



Opening new horizons



Opening new horizons

EUI Conference

National and European Funding Opportunities

12.12.2018

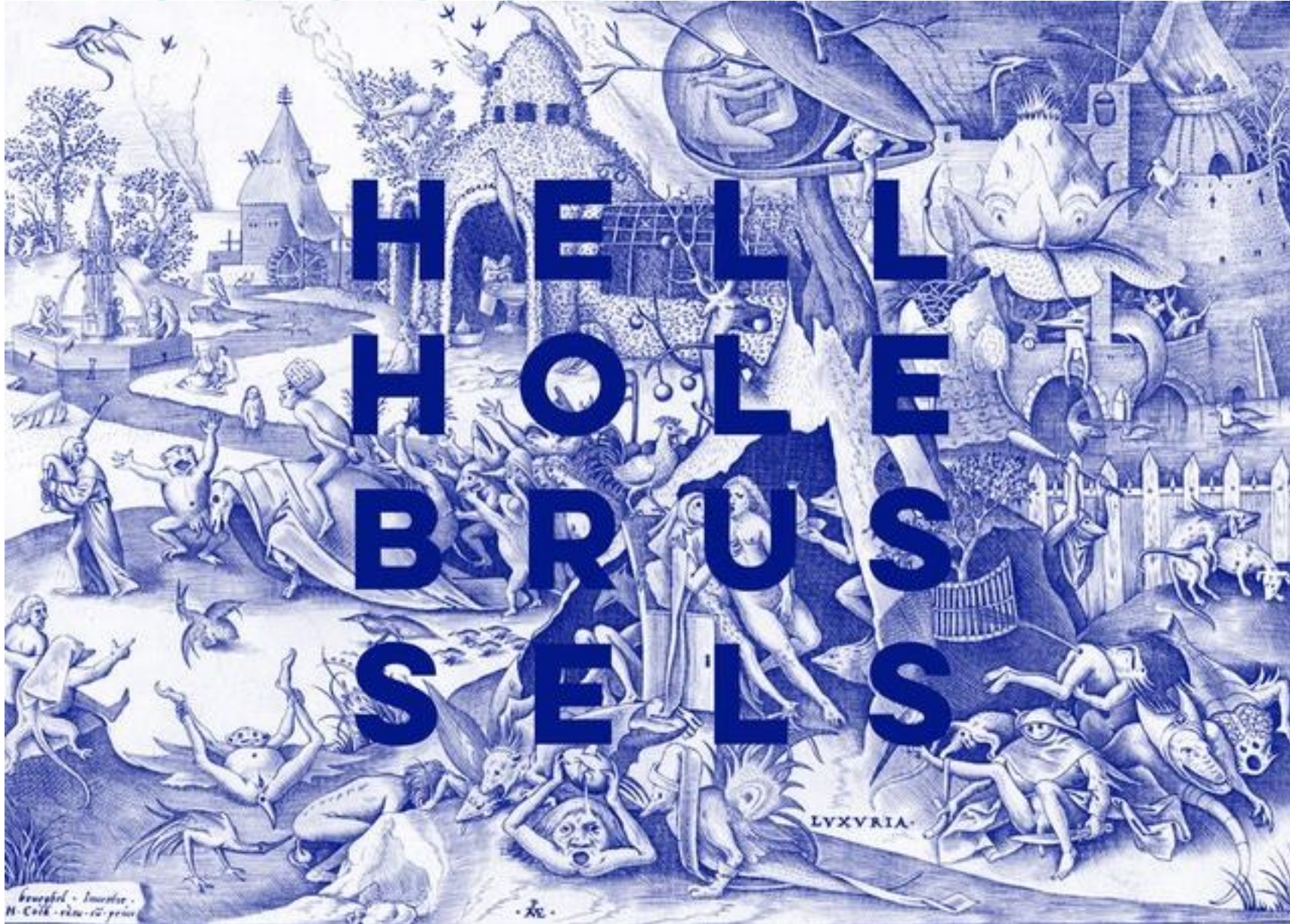
Tinne Jacobs
Advisor International Affairs

Agenda

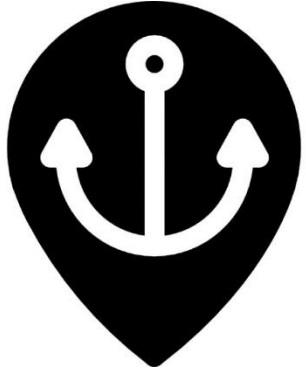
- Why Belgium – Flanders?
- Why FWO?
- Postdoctoral fellowships
- Submission & selection procedure
- Other funding possibilities

Agenda

- **Why Belgium – Flanders?**
- Why FWO?
- Postdoctoral fellowships
- Submission & selection procedure
- Other funding possibilities



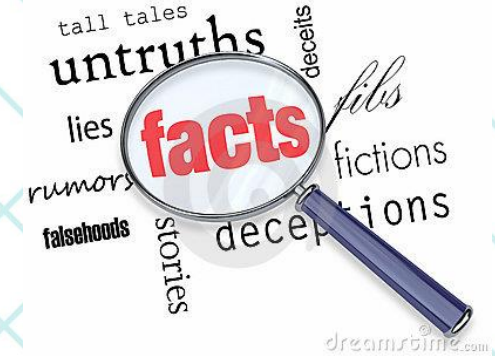
Belgium - Flanders



Belgium - Flanders



Facts about Flanders



- **Population:** ca. 6.516.011 (2017)
- **R&D-investments:** $\pm 2,70\%$ GDP (Flemish Region - 2016) $\pm 2,76\%$ GDP (Flemish Community – 2016)
- **Number of R&D personnel:** ± 48.926 (Flemish Region)/ ± 50.460 (Flemish Community) (0,72% population – 1,54% working force) (2015)
- **Number of scientific papers:** $\pm 1\%$ world (2015), or 25,32/10.000 inhabitants (for Med and S&T, 2015)
- **Number of EPO-patent applications** (2013): 313,2/million inhabitants

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HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

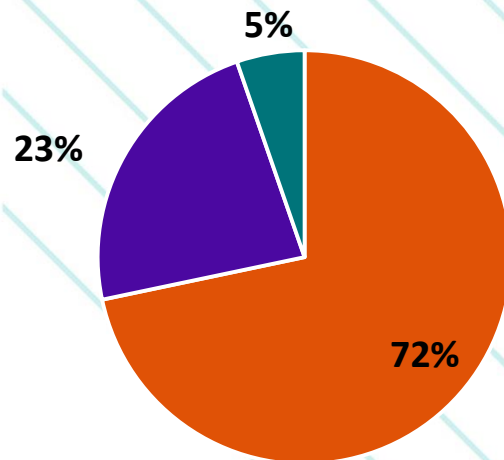


Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO)

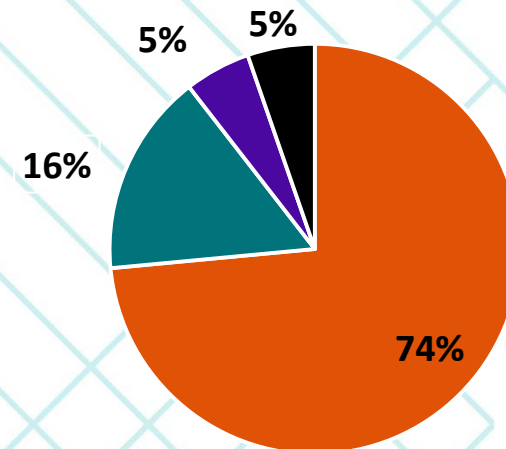
www.fwo.be

Key Facts on FWO (2017)

