuba University:

<https://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/english/update/jobs.html>

5.3.6 Careers at Japanese WPIs

The **World Premier International Research Centre Initiative (WPI)** was launched in 2007 by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (**MEXT**) to build research centres which boast a very high research standard and outstanding research environment.



These centres are given a high degree of autonomy, allowing them to innovate compared to conventional modes of research operation and administration in Japan.

Each centre advertises for various temporary and permanent positions.

ψ [AIMR](#):

<http://www.wpi-aimr.tohoku.ac.jp/en/about/staff/>

ψ [ELSI](#):

<http://www.elsi.jp/en/about/recruitment/>

ψ [I²CNER](#):

<http://i2cner.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/recruit/recruit.php>

ψ [iCeMS](#):

<http://www.icems.kyoto-u.ac.jp/e/career/>

ψ [iFReC](#):

<http://www.ifrec.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/recruit/index.php>

ψ [IIIS](#):

<http://wpi-iiis.tsukuba.ac.jp/position/>

ψ [ItbM](#):

<http://www.itbm.nagoya-u.ac.jp/en/career/>

ψ [IPMU](#):

<http://www.ipmu.jp/job-opportunities>

ψ [MANA](#):

<http://www.nims.go.jp/mana/siteinfo/employment2013.html>



6 Events

6.1 Events in Europe



EURAXESS Rights aims at **better employment and working conditions for researchers** throughout Europe. The *Human Resources Strategy for Researchers* supports the implementation of the "Charter & Code" principles and provides for the awarding of the 'HR Excellence in Research' logo.

6.1.1 A decade of fostering attractive research careers - 10th anniversary of Charter and Code

On 3 March 2015, the European Commission will host a **celebration of the 10th anniversary of the "European Charter for Researchers and a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers"**.

University Deans, Rectors and HR Managers of research institutions, having been awarded the "[HRS4R acknowledgement](#)" will come together to share their views and experiences on the impact and benefits of running a Human Resource Strategy for Researchers in their institution.

Date and place: 3 March, Brussels

Further information and registration [here](#)

6.1.2 2nd HBP Education Workshop: "Future Medicine"



Human Brain Project

RIKEN and OIST participate to the EU-led [Human Brain Project](#).

The aim of the second **Human Brain Project Education Workshop** is to introduce the new concept of biological signature of diseases for Future Medicine and the methods for creating multi-level biological models of brain diseases.

Lectures and hands-on sessions will be led by experts from basic neuroscience, clinical neuroscience, medical informatics, bioinformatics, computer science and the healthcare industry.

Date and place: 15-18 March, Lausanne (Switzerland)

Further information and registration [here](#)

6.1.3 Other events in Europe

Non exhaustive list of scientific or research related events in Europe.

Please feel free to contact us at japan@euraxess.net if you want your event to be in the list!

Event	Date	Location	Organised by	Field	Link
Smart, Green and Integrated Transport Information Day	2 Feb.	Brussels, Belgium	EC	Green transport	here
High-level Seminar in Research and Innovation Policy	16-20 Feb.	Vienna, Austria	IncoNet	STI Policy and cooperation	here
Innovation in a European Digital Single Market	17 Mar.	Brussels, Belgium	EC	Digital Innovation	here



European Cluster Days 2015	18-19 Mar.	Strasbourg, France	France Clusters/ European Competence and Research Center for Cluster Management	STI Cluster management	here
The future for Open Access and the move towards Open Data	26 Mar.	London, UK	Westminster Higher Education Forum	Open Data	here
EuroNanoForum 2015	10-12 June	Riga, Latvia	University of Latvia / Spinverse	Nanotechnologies, materials science	here



6.2 Events in Japan

6.2.1 JEUIPSTE event: Bio-based Chemical Production



The **Japan EU Partnership in Innovation, Science and Technology (JEUIPSTE)** is a project coordinated by the Institute for International Studies and Training (EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation) with participation of nine institutions from Japan and the EU.

As a part of the 6th International Symposium of Innovative Bio Production Kobe, JEUIPSTE organises this **Japan-Europe academic workshop for sharing ideas and experiences towards strategic partnership building in bio-based chemical production.**

Date and time: 2 February, 13:00-17:00

Venue: Kobe University Centennial Hall

Language: English

Admission: free, registration required [here](#)

Further information [here](#)

6.2.2 Academic Seminar on International Mobility of Talent

This seminar is **organised by the [Tohoku Forum for Creativity](#)**. It will address the **status of higher education internationalisation in Japan**, compare it with foreign countries and discuss of the role of Higher Education institutions in the economic development of countries in a globalised perspective.

