

Sabanci University

**RESEARCH AND
GRADUATE POLICY
DIRECTORATE**

**SUPPORTS YOUR
RESEARCH AT SU**

in November 2007, features

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1. FP7 Ideas Program; Zoom to European Research Council (ERC) Grants

What is the ERC?

The European Research Council (ERC) is a newly-created Pan-European funding organization, designed to support the best scientists, engineers and scholars in Europe.

What kinds of ERC grants are available?

1.ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grant

The ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grant scheme (ERC Starting Grant) aims to provide adequate support to researchers at the stage at which they are intending to establish or are already leading an independent research team or, depending on the field, developing an independent research program. Researchers applying for an ERC Starting Grant must be able to demonstrate their potential to perform world-class research. The Principal Investigator (PI) must have been awarded is/her first PhD (or equivalent doctoral degree) more than 2 and less than 9 years prior to the deadline of the call for proposals.

2.ERC Advanced Investigator Grant

The ERC Advanced Investigator Grant scheme (ERC Advanced Grant) aims to encourage and support excellent, innovative and investigator-initiated research projects carried out by leading advanced investigators. This funding scheme complements the ERC Starting Grant scheme by targeting researchers who have already established themselves as being independent research leaders in their own right. The PI must be already established as an independent research leader in his/her own right. The PI may be at any career stage beyond that at which he / she would be eligible for an ERC Starting Grant.

Who can apply for an ERC grant?

ERC Grants support projects which are carried out by individual research teams, headed by a single "PI" of any nationality and, if necessary, include additional team members. The guiding principles of ERC grants are Scientific excellence is the sole selection criterion, Projects in all fields of research are eligible for funding, Individual teams led by independent PIs are Supported, Significant funding is provided to attract the best researchers.

To apply for an ERC grant, the PI presents a frontier research project and an individual research team, which will work under his/her responsibility. Depending on the field, a PI may also work alone.

What kind of research can be funded?

ERC grants aim to support "frontier research", in other words the pursuit of questions at or beyond the frontiers of knowledge, without regard for established disciplinary boundaries. Applications may be made in any field of research - including the social sciences and humanities - with particular emphasis on the frontier of science and scholarship.

What is the typical size of an ERC grant?

ERC Starting Grants last up to five years and provide €100,000 to €400,000 of funding per year, amounting to a total of €0.5 to 2.0 million per grant.

ERC Advanced Grants last up to five years and provide €100,000 to €500,000 of funding per year, amounting to a total of €0.5 to 2.5 million per grant.

When can researchers apply?

ERC Advanced Researcher Grant call to be published end of November 2007.

For further information please click [here](#).

2. Research Centres in Europe

2.1. The European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC)

What is the JRC?	The European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) is a department (Directorate-General, DG) of the European Commission providing independent scientific and technological support for EU policy-making. It works closely on the development of EU legislation with the relevant Commission services, such as the Agricultural, Enterprise, Environment, and Health and Consumer Protection DGs. Knowledge comes from specific application- and issue-oriented research within the seven JRC Institutes and close co-operation with over 1000 public and private organizations in 150 networks in Member State and applicant countries. The JRC also liaises with non-EU and global scientific and standard-setting bodies.
Where is the JRC in Europe?	The JR offices are located in Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Spain and Italy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements (IRMM) Belgium ● Institute for Energy (IE) The Netherlands ● Institute for Transuranium Elements (ITU) Germany ● Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC) Italy ● Institute for Health and Consumer Protection (IHCP) Italy ● Institute for Environment and Sustainability (IES) Italy ● Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS) Spain
What is the benefit of working with the JRC?	The JRC is one of the few multinational and multicultural research centres in Europe, and works with numerous research partners. Its independence of national or commercial interests and its proximity to EU policy-makers, together with its expertise in key areas make it a unique partner. The JRC encourages co-operation with other organizations to share competencies, acquire new knowledge and maintain high scientific quality through external benchmarking.
How is the JRC funded?	The JRC is allocated an annual budget of around €320 million for direct support to EU institutions from the 7th Framework Program (FP7). It earns up to a further 15% from competitive activities (participation in collaborative projects, technology transfer and work for third parties - including industry and regional authorities).
For further information please click here	