Budget: **350 million EUR (incl. EOS)**



■ Research projects ■ Fellowships ■ Infrastructure



■ Fundamental Research ■ Strategic Basic Research
■ Clinical Research ■ Infrastructure



854 Predocs (basic)
400 Predocs (strategic basic)
791 Postdocs
1220 Projects



82% Predocs **18%**
62% Postdocs **38%**



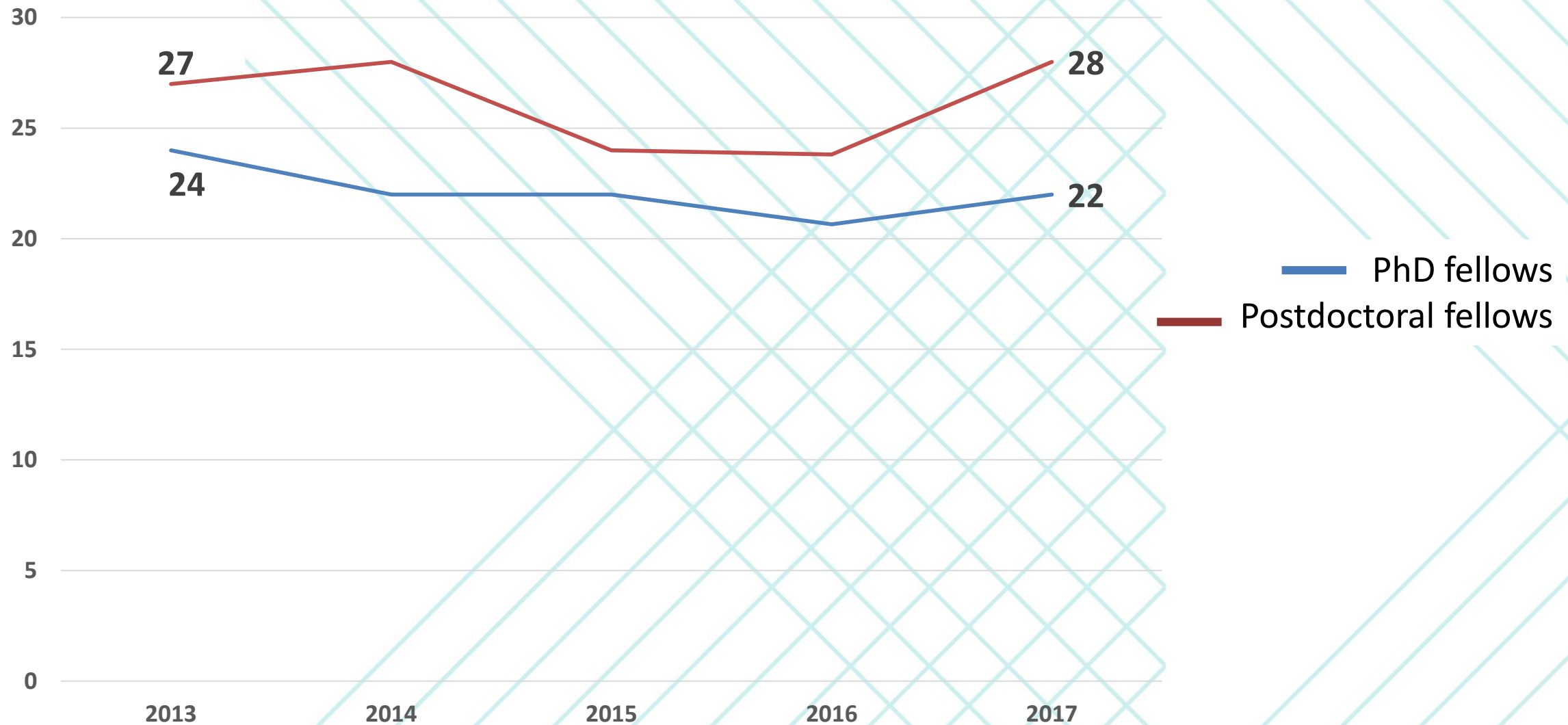
51% Predocs 49%
42% Postdocs 58%



2017

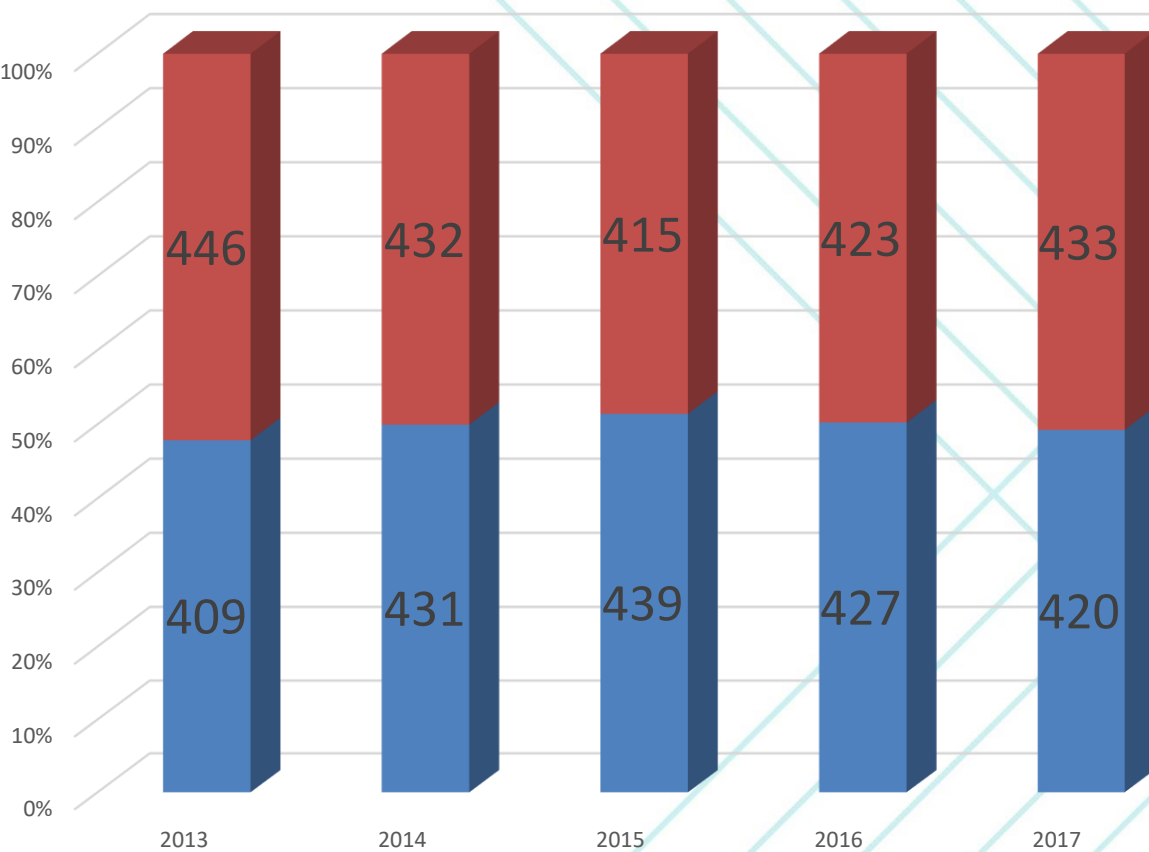
21,3% Predocs (basic)
29,3% Predocs (strategic basic)
27,4% Postdocs
20,5% Projects

