

Opportunities in France for post-doctoral students in Social Sciences and Humanities

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The French National Research Agency

Created by the French government in 2005 to organize the competitive funding of projects


Objectives:

- fostering **creativity** and openness, stimulating new ideas and partnerships
- targeting research efforts on **economic and societal priorities** determined at the highest level of State and through consultation with the other research players
- encouraging **inter-disciplinary** actions
- intensifying links between the **public and private** sectors
- developing **international and European** collaborations

The main challenges on which the ANR works are part of the **European Strategic Agenda.**



The ANR offers funding instruments adapted to the various challenges and needs of the scientific community

- Funds basic as well as technological & industrial research
 - In all disciplines and scientific fields
 - Any type of French organization (academic research organizations, companies, NGO's, etc.)
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Organisation

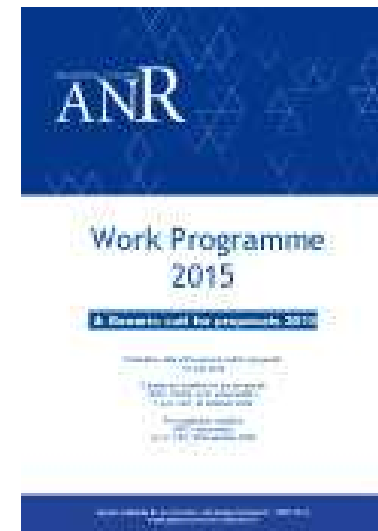
- 5 Scientific Departments
(each with a Head of Department and a number of Programme Directors and Project Managers)
 - Information and Communication Sciences and Technologies
 - Environment and Biological Resources
 - Engineering, Processes and Security
 - Health and Biology
 - Social Sciences and Humanities
- 279 staff (equivalent to 245 full-time positions)

Key figures (2013)

- Funding budget: 432,5 M€
- €320k to €880k: average range of the amount of the grants awarded to the projects selected by the ANR
- 12000: number of the projects funded since the creation of the ANR (2005) including 1040 international projects co-funded with foreign counterparts
- Average success rate $\leq 30\%$

ANR Work Programme 2015

- Consistent with the "*France Europe 2020*" national strategic agenda
- Simplification of submission/funding process
- Streamlining the funding supply



Work Programme Outline

- A **single generic call for proposals** replacing most calls for proposals as issued in previous editions
- And a **limited number of additional specific calls**, such as:
 - ERA-NETs, JPIs
 - Bilateral or multilateral calls with other agencies
 - Specific programmes: Astrid, LabCom, Hosting High-Level Researchers (@RAction), etc.

New structure of the calls for proposals

Generic call: evaluation in 2 steps

(9 Societal challenges + 1 All-knowledge challenge)

Specific national and international calls for proposals (HHLR (@RAction) ERA-NETs, bi- and multilateral calls, etc.)

1 step (excluding some ERA-NETs), no change in the evaluation process

2 entry points and 2 types of positions for Post-docs

- **Generic** call (especially via « Young researchers », to coordinate the proposal)
- **Specific** calls (including international calls + Hosting High Level Researchers (@RAAction))

- As **coordinator** of the proposal
- As a **post-doc** hired within a proposal submitted by a more senior researcher



Generic call for proposals 2015

“Major societal challenges” component


1. Efficient resource management and adaptation to climate change
2. Clean, secure and efficient energy
3. Industrial renewal
4. Life, health and well-being
5. Food security and demographic challenges
6. Sustainable mobility and urban systems
7. Information and communication society
8. Innovative, inclusive and adaptive societies
9. Freedom and security of Europe, its citizens and its residents

Opportunities for SSH everywhere



Challenge 8: Innovative, inclusive and adaptive societies

6 sub-lines of application:

1. Attitudes toward social risk and innovations
 2. Inequality, discrimination, integration
 3. Changes in the working world; workplace equality
 4. Life-long education and professional development
 5. Cultures, heritage, creation
 6. Digital revolution and social change
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“At the frontiers of research” component