2.2. Competence Research Centres (CRCs)

What are the Competence Research Centres?	Competence Research Centres are research centres that aim to bridge the gap between scientific and economic innovation. They play an important role in innovation networks and clusters by providing a collective environment for academics, industry and in some cases public services, as well as sufficient critical mass of people who can synergistically extend research and diffuse the resulting knowledge. As such they are an instrument to tackle the 'European Paradox', in other words: the fact that Europe plays a leading role in the world in terms of scientific excellence and the provision of highly-skilled human capital, but largely fails to convert science-based findings and inventions into wealth-generating innovations.
What is the COMPERA?	COMPERA is targeted towards the creation of a sustainable network of programs that are funding Competence Research Centres. It should lead to a strategic decision-making of program owners and managers at pan-European level with regard to Competence Research Centres. These centres aim to bridge the gap between technological and economic innovation by providing a collective environment for academics and industry and sufficient critical mass. Their activities are multiple: pooling of knowledge, creation of new knowledge by performing different types of research, training and dissemination of knowledge. COMPERA is funded under the ERA-NET scheme of the European Commission's Sixth Framework Program.
Where is The Competence Research Centres in Europe?	COMPERA developed the website www.competence-research-centres.eu . This website gives you an overview over the location and thematic orientation of over 300 Competence Research Centres in Europe. A user-friendly search technology allows you to figure out, to take some examples, which centres in Production Technologies are active in Sweden, whom to contact if you are looking for a cooperation partner for

Life Sciences projects in Estonia or whether centres with similar thematic orientation are active on both sides of the border between Austria and Slovenia.

But searching for Competence Research Centres is only one of the services the website offers you. In addition, you will find:

- news services bringing to you up to date news from the Competence Research Centres and the programs behind them,
- information on upcoming events and conferences, and research and
- innovation highlights of the Competence Research Centres.

A specific focus of the website is to inform the Competence Research Centres and their partners about funding possibilities for cross-border projects. Accordingly you will find well-structured information about EU programs and a service providing you with the latest calls of the EC.

For further information please click [here](#)

3. Open Call for Proposals

EU 7TH FRAMEWORK - TUBITAK

Sponsored Institution	Call Title	Deadline for Submission	Theme
EU 7th Framework Program (FP7) Capacities Specific Program			
EU FP7- Capacities	Activities of International Cooperation Identifier: FP7-INCO-2007-3	12 February 2008	Activities of International Cooperation
EU 7th Framework Program (FP7) Cooperation Specific Program			
EU FP7- Cooperation	Joint Call between ICT and Security Themes on Critical Infrastructure Protection Identifier: FP7-ICT-SEC-2007-1	29 November 2007	Information and Communication Technologies, Security
EU FP7- Cooperation	Socio-Economic Sciences and the Humanities Identifier: FP7-SSH-2007-1	29 November 2007	Socio-Economic Sciences and Humanities
EU FP7- Cooperation	Information and Communication Technologies Identifier: FP7-ICT-2007-C	31 December 2008	Information and Communication Technologies
TUBITAK			
TUBITAK	The Support Program for Scientific and Technological Research Projects (1001)	First week of January 2008	-
TUBITAK	Visiting Scientists Fellowship Program (2221)	End of every month	-
TUBITAK	Support Program for the Initiative to Build Scientific and Technological Cooperation Networks and Platforms (1301)	Anytime	-
TUBITAK	The Program for Participating International Scientific Research Projects (1011)	Anytime	-
TUBITAK	Support Program for Research Projects of Public Institutions (1007)	Anytime	-
TUBITAK	Short-Term R&D Funding Program (1002)	Anytime	-

4. RGP News

Proposals and Activities of RGP Directorate in September and October 2007

RGP Office has processed 9 proposals for the following sponsoring agencies in September and October 2007.

- 6 Proposals for FP7 People Specific Program; Marie Curie International Re-Integration Grants (IRG),
- 1 Proposal for Citigroup Foundation,
- 1 Proposal for COST (European Co-operation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research) Program,
- 1 Proposal for Italy / CNR (Within The Framework Of Tubitak-CNR Cooperation Agreement) 2007-2008 (2504)

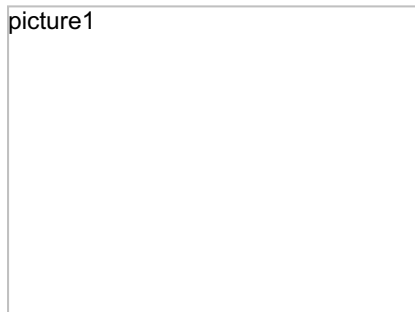
Deadlines for Internal Grant for Academic Activities

New deadlines for "Internal Academic Activities Grant" are announced as follows for 2007-2008 Academic Year: is as follows: . November 30, 2007- March 31, and July 31 2008. More information regarding this grant and the application forms can be obtained from RGP office.

