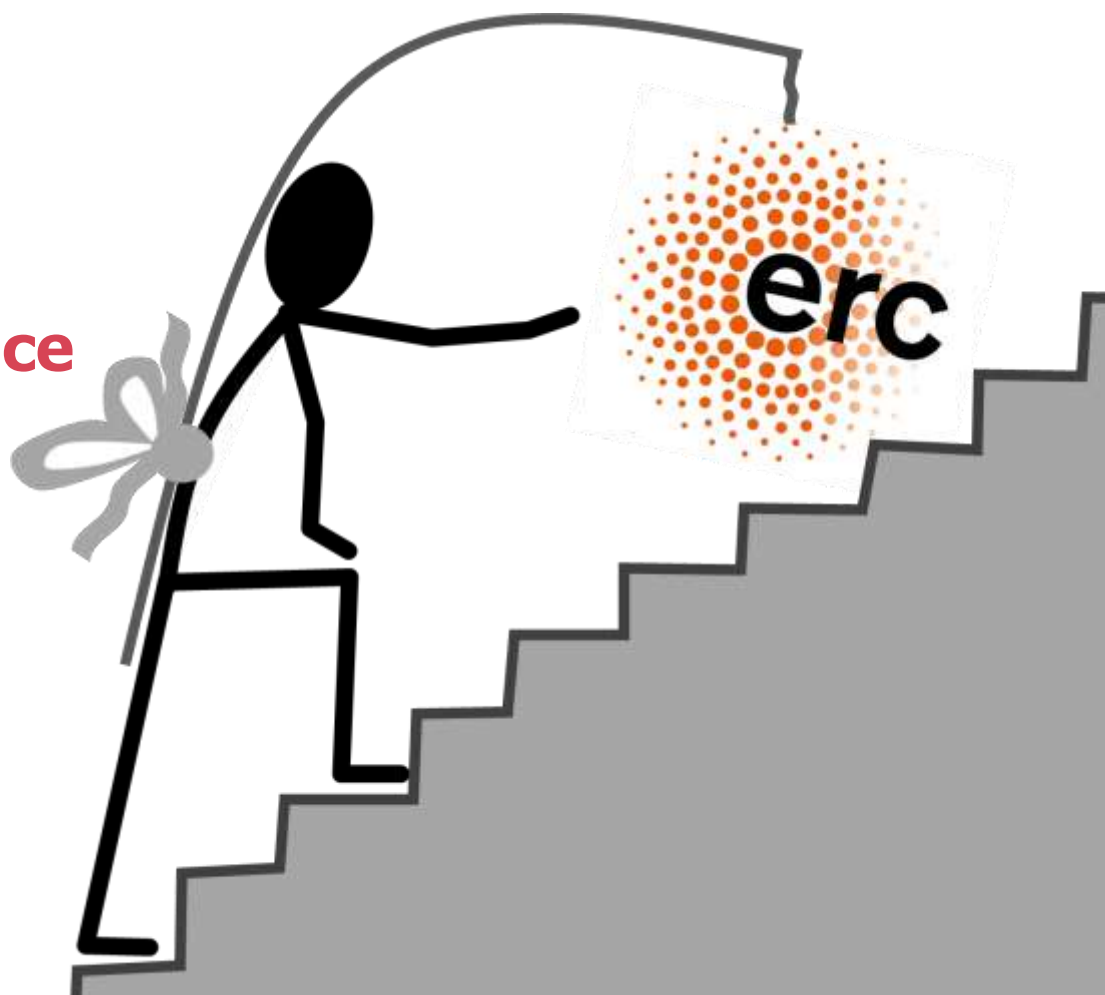
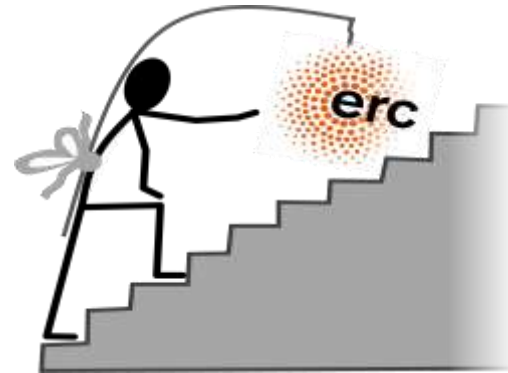