Evolution success rate

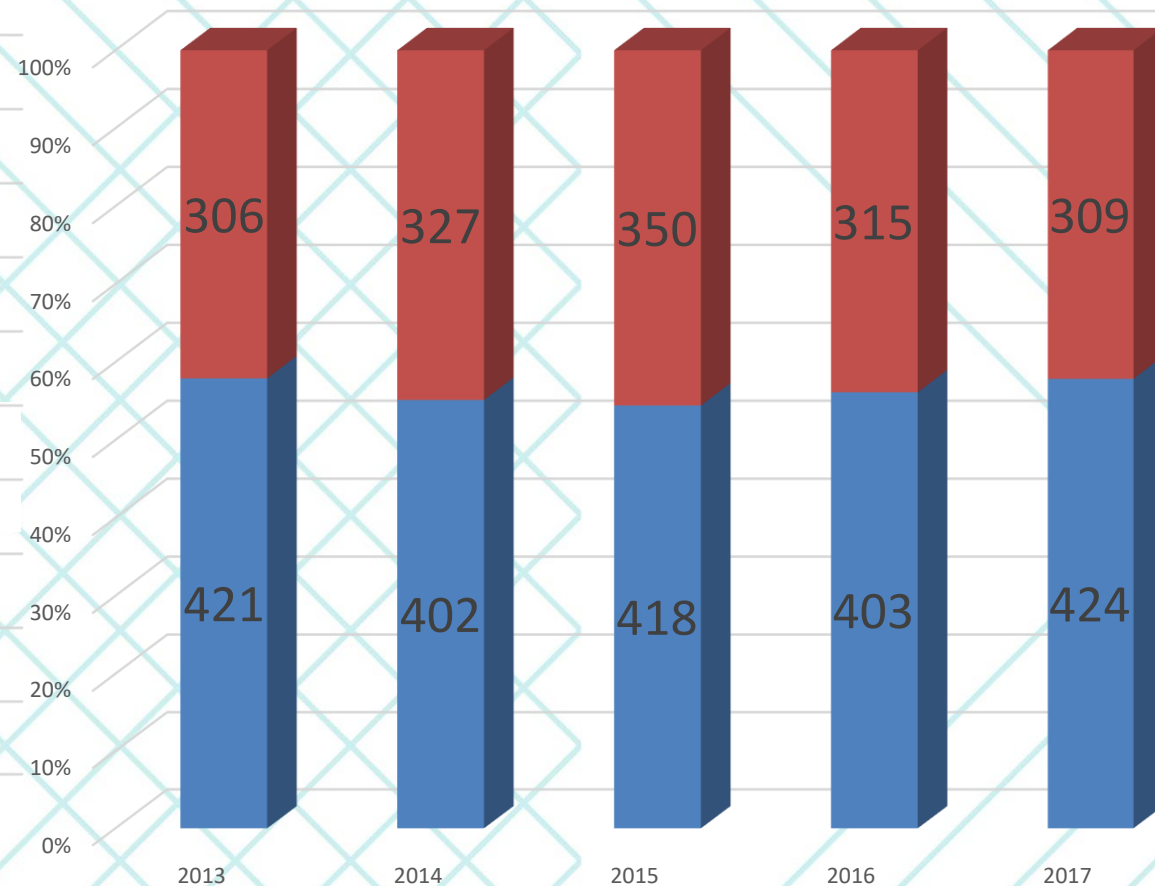


Equal opportunities: Gender

Predocs



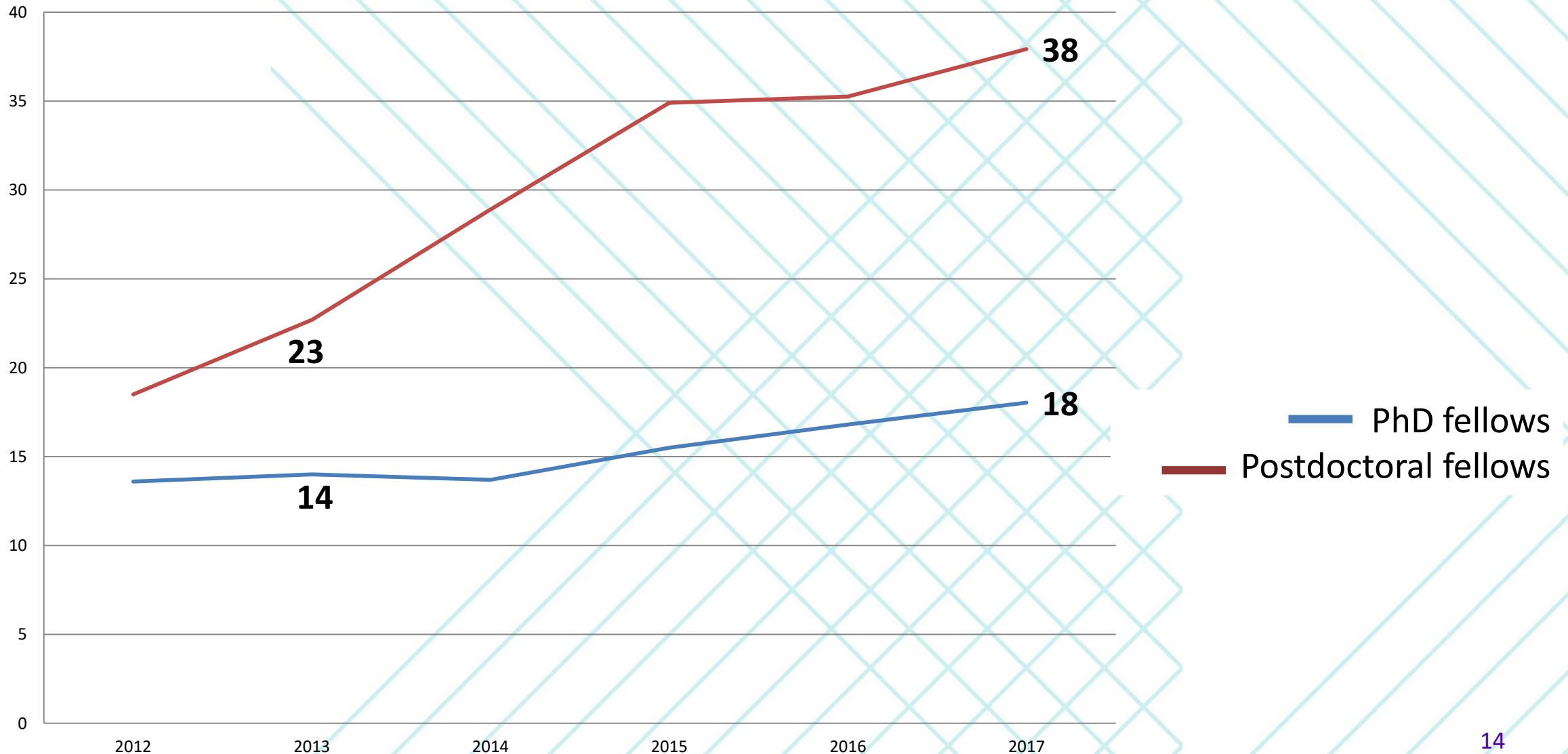
Postdocs



Male Female

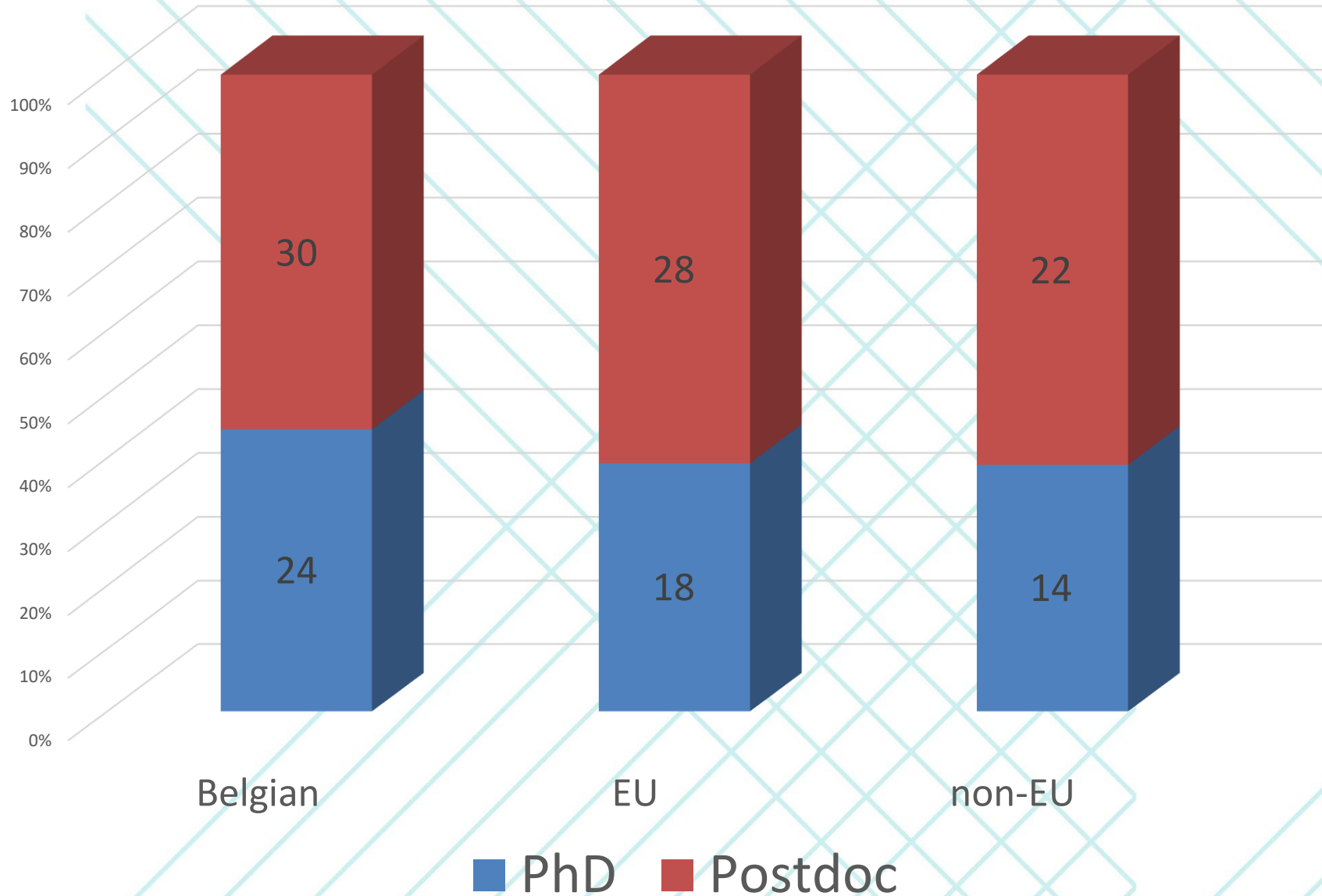
