



Rektorenkonferenz der Schweizer Universitäten
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Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities

Swiss Contribution



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Press Release

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Sciex-NMS^{ch} - The Swiss contribution to EU enlargement

Results of the ninth call (November 2013):

66 projects from excellent young researchers selected with a total funding of 5.4 million Swiss francs

The Scientific Exchange Programme between Switzerland and the New Member States of the EU (Sciex-NMS^{ch}) - part of the Swiss contribution to the EU enlargement - aims at establishing scientific partnerships in order to develop, on the long term, individual researchers' capacities, to foster innovation and to establish networks between researchers. In this way, the Sciex-NMS^{ch} Programme finances fellowships for research stays of Doctoral Candidates or PostDocs in Swiss research teams for a period of 6 to 24 months.

The ninth call, which was opened to Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Romania, concluded on November 1st 2013. This call is characterized by a record number of submitted proposals.

229 eligible proposals were submitted and evaluated by experienced experts, covering the field of each proposal and following a procedure focussing on scientific quality. At the end of the procedure, the Sciex Steering Committee held a meeting in order to select the proposals on the basis of the results of the evaluation and the budget available.

66 excellent researchers will carry out part of their research at a Swiss institution

Altogether, the projects of 66 excellent researchers from Bulgaria (5), the Czech Republic (14), Estonia (2), Latvia (4), Lithuania (7), Poland (15) and Romania (19) were selected.

Among the selected researchers, 30 are Doctoral Candidates and 36 are PostDocs – and 35 are female researchers.

The majority of the selected projects concerns the Natural and Technical Sciences: Engineering Sciences (15 projects), Chemistry (11 projects), Environmental Sciences (9 projects), Basic Biological Research (9 projects) and Physics (6 projects). 9 projects will be conducted in the Human and Social Sciences.

For the first time, projects have been put on a waiting list. This concerns 11 projects submitted for Estonia, Poland and Romania – those New Member States participating for the last time in a call within the Sciex-NMS^{ch} Programme.

A financial commitment of 5.4 million Swiss francs

The total amount allocated for the ninth call amounts to 5.4 million Swiss francs - devoted to covering the costs for salaries and travel expenses of the researchers and split as follows:

- Bulgaria: 0.4 million CHF
- Czech Republic: 1.1 million CHF
- Estonia: 0.2 million CHF
- Latvia: 0.4 million CHF
- Lithuania: 0.5 million CHF
- Poland: 1.1 million CHF
- Romania: 1.7 million CHF.

The list of all 66 selected Sciex Fellows and more detailed information about the Sciex-NMS^{ch} Programme are available on the website www.sciex.ch. You will also find information on the last call (submission deadline: April 1st 2014).

Repartition of the 66 projects between the Swiss universities and research institutes

28 researchers will be integrated in a university:

- University of Basel: 6
- University of Bern: 7
- University of Fribourg: 2
- University of Geneva: 3
- University of Lausanne: 1
- University of Neuchatel: 3
- University of Zurich: 5
- Swiss TPH - Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute: 1

18 in a Swiss Federal Institute of Technology:

- EPFL - Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne: 8
- ETHZ - Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich: 10

11 in a Swiss Federal Research Institute:

- EAWAG - Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology: 2
- EMPA - Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology: 2
- PSI - Paul Scherrer Institute: 5
- WSL - Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research: 2

9 in a university of applied sciences:

- FHNW - University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland: 2
- FHO - University of Applied Sciences and Arts Eastern Switzerland: 1
- HES-SO - University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland: 3
- ZHAW - Zurich University of Applied Sciences: 2
- ZHdK - Zurich University of the Arts: 1.

Contact:

Prof. Dr. Guido Vergauwen, Rector of the University of Fribourg
President of the Sciex Steering Committee
Phone: +41 (0)26 300 70 02

Aude Pacton
Programme Manager Sciex, CRUS
Phone: +41 (0)31 306 60 48
aude.pacton@crus.ch