



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

The ERC is led by an independent governing body, the **Scientific Council**, and, since January 2014, the ERC **President is Prof. Jean-Pierre Bourguignon**. The ERC has a budget of over €13 billion and is part of the EU research and innovation programme, Horizon 2020.

ERC grantees have won [prestigious prizes](#), including **6 Nobel Prizes, 3 Fields Medals, 5 Wolf Prize** and more.

2014-2020 budget: 13,1 billion euro.



Watch the ERC video [here](#).

*FRONTIER RESEARCH

European Research Council (ERC) grants support individual researchers of **any nationality and age** who wish to pursue their frontier research. The ERC encourages in particular proposals that cross disciplinary boundaries, pioneering ideas that address new and emerging fields and applications that introduce unconventional, innovative approaches.

Focus on the European Research Council (ERC)

Set up in 2007 by the European Union, the [European Research Council](#) is the first European funding organisation for frontier research*. It aims to stimulate **scientific excellence** in Europe. It selects and funds the very best, creative researchers of **any nationality and age** to run five-year-projects in a public or private research organisation based in the countries of the European Research Area (ERA), that includes [EU Member States](#) and [Associated Countries](#).

ERC open to the world

The ERC also strives to attract top researchers from anywhere in the world to come to Europe. To date, the ERC has funded some 6 500 top researchers at various stages of their careers.

ERC grants are **open to researchers of any nationality** who may reside in any country in the world at the time of application. Currently, there are **515 principal investigators of non-ERA nationality** (nationals of countries other than the EU and the countries associated to the Framework Programme Horizon 2020) among the over 6400 ERC-funded researchers, representing 8% of all grantees (390 Starting and Consolidator Grants and 124 Advanced Grants). These grant holders are mainly nationals of the US (212), Canada (61), Russia (40), Australia (35), India (35), and Japan (24).

To date, only six grantees are Brazilian: [Artur Avila](#), [Aureo de Paula](#), [Elison Matioli](#), **Bernardo Franklin**, **Eduardo Lee**, and **Roberto Rinaldi**.

On average, ERC grantees employ around six team members during their ERC project. An estimate shows that some 18% of these team members are nationals from countries outside Europe.

An estimated 250 Brazilian researchers work as team members on ERC-funded research projects. The ERC encourages more top Brazilian researchers to join the ranks of ERC grant holders.

What's in it for Brazilian researchers?

1. [ERC funding schemes](#)

Brazilian researchers, independently of their current place of work, can apply for 3 types of ERC grants:

- [ERC Starting Grants \(StG\)](#) for young, early-career top researchers, 2-7 years after award of PhD.
- [ERC Consolidator Grants \(CoG\)](#) for already independent excellent scientists, 7-12 years after award of PhD.
- [ERC Advanced Grants](#) (AdG) for senior research leaders.

Additionally, ERC grant holders can apply for top-up funding (Proof of Concept Grant(PoC) to explore the innovation potential of their research results.



Brazil and ERC:

To date, six Brazilian researchers have been awarded ERC Starting and Consolidator Grants.

They are (picture left to right - Click on the blue names to read their interviews):

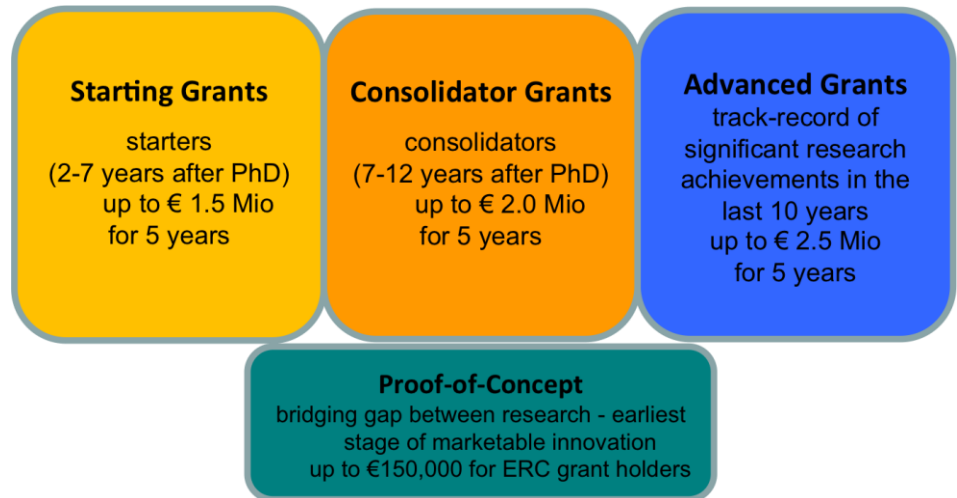
- The leading mathematician [Artur Avila](#) for his "Quasiperiodic" project;
- [Aureo de Paula](#) for his project on "Econometric Analysis of Interaction Models." ;
- [Elison Matioli](#) for his project "IN-NEED" on energy efficiency;
- **Bernardo Franklin** for his Plat-IL-1 project on inflammasomes
- **Eduardo Lee** for his project TOPOQDot on topological materials
- **Roberto Rinaldi** for his LIGNINFIRST project on lignocellulosic Biomass



Signature of the 'implementing arrangement' on 13 October 2016 by the Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, Carlos Moedas, and the President of the Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies (CONFAP), Sergio Luiz Gargioni.

Brazil is the eighth country worldwide to sign such an agreement with ERC, after the USA, South Korea, Argentina, Japan, China, South Africa and Mexico.

The different ERC funding schemes are shown in the figure below:



ERC calls are annual. Find the calendar of upcoming calls [here](#).

2. Carry out research (PhD or post-doc) as an ERC team member

ERC projects are carried out by an individual researcher ('Principal Investigator') who can **employ researchers of any nationality as team members**. One or more team members can even be located in a non-European country.

=> **How to find a job in ERC teams?** ERC grantees are encouraged to publish vacancies in their teams on the [EURAXESS Jobs portal](#), tagging them with the ERC logo. A quick search with the "European Research Council (ERC)" additional filter will list all vacancies available in ERC teams in Europe. It is then possible to refine the search by research field, country, etc.

Read the **interview of 3 Brazilian PhD candidates within ERC funded projects** [here](#) and find out some tips for successful applications.

3. Post doctoral visits to ERC teams in Europe

Since October 2016, the Implementing arrangement (IA) between Confap and the European Commission enables Brazilian post-doc researchers to carry out research visits and temporarily join ERC teams in Europe. Research visits can be either one-offs and long-term (6-12 months), or multiple short-term visits.

In practice, ERC launches an annual Call for expression of interest amongst ERC grantees to inquire about their interest to host Brazilian scientists in their research teams. From the last call (October 2016), 317 Principal Investigators (PIs) expressed interest in hosting Brazilian scientists. The list is then sent to Confap who informs active Brazilian post-doctoral grantees from FAPs, CAPES and CNPq of the opportunity through the issuance of a letter. The pre-selection of the Brazilian scientists is done by CONFAP on behalf of and in agreement with the Brazilian funding agency without any ERC intervention (neither in the selection criteria nor in the selection procedure).

Selected Brazilian reserchers will continue to receive their salaries and/or scholarships. The participant FAP will also provide support for travel expenses, including those of the accompanying family members in case of long-term visits. Read the agreement for more details on ERC's contribution.