Equal opportunities: Nationality

% granted foreign (non-Belgian) researchers (only fellowships, not projects)

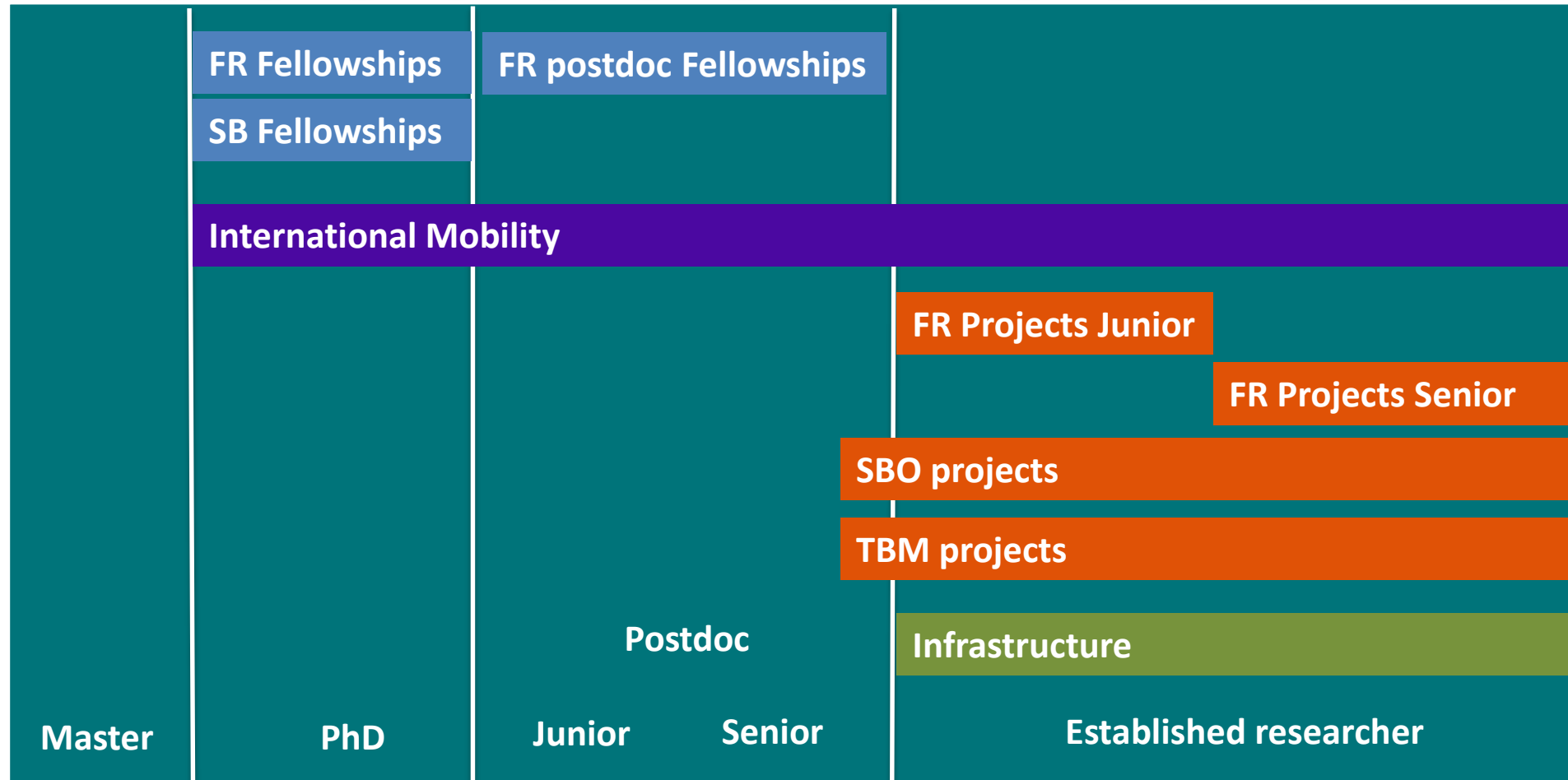


Equal opportunities: Nationality

Success rate per nationality (2017)