**Support  
to ERC applicants  
at the Faculty of Science**

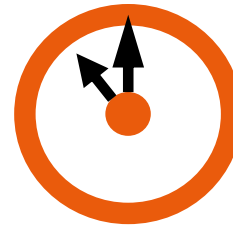


**ERC pipeline**



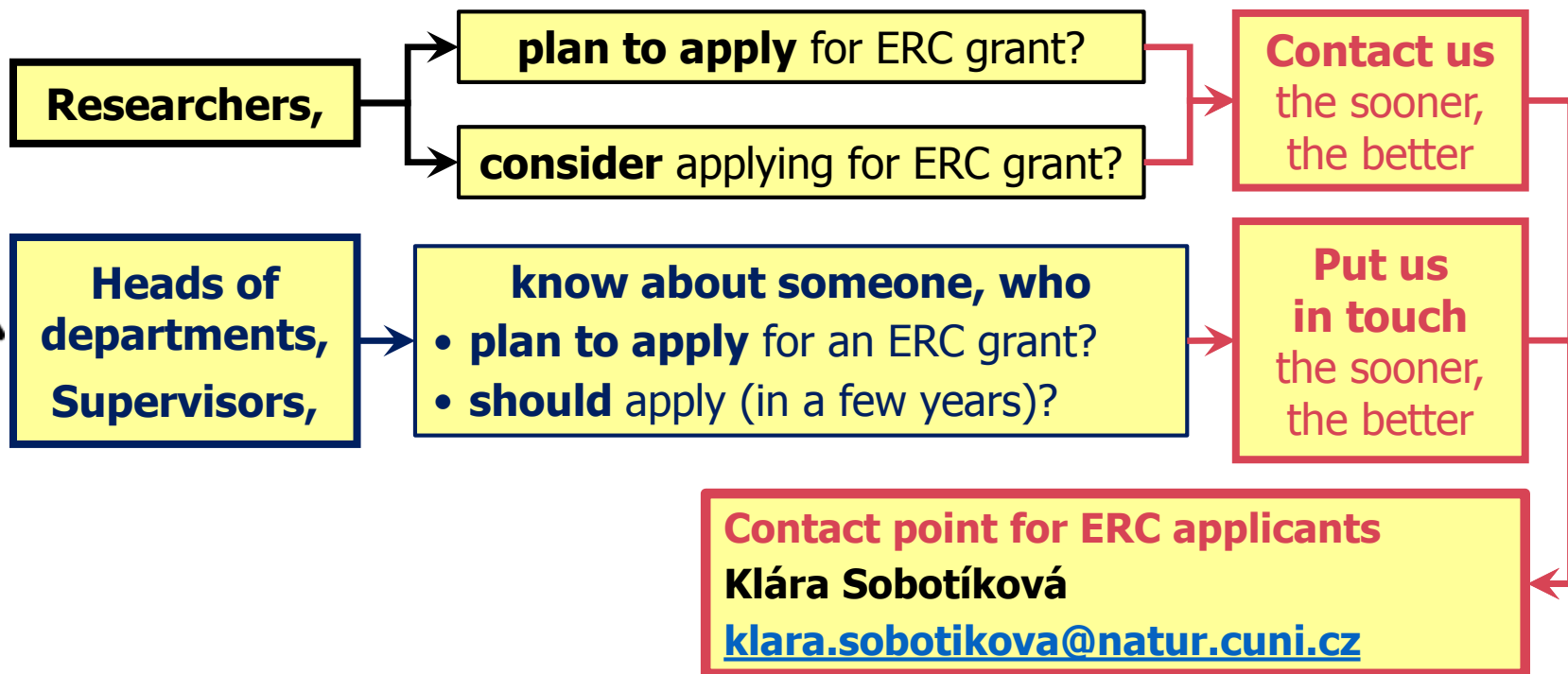
**Workshop by National Contact Point**

**Before (& after) submission**



**Useful sources**

# Take-home message



## About ERC on website of Faculty of Science CUNI

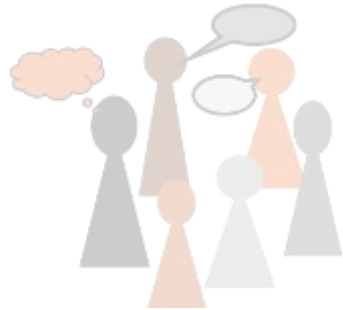
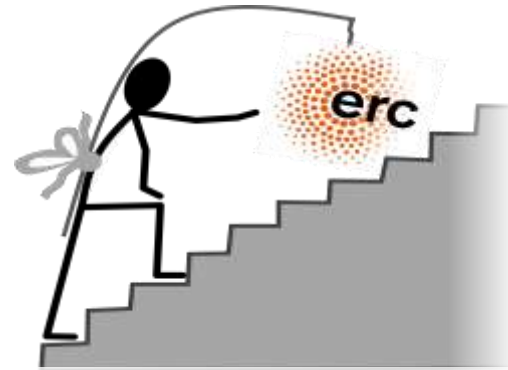
<https://www.natur.cuni.cz/eng/project-management-department/funding-opportunities/erc>

- Crucial:**
- bright research idea
  - solid scientific proposal
  - **PI's time & effort**



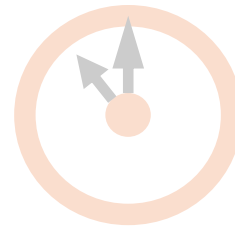
- Support:**
- increase chances
  - avoid mistakes

**ERC pipeline**



**Workshop by National Contact Point**

**Before (& after) submission**



**Useful sources**

- inspired by prof. Zdeněk Strakoš
- **long-term cooperation with potential ERC applicants** to apply in 2-3 (or more) years
- informal, voluntary, non-binding

## Goal: (potential) ERC applicants...

- know ERC **rules & "spirit"** ahead of time
- systematically work on their **CV & Track record** to be(come) **competitive**
- choose **best time** to apply

### ERC values achievements good in themselves

– independence, international connections, bold research...

