



European Science Foundation

Your Partner in Science

Membership Benefits

ESF MISSION & BENEFITS

About ESF



Established formally in 1974, the European Science Foundation (ESF) is an independent, non-governmental, non-profit organization committed to promoting the highest quality science in Europe and to driving progress in research and innovation. ESF works closely with its members, sharing its expertise and scientific support, and aiming to increase the quality and effectiveness of their science-related activities.

About Science Connect



Science Connect allows ESF to provide consulting services on an open-market basis. As ESF's Expert Services division, its mission is to partner with members and clients in leading successful projects and in facilitating informed decision-making through a broad range of scientific-support services, including Research grant evaluation, European projects coordination, Institutional evaluation, Scientific platforms administration (Expert Boards and Committees, Virtual institutes), Career Tracking surveys of doctorate holders as well as Tailored scientific solutions.

Why join the European Science Foundation?

By becoming a member of the European Science Foundation, you will benefit from ESF's scientific support in the following areas:

- Development of national science strategies and roadmaps
- Spreading excellence and participation in European programmes
- Establishment of scientific partnerships and networks
- Privileged scientific training and best practice workshops

STRATEGIC SUPPORT

Development of national science strategies and roadmaps

ESF is able to provide strategic advice in the design, implementation and evaluation of its members' national science procedures, governance structures and roadmaps in the following areas:

- **Foresight:** Benefit from ESF's past experience in foresight activities ("Forward Look" instrument); the hosting of several high-level strategic advisory committees; and the execution of numerous ex ante and ex post evaluations of supranational agencies' programmes.
- **Evaluation :** Evaluation of institutions, research policies, programmes and projects.
- **Science Policy:** Publication of science policy briefings and science position papers, and the organisation of member organisations Fora

Spreading excellence and participation in European programmes

ESF is able to provide unique support in spreading excellence in the coordination and management of large, complex scientific programmes, thanks to its expertise in European research project, support action coordination (CSA), Marie-Curie actions, etc.

- **EU funding:** ESF can help its members identify EU funding opportunities relevant to their core scientific activity and advise them on the overall proposal and bidding process and establish projects consortia
- **Structural funds:** ESF can assist its members develop a closer collaboration with regional authorities on the evaluation of tenders following the rules of structural funds, ensuring that fair and transparent peer review and evaluation processes are used.

SCIENTIFIC NETWORK

Establishment of scientific partnerships and networks

ESF gives its members access to a unique network of international academics, science policy experts, key decision-makers and stakeholders, and enables them to engage with them on national, multi-lateral and European projects. ESF's extensive scientific network is nurtured through the following sources:

ESF Community of Experts

A network of over 4,000 internationally recognized Expert Reviewers, Panel Chairs and Research Associates across all scientific disciplines who support excellence in research grant evaluation, institutional evaluation and in the selection of high light positions.

ESF-hosted Expert boards and committees:

European Space Sciences Committee ([ESSC](#))

Nuclear Physics European Collaboration Committee ([NuPECC](#))

Committee on Radio Astronomy Frequencies ([CRAF](#))

ESF will promote networking opportunities through the following actions:

- Establishing partnerships and project consortia for European projects
- Facilitating interaction with key MEPs in Strasbourg's European Parliament (STOA/ITRE)
- Relaying member's requests of reviewers for national evaluation programmes to its [Community of Experts](#)
- Establishing connections with [ESF's Expert Boards and Committees](#) for the setting-up of joint Work Groups on multi-disciplinary matters.

SCIENTIFIC TRAINING

Privileged scientific training and workshops

Over the past four decades, ESF has developed lean and effective science management procedures resulting from the coordination of more than 2,000 European and international programmes. Today ESF makes available its expertise to its members through the following mechanisms:

Secondment scheme

ESF members can second junior science staff to work with ESF for a period of 6-12 months in order to be mentored on science management best practices by experienced and senior science officers on the following areas:

- Peer-review missions
- EU-funded project coordination, including proposal preparation
- Supervision and management of scientific Expert boards and committees

During the training period, the salary of the seconded staff will continue to be paid by the member organisation. Specific secondment conditions will be established in agreement with interested members.

Science management and best practices workshops

Upon members' request, thematic and/or tailored seminars can be organised. The following are examples of suggested workshops:

- Writing successful proposals for European projects/programmes
- Securing EU funds through Framework Programmes' instruments
- Selection of peer reviewers and benchmarked procedures for the management of conflicts of interest and potential biases
- Tailored seminars on best practices in research



Become a member

ESF membership is open to public or private organisations whose chief mission is promoting or providing financial or other support to scientific research and/or operations, and who are interested in scientific research. ESF operates with the following membership categories:

Full membership

Empowers organisations to lead the development of ESF through its statutory bodies (Assembly and Executive Board). Full members pay an annual fee and have voting rights in the General Assemblies. An entry fee may apply depending on the applicant category.

Associate membership

Allows organisations to contribute to ESF's objectives through their scientific and research background and skills. Associate members are not required to pay an annual fee. They are invited to participate in the General Assemblies without voting rights.

How to apply

For detailed information on the application procedures and forms:

Visit : www.esf.org

Email : elegoux@esf.org