Main FWO Funding Schemes 2019



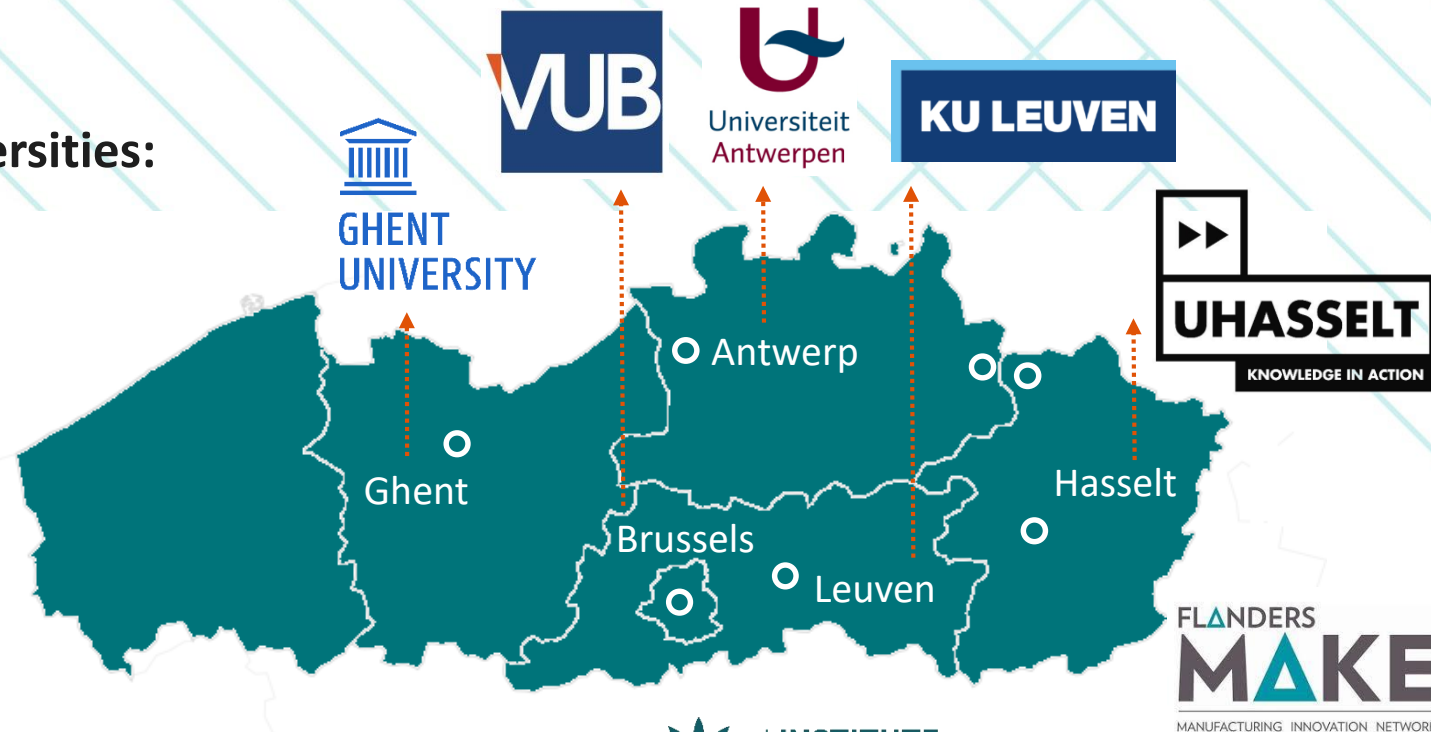
FR: Fundamental research

SB: Strategic basic research

TBM: Applied biomedical research

Main Research Performing Centers

World-Class Universities:



Leading (Strategic)
Research Centers:

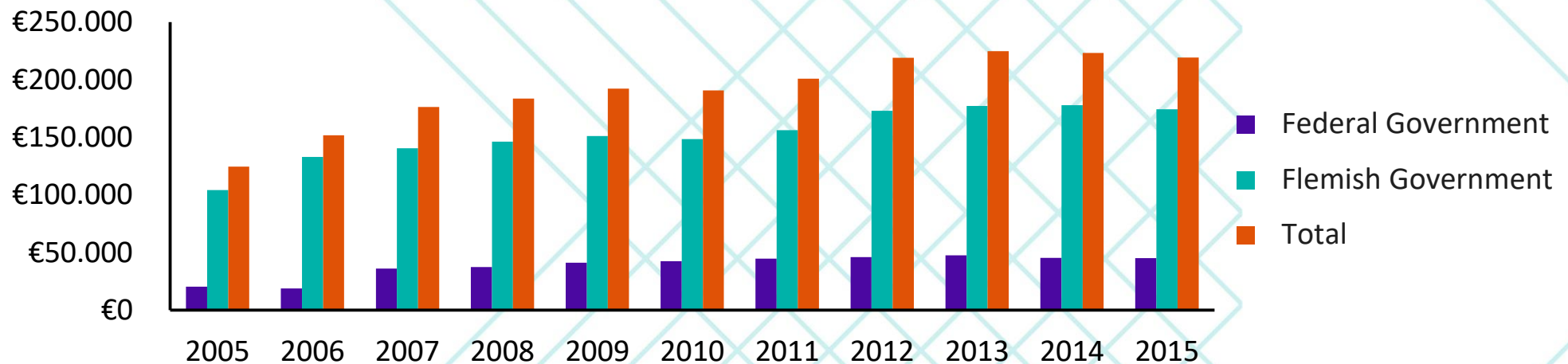


Budget

Budget 2016: 321,6 million EUR

Budget 2017: 340,7 million EUR

2005-2015
(in thousand EUR)



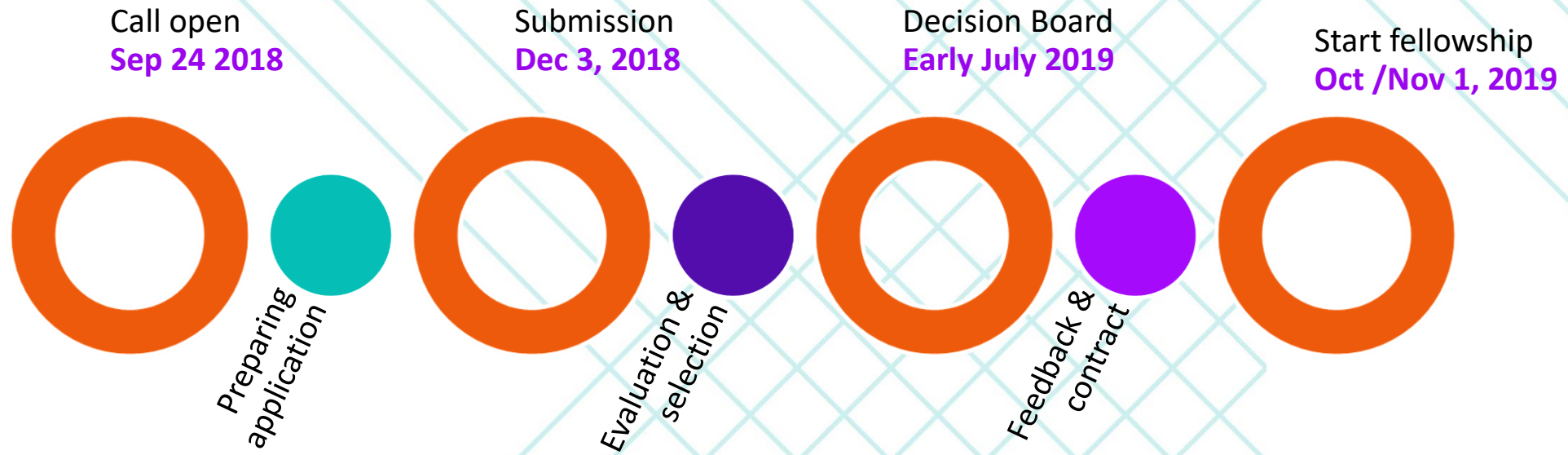
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FWO Postdoctoral fellowship