- All-knowledge challenge (AKA challenge n°10)
 - Integral part of the generic call
 - Completes disciplinary coverage to support all scientific disciplines unrelated to societal challenges
 - Funding instruments available: the same
 - Evaluation of non-relevance to one or more major societal challenges

Various types of instruments

- Collaborative research projects on the national or international level (**PRC** and **PRCI** respectively)
- Collaborative research projects involving enterprises (**PRCE**)
- Individual research projects carried out by young researchers (**JCJC**)

funding instruments for "cooperative research"

- **PRC**
 - Indicative ANR funding level: 100 to 800 k€
 - Consortium: at least two research bodies
 - Research category : mainly basic research, but also industrial research and experimental development
 - Duration: 24 to 48 months
- **PRCE**
 - Indicative ANR funding level: 200 to 800 k€
 - Consortium: at least one research organisation and one enterprise
 - Research category: basic research, industrial research, experimental development
 - Duration: 24 to 48 months
- **PRCI**
 - Indicative ANR funding level: 100 to 800 k€
 - Consortium: at least one French research organisation and one foreign partner
 - Research category: mainly basic research, but also industrial research and experimental development
 - Duration: 24 to 48 months

Funding instruments targeting individuals

- **JCJC**
 - Indicative ANR funding level: 100 to 800 k€
 - Consortium: a single research organisation, the scientific coordinator having been awarded his/her doctorate less than 10 years (after 31 July 2014) from the publication date of the Work Programme
 - Research category: mainly basic research, but also industrial research
 - Duration: 24 to 48 months



Specific calls 2015

“Building the ERA and France's international attractiveness” component

- Several types of European and international calls:
 - Bilateral options within the framework of the 2015 generic call in SSH : Brazil (FAPESP, Sao Paulo & FACEPE, Pernambuco), Luxemburg (FNR), Romania (ANCS), Taiwan (NSC), Hong Kong (RGC) + Turkey (TUBITAK) + lead agency procedure with Austria and Switzerland
 - Specific European and international calls for proposals: ERANETs such as Norface; JPIs; bi- or multilateral calls: ORA (Open Research Area), Franco-German call in SSH
- France’s attractiveness
 - Specific call: “Hosting High-Level Researchers” (@RAction) funding instrument offering a first-class welcome to foreign researchers (junior and senior)

Hosting High-Level Researchers (@RAction) (Accueil de Chercheurs de Haut Niveau)

- A **new** specific call open to:
 - French and foreign researchers living outside France (no age limit)
 - All disciplines (with a focus on domains rare or non-existent in France)
 - Basic, technological or industrial research
- **Objective: To enable French and foreign high-level researchers, living outside France, to relocate to France and carry out their research in a French laboratory for three to four years in excellent conditions**
- Next call : **Spring 2015** (consult the ANR website)

Hosting High-Level Researchers (@RAction)

Requirements

- Candidate: Highly-talented researcher in the early stages of his career (junior), or world-leading researcher (senior)
- No age limit
- No condition of nationality
- Doctorate must have been obtained at least 2 years prior to the date of closing of the call
- Applicant must have spent a significant part of his career abroad: a minimum of 24 months for a young researcher, and the majority of his career for a senior researcher
- Applicant must not hold a permanent contract (*poste à durée indéterminée*) in a French organization
- Applicant must not be residing in France for more than 6 months at the date of the closing of the call (strongly recommended)

Hosting High-Level Researchers (@RAction)

Main characteristics

- Total grant: 150 000€ to 900 000€
Covers the Principal Investigator's salary, operating expenses (support staff, lab expenses, service costs...) and equipment costs
- Consortium: one partner only (the host institution)
- Project: Ambitious and original with high impact
Must demonstrate that ties will be initiated or strengthened with the previous research institutions of the PI or other foreign research organizations
Must demonstrate the thorough, coherent and long term implication of the applicant within the hosting institution
- Evaluation procedure: one step, with external peer review and panel
- Number of applications in 2014: 190 (185 eligible)
- Number of awards: **28**
- Success rate: **15,13%**



Thank you for your attention!

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<http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/>

