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Marie Curie Doctoral Networks call 2026



Doctoral Networks Grant Writing Workshop

MSCA DN grants provide attractive funding for research training networks, allowing a consortium to train numerous PhDs in a single project. Adopting a training through research approach, the consortium will have the capacity to make exciting scientific advances and develop future research leaders targeting societal challenges.

A successful application requires a well-designed research programme to be conducted by the PhDs under the supervision of esteemed leaders in the field. The research activities are enhanced by an integrated training programme combining technical knowledge and research skills and complimentary skills for their future careers in academic, industrial or societal environments.

In our training we will discuss strategies for designing outstanding, coherent and well-balanced research and training programmes, and how to transfer these ideas to the requested sections in the application form in such a way that each section stands out from competitive submissions.

The training is relevant for researchers building a MSCA network for doctoral students as well as for EU grant support staff.

The training

Live webinars with Ritchie Head:

The multi-part training offer the opportunity to reflect on what it takes to write a successful MSCA DN proposal. The webinars will be in English, with no translation. The webinars allow for sufficient time for the trainer to address questions of the Webinar delegates.

A rough outline of the workshops is as follows:

Webinar 1:

- **Part 1:** General introduction into the MSCA DN aims and evaluation system. A

brief overview of the Part A forms. What is and what is not expected.

- **Part 2: Part B1, Section 1 Excellence:** Examine the relations between the different parts of the proposal template to establish how to write water-tight research and training sections. Addressing the quality of supervision, the strengths of a team approach will be discussed. This will include the appropriateness of the professional experience and competences of the supervisors and alignment to the feasibility of what is being proposed in the research methodology and training sections.
- **Q&A**

Webinar 2:

- **Part 3: Part B1, Section 2 Expected Impact:** This module explains how the different dimensions of impact are interconnected and how they reinforce one another. It outlines strategic approaches for designing coherent pathways to impact that strengthen doctoral training, enhance the career prospects of Doctoral Candidates, and ensure that the research generates value beyond academia. Proposal ideas for well-planned dissemination, exploitation, and communication activities will be discussed to support aims to translate research outputs into benefits that address scientific, economic, and societal needs.
- **Part 4: Part B1, Section 3 Implementation:** Each component of the Implementation section will be examined, with suggestions on how to structure and present it effectively. This includes guidance on designing coherent and actionable deliverables, milestones, and developing a robust risk analysis. In addition, the narrative will explain how to highlight the strengths of the consortium and demonstrate how these strengths align with the project's methodology and work packages. Together, these elements will support a strong, credible Implementation section that clearly shows the consortium's capacity to deliver the proposed research.
- **Part 5: Part B2:** Remaining requesting of information will be touched upon but not discussed in detail. Case studies on the challenges of Joint Doctorates will be describe and recommendations provided on the consortium summary tables.
- **Q&A**

Course materials included:

- A copy of the slides of the Webinars;
- A recording of the Webinar sessions;
- Our Yellow Research MSCA DN Guide that includes an extensive set of animated tutorials organised per topic and per proposal paragraph. It captures our latest insights and understanding as to what reviewers are looking for in a competitive MSCA proposals.

The fee for this training including the course materials is € 935,- (VAT Exempted)

This training is subject to our booking terms and conditions:

www.yellowresearch.nl/terms-conditions/

2 Live Webinars

Full Lecture Slides

YR MSCA Guide



Join one of the three full-day workshops

These include an hour lunch break

Option 1:

29 May 2026

10:00 - 16:00 (Central European Time)

OR

Option 2:

10 June 2026

10:00 - 16:00 (Central European Time)

OR

Option 3:

2 July 2026

10:00 - 16:00 (Central European Time)

Registration can be done via our website: www.yellowresearch.nl

Contact email: yncourses@yellowresearch.nl

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