- Target group
 - young researchers developing international independent research career
 -  • *parallel* calls **junior/senior**: 0-3 resp. 3-6 years after PhD
 - senior postdoctoral fellowship: seniority declaration template needed (signed by head department + head host institution)
 - all PhD's & **all nationalities**
- **3-year grants** (1x renewable)
 - start Oct or Nov 1, 2019 (choice of applicant)
 - fundamental research >< [Innovation mandates](#) (PhD exploitation & utilization: @VLAIO)
 -  • salary scale: minimum € 4,053.81 - maximum € 6,319.49
 - flexible bench fee 4 – 10 k€/year
 -  • interview phase

Timing postdocs



Eligible host organisations

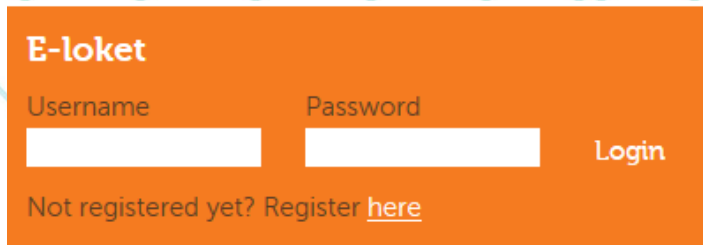
- Main host organisation (affiliation)
 - 5 Flemish universities
 - Evangelic Protestant Faculty Leuven / Faculty for Protestant Theology in Brussels
 - Maritime Academy
 - Vlerick Business School, Antwerp Management school
 - Institute for Tropical Medicine
- + Flemish/federal research institutes (research location)
- Head(s) of research unit (@main host + Flemish/federal)- -> recommendation letter

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Submission Procedure

- In English!
 - Through **FWO E-Portal** (www.fwo.be)
- Make sure to register at least 24 hours in advance!



The image shows a login form titled "E-loket" with a white background and an orange border. It contains two input fields: "Username" and "Password". To the right of the "Password" field is a "Login" button. Below the input fields, there is a link that says "Not registered yet? Register [here](#)".



 Edit your personal details.	 Start a new application or complete an unfinished application.	 Reviews
 Apply for expertpanel(s)	 Reports	 Help
 Communicate conflict of interests		

Submission Procedure

- Templates (incl. questions and instructions) of application forms made available online:
 - PhD – *template will be added soon*
 - Postdoc:
 - Junior
 - Senior
- Max. of 2 attempts to apply for a specific grant
- Possible to apply for senior postdoctoral fellowship after a granted junior postdoctoral fellowship (senior postdoc must immediately follow junior postdoc)

Submission Procedure

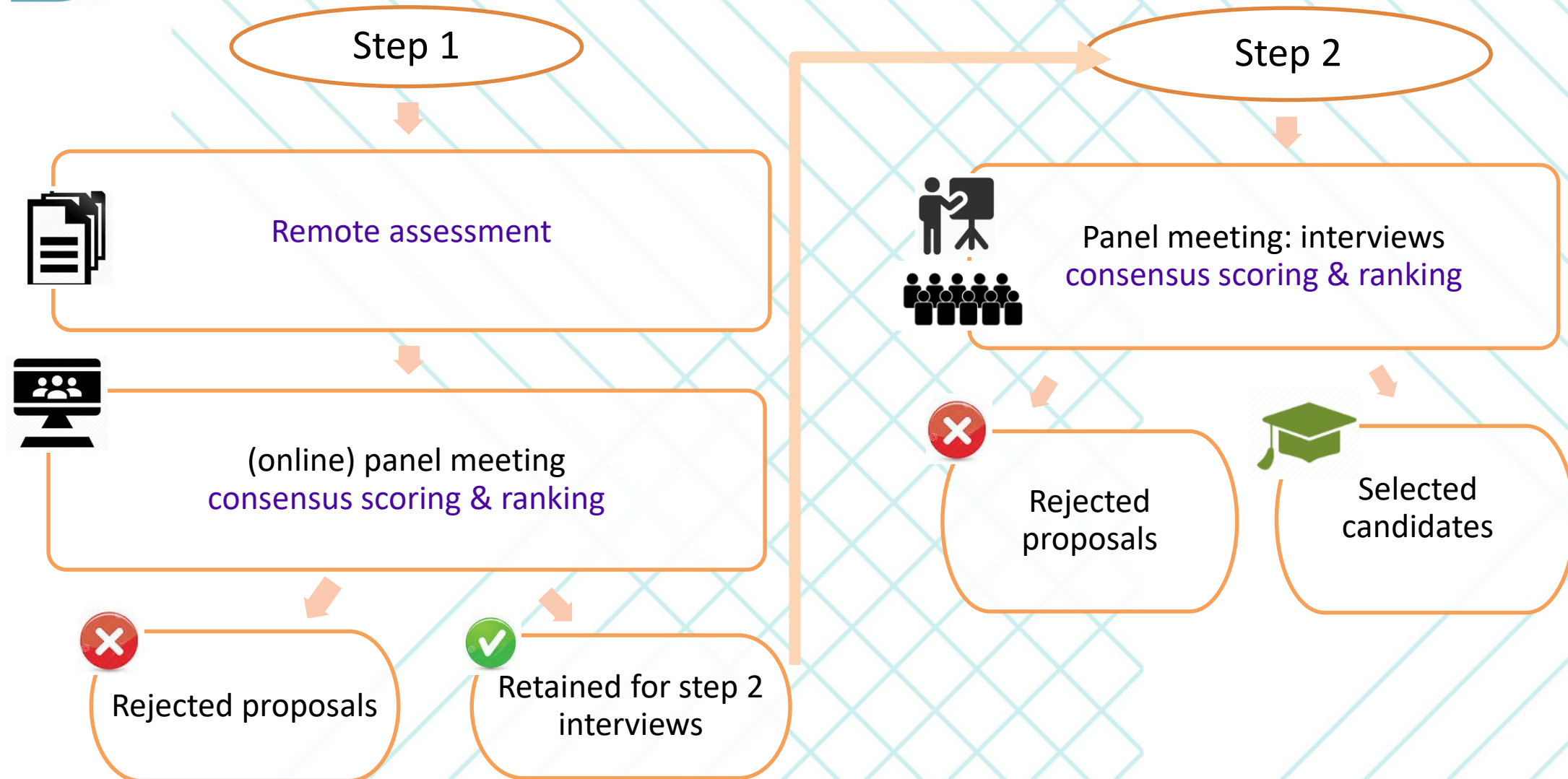
- Personal statement
 - Opportunity to discuss personal motivations
 - Why pursue career in science
 - Career breaks
- Internal peer review: selection of correct Expertpanel is very important
 - Check [panel scopes](#)
- External peer review: allowed to exclude up to 3 experts (suggestions for exclusion should be motivated) – *only for postdoctoral fellowships*

FWO Application Procedure 2019

Fellowships



Single submission 2-step evaluation & selection process



Evaluation postdoc: scoring descriptors and grids

Step 1 (preselection)



- Scientific contribution
- Relevant competences & motivation



POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP: scoring descriptors criterion "Candidate" (preselection)

D	C	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Unacceptable	Weak	Fair/Reasonable		Good/Very good		Excellent/Outstanding	
1.a. Scientific contribution of the candidate							
No scoring possibility	Rather limited scientific contribution. Little evidence of developing a reputation or suggesting an upward trajectory.	Average scientific contribution, but some evidence of starting upward trajectory.	(w.r.t. seniority level) meaningful contributions to the state of the art, properly acknowledged in the scientific community. Emerging (international) reputation and clear upward trajectory; and (w.r.t.) evidence of developing scientific independence			Impressive scientific contribution by the candidate. Original, clear achievements beyond the state-of-the-art, emerging international recognition for influential research output. Promising development towards independence	
1.b. Motivation and substantiation of relevant competences of the candidate							
No scoring possibility	Little evidence of (development of) some crucial competences (scientific background, supervision/mentoring, mobility, collaboration,...).	The candidate substantiates to have the right scientific background and built-up expertise. There is less evidence of acquiring or acquired competences as on <u>promotion</u> , international collaboration, ...	Good skills and expertise to execute research beyond the state-of-the-art. (w.r.t.) Evidence of primary supervision /mentoring, and of collaboration activities outside host institution, and the candidate provides evidence of carefully building up a research career as well as transferable skills.			The candidate has excellent skills & ample experience to execute the proposed research proposal. Shows the ability and potential to propose and conduct ground-breaking research, and the candidate is ready to acquire (s) or has acquired (s) competencies that improve the prospects of reaching/enforcing a position of professional maturity and independence.	