**Making oneself competitive ERC applicant makes one a better researcher**

## What we do?

- **entering the pipeline**
  - individual consultation – ERC awareness, career & ERC plans
  - personal info – eligibility window
- **ERC spam**  
calls, events, useful info...
- **personalized questions**
  - Still plan to apply this year?
  - Registered for the workshop?
- **homework** – write CV & Track record (as in ERC application)  
– feedback from former ERC evaluators
  - how to write
  - identify **weak points** (have time to **make them stronger**)
  - written when starting the application
  - **choose best time to apply**

## Who should apply for ERC or join the pipeline?

### • “diagnosis”

**potential** to do **independent & exciting** research with impact (at least) on **European scale**

### • “symptoms”

• **exceptional results** (for the career stage)  
incl. e.g. advanced doctoral students

• **international** experience  
incl. those **currently abroad** (planning to come/return)

• doctoral study abroad

• long-term postdoc stay(s) abroad

• (former) holders of prestigious **grants/fellowships** e.g.

• Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual/Postdoctoral Fellowships

• EMBO fellowship

• GA ČR EXPRO, JUNIOR STAR

• PRIMUS

• just made a **research breakthrough**

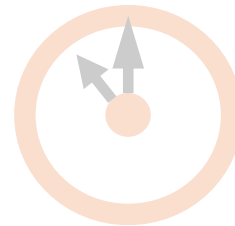
Help of  
**department  
heads** needed!