Date and time: 6 February, 14:00 - 17:00

Venue: Tohoku University, New Humanities Bldg

Further information [here](#)

6.2.3 International symposium: Towards a wide-range use of renewable energies in Japan

The **JST** organises this symposium which will give an overview of the technological developments made inside and outside Japan, related to **renewable energies**. It will then address the state and insufficiencies of the use of renewable energies in the country, and discuss ways to improve their dissemination. The participation of foreign specialists will also allow a comparison with other environments and may allow for the drafting of **guidelines for better use of these energies.**

Date and time: 12 February, 13:00-17:00

Venue: [JST Auditorium](#), Tokyo





Language: Japanese - English with simultaneous translation

Admission: free, registration required [here](#)

Further information [here](#)

6.2.4 Tohoku Medical Information Highway Symposium

“The Learning Health System & Tohoku Medical Information Highway” symposium will be held at the **Tohoku Medical Megabank, Tohoku University**.

At this symposium, international experts from North America, Europe and Asia will **discuss the construction of a single multi-purpose medical infrastructure system** for the Sendai region. All researchers are welcome to join this event.

Date: 23-25 February

Venue: [Tohoku Medical Megabank](#), Sendai

Language: English

Admission: free, registration required until 25 January 2015

Further information [here](#)

6.2.5 Nobel Prize Dialogue Tokyo 2015



Nobel Prize Dialogue Tokyo 2015 is a whole-day conference organised by the JSPS inspired by Nobel Week Dialogue, which has been taking place in Sweden since 2012 on the day before the Nobel Prize Ceremony. **Held outside Sweden for the first time**, with the **topic “The Genetic Revolution and its Future Impact”**, this conference is open to anyone interested in participating in a dialogue together with Nobel Laureates, prominent scientists, key policy makers and opinion leaders.

Date: 1 March, 10:00-17:30

Venue: Tokyo International Forum

Language: English (with simultaneous Japanese interpretation)

Admission: free

Registration and further information [here](#)

6.2.6 World Health Summit Regional Meeting Kyoto

The **World Health Summit (WHS)** Regional Meeting will be held in Kyoto next April, focusing on global health issues such as, “Challenges in a Rapidly Aging Society”, “Preparedness & Resilience to Disaster”, and “Fostering the Future Leadership”.





Date: 13-14 April 2015

Venue: [Kyoto International Conference Center](#)

Language: English (with Japanese interpretation)

Further information [here](#)

Please feel free to contact us at japan@euraxess.net if you want your event to be on the list!

6.2.7 Other events in Japan

Non-exhaustive list of scientific or research-related events in Japan.

Event	Date	Location	Organised by	Field	Link
I ² CNER Annual Symposium	2 Feb.	Fukuoka	WPI I ² CNER	Alternative energies	here
6th International Symposium of Innovative BioProduction	3 Feb.	Kobe	Kobe University	Biochemistry	here
JEUPISTE Project Workshop	4 Feb.	Kobe	JEUPISTE/ Kobe University	Biochemistry	here
Academic Seminar on International Mobility of Talent	4-6 Feb.	Sendai	Tohoku Forum for Creativity	Mobility	here
5th Karolinska Institutet - RIKEN Joint International Doctoral Course	5-12 Feb.	Yokohama	RIKEN, Karolinska Institute	Epigenomics	here
QSNS	18-20 Feb.	Miyagi	JST/ERATO, Tohoku University	Quantum science	here
6th IFRcC International Symposium	23-24 Feb.	Osaka	WPI IFRcC	Immunology	here
MANA International Symposium 2015	11-13 Mar.	Tsukuba	WPI MANA	Nanotechnology	here
International Symposium on Cartography in Internet and Ubiquitous Environments 2015	17-19 Mar.	Tokyo	University of Tokyo	ICT	here
Blue Earth 2015	19-20 Mar.	Tokyo	JAMSTEC	Marine Science	here



RIKEN CDB Symposium 2015	23-25 Mar.	Kobe	RIKEN	Biology	here
Global Research Council 2015	27-28 May	Tokyo	JSPS, NRF, DST, JST	Research Policy	here



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About EURAXESS Links Japan

EURAXESS Links Japan is a networking tool for European researchers active/seeking activity in Japan and for Japanese researchers wishing to collaborate with and/or pursue a career in Europe.

EURAXESS Links Japan provides information about research in Europe, European research policy, opportunities for research funding, for EU-Japan and international collaboration and for trans-national mobility.

Membership is free.

Visit us at japan.euraxess.org and click on the Join the EURAXESS Links Japan community hyperlink on the right-hand side of the page.

EURAXESS Links networks have thus far been launched in North America (USA & Canada) Japan, China, India, the ASEAN hub (encompassing Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam) and Brazil.