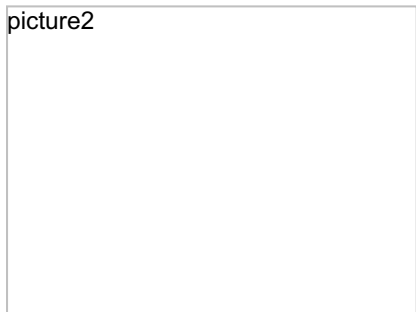
EU 7th Framework Program Information Meeting

The information meeting on the EU 7th Framework Program was held on October 9nd, 2007 at Sabancı University in cooperation with TUBITAK FP7 National Coordination Office. Ms. Burçak Çullu, EU Framework Programs National Contact Point on "People" Program, gave information on FP7 programs, specifically on Marie Curie Actions. For the presentation files click [here](#)

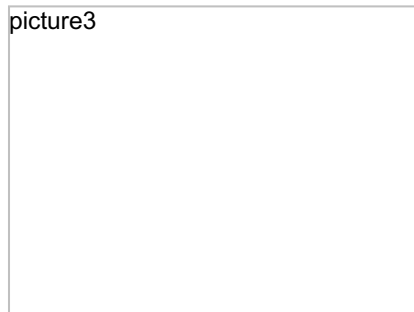
picture1



picture2



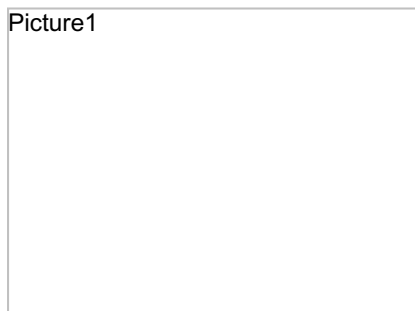
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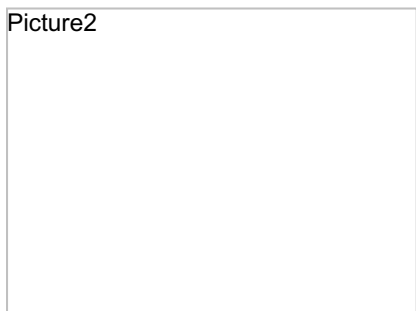
EU 7th Framework Program International Re-Integration Grants (IRG) Workshop

Workshop on EU 7th Framework Program International Re-Integration Grants (IRG) was organized in cooperation with TÜBİTAK on October 9nd, 2007 at Sabancı University. Four FENS faculty members and two FASS faculty members attended the workshop. Ms. Burçak Çullu, EU Framework Programs National Contact Point on "People" Program, presented tips on writing successful proposals.

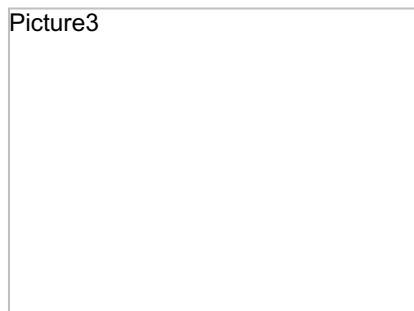
Picture1



Picture2



Picture3



Meetings and Events of RGP Directorate in September and October 2007

- Negotiation Meetings for EU 7th Framework Program Research Potential (REGPOT) Project (PI: Dr. Cleva Ow-Yang), Brussels; European Commission, October 22, Dr. Nilay Papila and Dr. Cleva Ow-Yang, attended negotiation meetings for Dr. Cleva Ow-Yang's project entitled "Improving the Research Potential for Nanoscale Materials Characterization".
- 2007-2008 Academic Year Opening Day Ceremony of Akdeniz University, Antalya; October 1, Dr. Cemil Arıkan, RGP Director attended and delivered an opening lecture on innovation at 2007-2008 Academic Year Opening Day Ceremony of Akdeniz University. For browsing meeting presentations and meeting agenda please click [here](#).
- 4th meeting of the FP7 "People" Program Committee Brussels; Belgium–September 27-28, Dr. Nilay Papila attended the 4th meeting of the FP7 "People" Program Committee in Brussels. Fifty delegates and experts discussed the 2008 "People" Work Program and discussed the details of upcoming call of the COFUND program. The draft version of the 2008 "People" Work Program can be obtained from RGP office.
- EU FP7 "People" Program Delegates and Experts Meeting, Ankara; TÜBİTAK, September 25, Dr. Nilay Papila attended the Workshop EU FP7 Turkish "People" Program Delegates and Experts Meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss Turkey's strategy prior to attending 4th meeting of the FP7 "People" Program Committee in Brussels.
- EU 7th Framework Cooperation Specific Program; Energy and Environment Actions Workshop, Istanbul; Okan University, September 24, Ebru Ocak and Yeşim Kaya attended, EU 7th Framework Cooperation Specific Program; Energy and Environment Actions. For browsing meeting presentations and meeting agenda please click [here](#).

