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Answer given by Ms Zaharieva
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.8.2025)

The EUR 500 million package for 2025–2027, announced at the Choose Europe for Science event at the Sorbonne University in Paris on 5 May 2025, comes from Horizon Europe and aims to enhance the EU’s global competitiveness in research and innovation. It is not targeted at any one nationality, but is open to researchers worldwide, including those already based in the EU, under existing and transparent Horizon Europe rules.

This package includes the Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA) “Choose Europe” pilot,¹ which supports early-career researchers with attractive allowances and longer employment prospects, as well as measures under the European Research Council (ERC), in particular doubling the amount offered to researchers who relocate to Europe from abroad, already available this year, as well as a seven-year 'super grant', which will come into effect from next year. Both ERC and MSCA are open to researchers from all countries, as long as they are based in EU Member States or Associated Countries, with selection based strictly on scientific excellence, regardless of origin.

In addition, EUR 230 million has been earmarked for European Research Area (ERA) Chairs (2026–2027), supporting the creation of 120 new research leadership positions in widening Member States. This will strengthen the research landscape across all Member States and help retain and attract talent where it is most needed.

The Commission remains fully committed to transparency, fairness and the highest standards of evaluation in all Horizon Europe actions. These principles will continue to guide the implementation of this package.

¹ In addition to the “Choose Europe” pilot, the MSCA provide a wide range of training, mobility and career development opportunities that are open to researchers of all nationalities, including US researchers, for them to successfully relocate to Europe.