Step 2 (interviews)

- Competence as postdoc researcher

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP: scoring descriptors criterion "Candidate" (interview)

D	C	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Unacceptable	Weak	Fair/Reasonable		Good/Very good		Excellent/Outstanding	
1. Competence as a post-doctoral researcher							
No scoring possibility	Manifest gaps and shortcomings in the knowledge of the state-of-the-art. Reasoning skills and/or critical mindset are poor, and/or quite unfamiliar with the topic of the project. Insufficient insight in the relevance of the proposed research strategy and techniques, and/or poor motivation, not based on a fundamental interest in the proposed project, and/or no vision on his/her professional future	Fair but incomplete knowledge of the state-of-the-art; without further risk for the implementation of the project, and/or moderate reasoning skills or critical mindset and/or moderate to sufficient insight into the relevance of the proposed research strategy and techniques, and/or moderate motivation and vision on professional future is less clear.	Very good knowledge of the state-of-the-art within own field of research. Reasoning skills and critical-scientific mindset are good. The candidate presents new concepts based on well-founded arguments; and He/she has a good insight in the proposed approach and techniques; positions the proposed research in an international context, and convincing and motivated candidate, who expresses a clear vision on his/her professional future.	Excellent knowledge of the state-of-the-art, even outside own field of research. Creative and independent thinking and reasoning, and proper scientific mindset; the candidate presents new concepts in a very sound manner; and an excellent insight in the proposed approach and techniques is demonstrated, well positioning the proposed research and the candidate shows clear commitment and drive. Bright, concrete and realistic vision on own			

Step 1 & 2



- Scientific quality, relevance and challenge, originality
- Quality research approach, feasibility



POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP: scoring descriptors criterion "Project" (preselection + interview)

D	C	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Unacceptable	Weak	Fair/Reasonable		Good/very good		Excellent/outstanding	
2.a Scientific quality, relevance and challenge, originality							
Project focuses on (economic/societal) valorization with one stakeholder (cfr. "innovation mandates" at Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship), and/or The project does not contain real scientific risks or challenges.	The project proposal is rather a catch-up effort relative to the state-of-the-art. and/or Rather limited level of scientific risks and pronounced challenges (or challenges not identified).	The added value of the project with respect to the international state-of-the-art is acceptable, but less pronounced or less well elaborated. and/or The project is less challenging or the project is sufficiently challenging but the potential is insufficiently explored	High-quality fundamental research project with good level of risks, challenges and inventiveness. and The project is original and fully builds upon and extends the international state-of-the-art.	Requirements as in "(very) good", and Highly ambitious and original project of potentially groundbreaking nature and large scientific impact, and Very high level of scientific risks and shows clear inventive and challenging ideas, novel concepts and strategies.			
2.b Quality of the research approach and feasibility of the project							
Evident discrepancy/mismatch between research goals and research approach. and/or The realization of the scientific goals is not feasible with the proposed research approach.	The project approach and project planning are flawed. The intrinsic feasibility is low or the objectives are formulated in insufficiently concrete terms, making it difficult to evaluate their feasibility, and/or The research approach and the project planning display serious flaws and shortcomings, and/or there is some mismatch between the research goals and the research approach.	The research methodology is reasonable, but with some shortcomings or a lesser fit to the scientific goals, and/or feasibility is less realistic, but it is likely that the scientific goals will be partially reached.	The research approach is adequate to achieve the targeted results, the planning is clear. Proposed methodology & work plan are solid and realistic within the 3-year time frame. Risks are identified and dealt with. The project fits well in research activities of the research group and in the personal development plan of the candidate,	Requirements as in good, and thorough identification of the research risks, with alternative research strategies and "fall back" research options.			



60%



40%

Agenda

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- Why FWO? Mission & key facts
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International Mobility Funding Opportunities

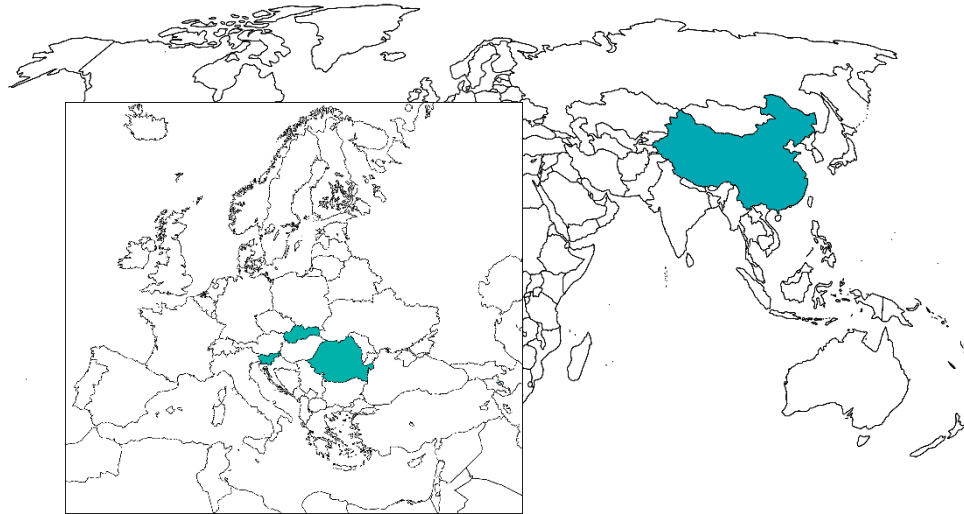
- Participation in international conferences
- Short and long stays abroad
- Organising international conferences
- Sabbatical leaves
- Scientific research networks

Requirements:

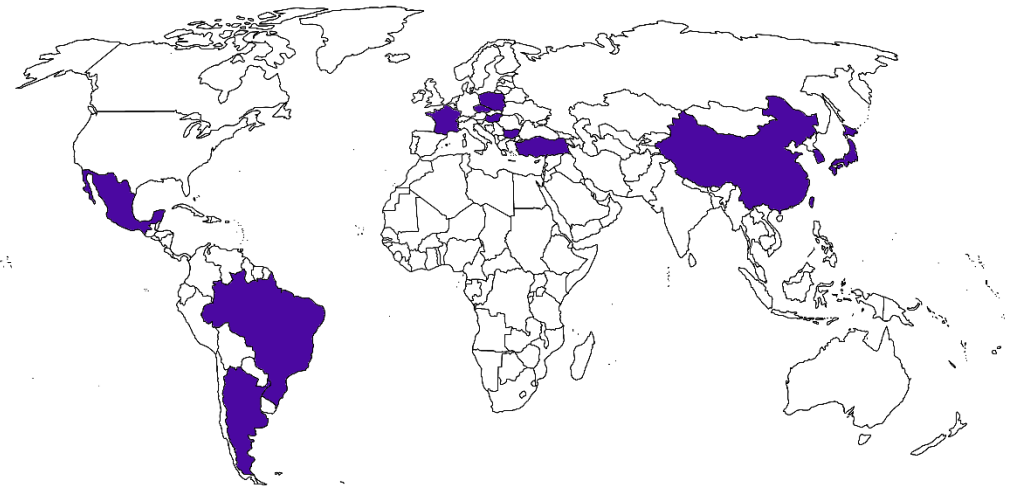
- Throughout entire period of stay abroad: affiliated to university or university hospital in Flemish Community or to federal/Flemish scientific institute
- Predoctoral candidates: no nationality restrictions but master degree obtained in Member State (EEA) or Switzerland
- Postdoctoral candidates: no degree or nationality requirements

<https://www.fwo.be/en/fellowships-funding/international-mobility>

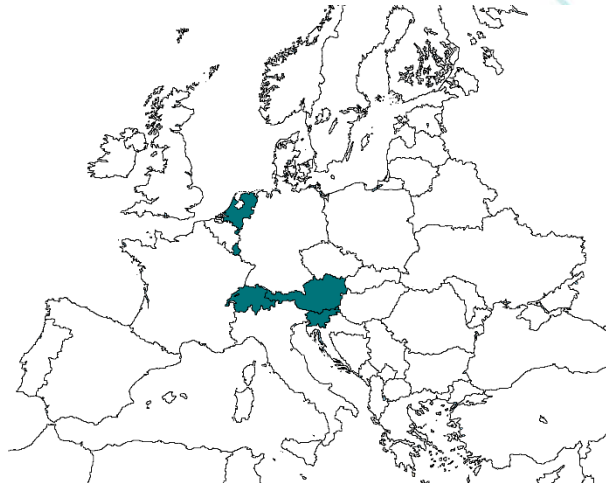
Bilateral Agreements



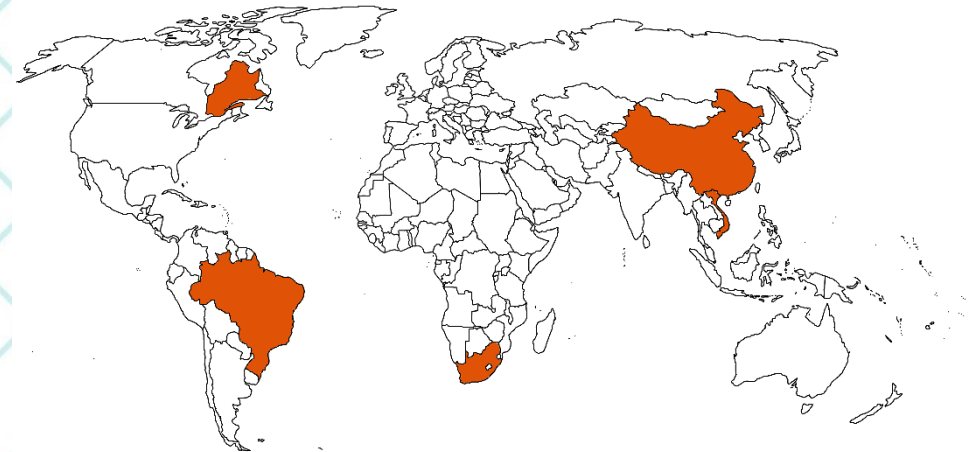
Exchange Agreements



Scientific Cooperations



Lead Agency Procedures



Bilateral Research Cooperations

ODYSSEUS



- **Attracting Top Scientists to Flanders - Universities suggest candidates**
- **Start-up funding to develop a research group or to set up a research line at a Flemish university**

Group I

- Internationally recognized leading researchers
- Budget: between € 400.000 and € 1.500.000 per year (max. 5 years)
- Permanent position at a university in the Flemish Community

Group II

- Researchers with the potential to grow to a leading position
- Budget: between € 100.000 and € 200.000 per year (max. 5 years)
- Postdoctoral fellowship at a university in the Flemish Community

calls for [PEGASUS]²

Research Foundation - Flanders

Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows

more information: www.fwo.be

CALLS CLOSED

(deadlines: 01/02/2016 & 01/05/2016)

INCOMING

- = 3 years
- postdoctoral fellowship
- from abroad to Flanders

OUTGOING

- = 3 years
- postdoctoral fellowship
- from Flanders 2 years abroad
- 1 return year to Flanders

[PEGASUS]² Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellowships

Prestigious Horizon2020 COFUNDed postdoctoral funding scheme

EU COFUND budget: € 6.372.000

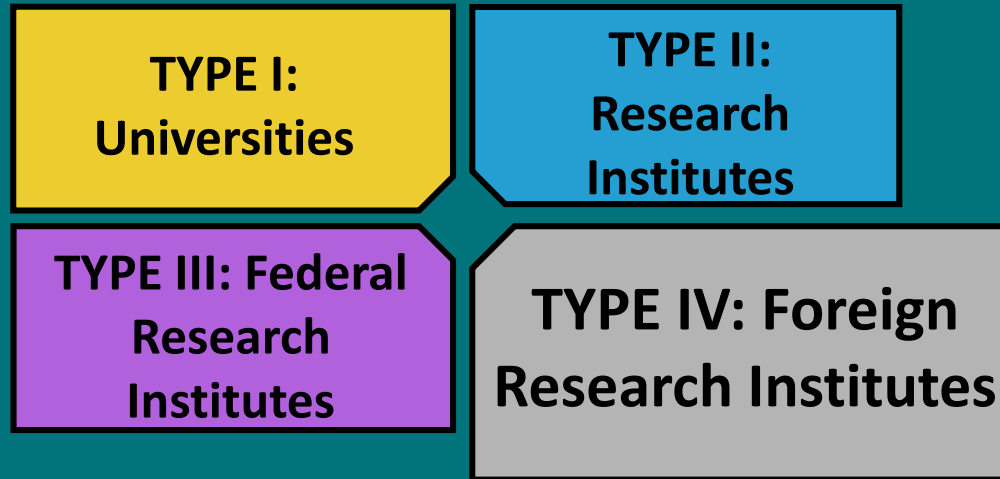
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 665501.



European Union Funding
for Research & Innovation

To promote **joint** research projects in **basic** research in **all fields** between the Flemish and French-speaking community in Belgium, **possibly in collaboration with foreign research groups**:

Consortium composition:



- Research projects (4 years)
- Up to 1 million per year for staff, consumable and equipment
- Up to 2 Type II, III or IV research groups can be included
- Budget for Type II, III and IV: max. 10% of total consortium budget
- Deadline: 4th of April 2017 – 2 pm
- Start project: 1st of January 2018



www.eosprogramme.be

Opportunities for foreign researchers

Fellowships

- PhD fellowship
- Postdoctoral fellowship
- Odysseus/[PEGASUS]² for (established) researchers

Research projects

- Regular FWO research projects (**from 2019**: 10% of total budget)
- EOS projects: max. 10% of total budget possible for foreign institutions as Type IV research group
- Applied Biomedical Research (TBM)/Strategic Basic Research (SBO) projects: max. 20% of total budget possible for non-Flemish research centers (co-applicant)



More information about the FWO

www.fwo.be

Information about FWO's operation, regulations,
scientific prizes and appeals...

All publications are free to download

www.geschiedenisfwo.be

Module about FWO's history

Join us





Thank you for your attention