5. FENS Faculty Member Güllü Kızıltaş Şendur and FMAN Faculty Member Burcu Taşoluk Describes Their Work Experience through RGP Office

Burcu Taşoluk Describes Her Work Experience through RGP

BurcuTasoluk

"Research and Graduate Policies (RGP) office, also known as ALP, is a great unit at Sabanci University that helps faculty members to find resources to support their research. When I first heard about this unit, I was still in the U.S., and was not very clear on how they might be supporting researchers at SU. I only sensed that they would be important for my research, and indeed, they turned out to be very important. Right after coming to Turkey, the orientation program introduced ALP to the new faculty of Sabanci University. Not long after that, ALP office coordinated a meeting with us-the new faculty-and guided us through the application process for the Marie Curie IRG Grants. The grant application process was very long and there were lots of details that needed to be taken care of while writing a proposal. Lucky for us, ALP staff was there in every step of the way. They showed a sincere effort in helping us get these grants. They worked hard with us, helped us with all the formalities, and they even appealed EC's initial decision when our proposals got rejected at the end of the first round on the basis of eligibility. In the end, they were very successful in defending our case, our eligibility was granted, and our proposals got evaluated. I was very happy when I learned that my project was among the ones that were accepted for funding at the end of the evaluation. I would like to sincerely thank to ALP staff for their significant contributions to the success of my Marie Curie IRG proposal and I would like to encourage the new faculty to work closely with them.

Once you meet the ALP staff, you will actually feel yourself encouraged by their attitude. They have a very positive attitude. One thing that you can be sure of when you step in their office is that you will always be welcomed with a smiling face. Furthermore, they make you think that the pages and pages of application documents are in fact very easy to handle, and because they are very experienced, they actually make the whole process go very smoothly. You focus on your research, they consider the details that you might not have thought of before thoroughly, and you end up completing the application in a very efficient and effective manner.

Throughout the year, ALP keeps sending email notifications, informing faculty members about calls for proposals and offering a hand for the application process. My experience showed me that ALP office consists of very motivated, smart, competent, and capable individuals with valuable experience and connections. I believe that they are an invaluable asset and a competitive advantage of our university."

Güllü Kızıltaş Şendur Describes Her Work Experience through RGP Office

Gullu_Kiziltas

A successful grant proposal is one that is well-prepared, thoughtfully planned, and concisely packaged. Thanks to our Research & Graduate Policy Directorate (RGP), we are extremely well supported during each stage of this difficult and stressful period. It even starts before the writing period: The RGP staff does an excellent job in making us aware with all of the pertinent program criteria related to the agency from which funding is sought. There is absolutely no need to refer to the information contact person listed usually in the funding program description. Rather, well ahead of time we are always informed of potential funding available, when applicable deadlines occur, and the process used by the

grantor agency for accepting applications. It is with great care that RGP makes sure applicants know the basic requirements and even send us application forms.

I would like to share with you my own experience with the RGP in writing both national and international grants. Having some grant writing experience, I was somewhat aware that this is a demanding job. What I was not quite familiar was how positive of an impact a project office could have in this process. In fact, 1 week before the submission day for the career award, I thought it was almost ready to go. Having informed the office of my application intent, I received a call from them asking where I stand and a possible meeting time. Thinking if that was really necessary in the back of my head, I agreed. And luckily I did so! At first I was not quite sure what to expect as I was offered to make myself comfortable, a quick sign that my visit was not going to be a short one and certainly their checking was not only going to be a simple format check. Carefully going over every page one –by–one (and I do not mean skimming), I was suggested to include or avoid certain phrases, change the format, add sections, double check budget numbers, justify them, emphasize certain parts and much more. They edited the entire structure with great attention to specifications and concise persuasive writing, suggested modifications for a reasonable budget and emphasized about all the critical elements of the evaluation stage. I was amazed how carefully the office read the guidelines and how detail oriented they were in not only checking the format but also the technical content! I was even more impressed as the project matured in terms of clarification, consistency and format and eventually became a totally new one, a great one indeed I have to admit. This was only the first round of the 'extensive editing' meetings, there were two more to come and a final check despite the short timeline. When I arrived at the door for the final meeting there were more faculty being taken care of at the same time and some more were constantly calling. "None of the staff was stressed; on the contrary, they were dealing systematically with everyone individually and that with a great smile on their faces. Every minute detail was already taken care of to the extent it could to avoid any last minute leak."