ERC pipeline



**Workshop by National Contact Point**

Before (& after) submission



Useful sources





## Faculty of Science support?

US

head of PI's department

we'll tell you in time

- organized by Czech National Contact Point (NCP) & prof. Zdeněk Strakoš
- for **applicants** – mostly Starting & Consolidator – **working on their application**
- held once a year

- (if in ERC pipeline  
– partly done as "homework")
- basic recommendations
  - give us first (& second...) draft
  - use our feedback
  - half-polished version for WS

- **"entrance ticket"**
  - acronym, title, **abstract**, **CV**, (funding ID), **Track record**
  - according to ERC rules
- shows your preparedness
  - if not prepared, WS won't be useful
- "entrance ticket" not good
  - **no participation in the workshop**
- you'll probably rewrite it after WS



## Faculty of Science support?

US

head of PI's department

- draft presentation for colleagues
- half-polished version for WS

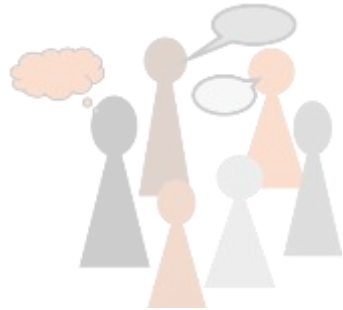
### • Part 1

- day 1 – intensive briefing, how to write
- day 2 – work with a **successful proposal** trying role of **evaluator**
  - fruitful discussion
    - with the grantee, other participants
  - new look on your own proposal

### • Part 2

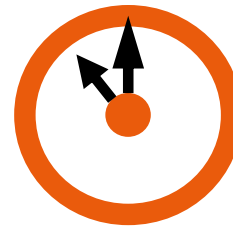
- ca. 3 months after Part 1
- present your proposal – very **short time** – forced to focus on **essentials**
- feedback from **ERC grantees, evaluators** close to your field  
(established “ERC community” sharing experiences)

ERC pipeline



Workshop by National Contact Point

**Before (& after) submission**



Useful sources

## Faculty of Science support?

us

head of PI's department

ERC pipeline

Disclaimer: No recipe to prepare ERC grant.

### understand **ERC rules & "spirit"**

- over **1 year** before deadline
- e.g. attend National info day on ERC

- put PI in touch with us
- (?) facilitate discussion

### start developing **project idea**

- info sources
- basic recommendations
- send updates
- plan writing schedule

- ca. **12-9 months** before deadline
- **discuss with colleagues** – home & abroad
- get in touch with us

persuade PI to participate  
(see prev. slides)

### participate in **NCP's ERC workshop**

## Faculty of Science support?

US

head of PI's department

- be aware that **it must be done** especially if PI from abroad
- (PI must initiate)

- answer questions
- rules, experience

- basic recommendations
- answer questions
- give feedback (from us & financial NCPs)

## set conditions of project's implementation

- ca. **3-2 months** before deadline
- agreement between **PI & head of department**
- what happens if application successful
  - space for instruments (labs)
  - space for people (offices)
  - sharing instruments
  - (...)
  - who administrates the project

## draft budget

- ca. **2 months** before deadline



## Faculty of Science support?

US

head of PI's department

## Rector's Directive n. 37/2020

<https://cuni.cz/UK-10728.html>  
<https://cuni.cz/UKEN-1369.html>

- **must be sent by us**  
(project management department)
- we give feedback
- confirm you agree – by e-mail  
(PI should initiate)

## care about the project

- implementation clear?
- has PI time to polish?

