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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,  
Education and Research EAER

**State Secretariat for Education,  
Research and Innovation SERI**

The State Secretary

Bern, 25 March 2024

## **Funding of Swiss Participants in the 2024 ERC Advanced Grants of the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation 'Horizon Europe'**

To whom this may concern

Switzerland and the European Union (EU) agreed on a transitional arrangement to enable researchers in Switzerland to participate in the ERC Advanced Grants (AdG) of the programme year 2024. Thus, proposals of researchers who apply to ERC AdG with a host institution located in Switzerland will be evaluated by the ERC Executive Agency (ERCEA) and interviews will take place. Furthermore, these researchers will be informed of the Step 2 evaluation results.

If recommended for funding after step 2 of the evaluation process and if an association agreement is not in place by then, PI's from a host institution located in Switzerland will be granted the possibility to maintain the eligibility of their proposal by transferring it to a new, eligible entity. This treatment is linked to the portability of these grants: The host institution for these projects can be changed at the moment when the grant agreement is established (granting stage).

This is to state that based on Article 2 Paragraph b. of the [Federal Decree](#) on the financing of Swiss participation in EU activities in the field of research and innovation in the years 2021-2027, as well as on Article 11(4) Paragraph a. of the Ordinance of 20 January 2021 on the measures for Switzerland's participation in EU programmes in the field of research and innovation ([FIPBV](#)), the **State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI will directly fund Principle Investigators with positively evaluated 2024 ERC Advanced Grants proposals within the limits of the budget allocated by the Federal Council and Parliament, if these PI's decide to stay at a Swiss host institution.**

This possibility applies to proposals that are recommended for funding by the ERCEA after the evaluation process; the funding amount will correspond to the amount requested from the ERC, also in terms of overhead costs. The [International Research and Innovation Programmes Section at SERI](#) is available for questions and will publish further details on how to proceed in due time.

Yours faithfully,

State Secretariat for Education,  
Research and Innovation SERI

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State Secretary

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