Final signatures, signing up, postal service arrangement was ready. Proposals were one-by one collated, copied, and packaged correctly and neatly according to agency instructions. Each package was inspected for a final time to ensure uniformity from cover to cover.

I will never forget how great of a relief it was to rely on these people on another occasion with a European proposal. This for me was even a more stressful period when I had to leave for a funeral just before the submission deadline and the office staff agreed to work with me out of their regular working hours in their usual attentive way. It was one of the moments I realized that this university earned its reputation for being special and different because of people like those at the RGP. It was not just the professionalism of the people or their meticulous job, but their individual care, moral support and trust that by far exceeded my expectations. I truly lived thru the positive experience and believe me when I say that these people do their absolute best to make your proposal a winning one and surely your office visits worthwhile. It is with great confidence that I can only urge everyone to visit the RGP before submitting the proposal and rest assured they will lift your load and make your day. Research is a core mission at our university, and the RGP most definitely welcomes the opportunity to support your research development.

6. Latest Research News

Sabancı University has been awarded with one new Cooperation Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology Grant by the EU

Dr. Hikmet Budak, who is a faculty member of Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, has been awarded Cooperation Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology Grant for his project entitled "TriticeaeGenome". He describes his project as following;

"The aim of this project is to achieve significant progresses in Triticeae (wheat and barley) genomics for Europe by isolating genes underlying disease resistance, yield and quality traits. Identifying and exploiting new alleles for the isolated genes through the use of natural and mutant populations as well as wild germplasm is also incorporated to the project. The data obtained from the project will deliver novel information and tools to scientists for a better understanding of Triticeae genomes organization, evolution, and function thereby, providing a better understanding of the biology of these essential crops. In this project, Dr. Budak is mainly responsible for Bacterial Artificial Chromosome (BAC) end sequencing for genome analysis, contig assembly of chromosome 1AL of wheat and comparative genomics. "

Sabancı University has been awarded with one new 2007 IBM Faculty Award by the IBM

Dr. Selim Balcısoy, who is a faculty member of Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences; Dr. Elif Ayiter, Dr. Murat Germen, and Dr. Selçuk Artut who are faculty members of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, has been awarded 2007 IBM Faculty Award for their project entitled "Developing an visual analytics system and test bed with applications to the SSME".

Achievement of FENS Faculty Member Dr. Ersin Göğüş

"The Magnetar Nature and the Outburst Mechanism of a Transient Anomalous X-ray Pulsar" by Ersin Göğüş (Sabancı University), Tolga Güver (İstanbul University), Feryal Özel (University of Arizona), and Chryssa Kouveliotou (NASA Marshall Space Flight Center) is due to be published in The Astrophysical Journal, on 20 September 2007.

Sabancı University has been awarded with one new 2007 Crawford Fund by the The Australian Academy of

Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE)

Dr Ismail Cakmak, who is the faculty member of Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, recipient of the 2007 ATSE-Crawford Fund Derek Tribe Award in recognition of his outstanding work and leadership in identifying zinc deficiency as the underlying cause of poor wheat yields in the calcareous soils in Turkey.

Sabancı University has been awarded with one new 2007 Industry Thesis (SAN-TEZ) Program Grant by Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Prof. Asif Şabanoviç,, who is the faculty member of Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, has been awarded for his project *entitled Computer Controlled System for Preparation of Tc99m Radiopharmaceuticals (RADIOPHARMATIC)*.

6. Upcoming Events

- 8-9 November 2007, Ankara, Turkey, "Nato Info Day & Building Partnership". For further information please visit [here](#).
- 22-23 November 2007, Denmark, "2nd International ICT Brokerage Event on Research and Technology Development". For further information please visit [here](#).
- 13-14 December 2007, Ankara, Turkey, "Information Security & Cryptology Conference". For further information please visit [here](#).

8. Call Forecast

Ideas/ Starting Independent Researcher Grant	Call to be published in November 2007
ERC Advanced Researcher Grants	Call to be published end of November 2007
Capacities/ REGPOT	Call to be published in December 2007
Cooperation/Energy	Call to be published in December 2007
Cooperation/ Environment	Call to be published in December 2007
People/ European Re-integration Grants	Call to be published in January 2008
People/ International Re-integration Grants	Call to be published in 2008
Tubitak/Career Development Program 3501	Call to be published in August 4 th 2008

8. Editorial

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