## draft of the **full project**

- ca. **6-5 weeks** before deadline
- **compulsory** – Rector's Directive n. 37/2020
  - put into online submission system
  - download & sent to rectorate by the Faculty  
**1 month before deadline**
  - not complied – **no Letter of Commitment**
  - you'll receive **feedback** (prof. Zdeněk Strakoš)
- it's a draft
  - you'll work on it
  - must show, the proposal will be good
- **head of department & vice-dean of section**  
must agree with proposal submission



## Faculty of Science support?

us head of PI's department

- answer questions
- troubleshooting
- check the application

## proposal submission

- ca. **10-0 days** before deadline
- electronically by PI

## Rector's Directive n. 36/2020

<https://cuni.cz/UK-10727.html>  
<https://cuni.cz/UKEN-1370.html>

- remind the possibility
- discuss the use of bonus  
(PI should initiate)

## financial bonus by CUNI

- after deadline
- Rector's Directive n. 36/2020
  - for PIs with nice ERC applications
  - Rector's Directive n. 37/2020 must have been fulfilled
- up to CZK 100 000  
(remuneration to PI, consumables for lab...)
- PI applies  
(inform us & head of department)

## Faculty of Science support?

us

head of PI's department

- discuss future plans
- re-include in ERC pipeline

results of Step 1

- ca. 5 months after deadline
- "B" (or "C")

- basic recommendations
- organize/attend mock interviews
- give feedback

- inform NCP
- persuade PI to participate

mock interview  
at department meeting

pass to Step 2

= prepare for **interview in Brussels**

- mock interview **by NCP**
- 2 or more mock interviews with colleagues
- **interview ca. 7 months** after deadline





## Faculty of Science support?

us

head of PI's department

- apply for ERC CZ
- plan re-submission

results of Step 2

- ca. 9 months after deadline
- "B" or "A" but not funded
- **funded**

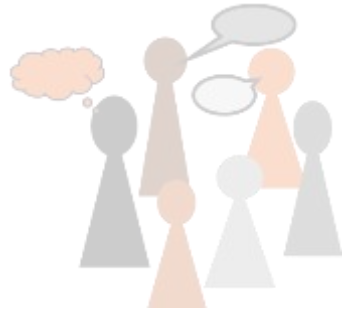
**Tomáš Palatý,**  
[tomas.palaty@natur.cuni.cz](mailto:tomas.palaty@natur.cuni.cz)

- prepare to sign Grant Agreement
- prepare to start project

- **can benefit**  
– money, fame, inspiration
- **beforehand:**  
communicate with PI & care about project

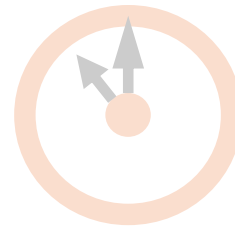


ERC pipeline



Workshop by National Contact Point

Before (& after) submission



**Useful sources**

## ERC official website

<https://erc.europa.eu/>

## ERC Work Programme 2021

[https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC\\_2021\\_work\\_programme.pdf](https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC_2021_work_programme.pdf)

## About ERC by Czech NCP

in Czech: <https://horizontevropa.cz/cs/struktura-programu-he/excelentni-veda/evropska-rada-pro-vyzkum/informace>

in English: <https://horizontevropa.cz/en/he-programme-structure/excellent-science/european-research-council/information>

## Videos “ERC Classes” by ERC

about ERC grants, parts of application, evaluation process.

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtv6FnsXqnXAYRk6HCErwMxwML0ZKoMcy>

## About ERC on website of Faculty of Science CUNI

<https://www.natur.cuni.cz/eng/project-management-department/funding-opportunities/erc>

## Subscribe to our newsletter “Grantové informace – Funding Opportunities”

issued twice a month in Czech and in English

<https://www.natur.cuni.cz/fakulta/oddeleni-projektoveho-rizeni/grantova-agenda/newsletter-gi>

## ERC applicant needs a nice personal website

**Website template** by Public Relations Department of Faculty of Science CUNI

<https://www.natur.cuni.cz/fakulta/aktuality/nabidka-sablony-webu-pro-vyzkumne-skupiny>

# Take-home message



**Plan/consider applying** for ERC grant?

Know about **someone, who** plan to / should apply?

Any questions about ERC?

**Contact point for ERC applicants**  
**Klára Sobotíková**  
[klara.sobotikova@natur.cuni.cz](mailto:klara.sobotikova@natur.cuni.cz)



Thank  
you  
for  
your  
attention

