

European Funding Opportunities for Doctoral Researchers in Horizon 2020

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships and ERC Starting Grants

Dunja Hofmann & Martin Winger, KoWi



KoWi – EU Liaison Office of the German Research Organisations



Information, consulting & training on EU research & innovation funding

"one-stop-shop" for Horizon 2020



Service platform for our supporting association* focussing on universities

financed by the German Research Foundation (DFG)



Connected on European level

offices in Bonn & Brussels



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- 1 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships
- **3** European Research Council (ERC)
- 4 KoWi Services



Horizon 2020 – Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)

Part I – Excellent Science

- 1. European Research Council (ERC)
 - 2. Future and Emerging Technologies (FET)

3. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

4. European Research Infrastructures, including e-infrastructures

Part II – Industrial Leadership

- 1. Leadership in Enabling & Industrial Technologies (LEIT)
- Information and Communication Technologies
- Nanotechnologies, Advanced
 Materials, Advanced
 Manufacturing and Processing
 and Biotechnology
- Space
 - 2. Access to Risk Finance
 - 3. Innovation in SMEs

Part III – Societal Challenges

- 1. Health, demographic change and wellbeing
- 2. Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy
- 3. Secure, clean and efficient energy
- 4. Smart, green and integrated transport
- 5. Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials
- 6. Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies
- 7. Protecting freedom and security

Part IV
Spreading excellence & widening participation

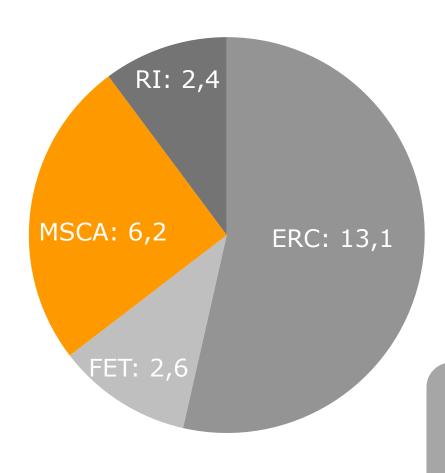
Part V
Science with &
for Society

Non-nuclear direct actions of the Joint Research Centre (JRC)

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)



Horizon 2020 Budget – Excellent Science



Total: ~ 24,3 billion



MSCA key features

- Mobility of researchers from all over the world
- Focus on training and career development
- Coverage all domains of research (bottom-up approach)
- Fellowships of 3-36 months
- Attractive working and employment conditions
- Financing rate of 100%
- Host institution in EU Member States (MS) or Associated Countries (AS)



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks (ITN)





Innovative Training Networks

ETN

European Training Networks

EID

European Industrial Doctorates

EJD

European
Joint Doctorates

Duration max, 48 months

3 beneficiaries 3 different MS/AC 2 beneficiaries2 different MS/AC2 different sectors

3 beneficiaries 3 different MS/AC

Additionally partner organisations from any sector/country

ESR funded 3-36 months

540 person months

180 or 540 person months

540 person months

Training

PhD

Joint PhD



ITN Training

Training through Research

individual PhD projects

Local Training

scientific training, transferable skills

Secondments

to well-targeted partners



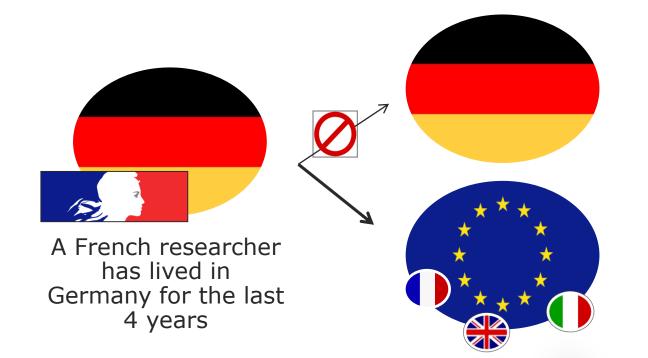
Conditions

- Students cannot apply, only institutions
- You can apply for vacancies in funded ITN-projects
- You need to be an "Early Stage Researcher" (ESR)
 - less than 4 years of research experience after graduation
 AND
 - no PhD
- Nationality or age <u>not</u> relevant
- You need to follow the "Mobility Rule"



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Mobility Rule

Fellow has lived or worked ≤ 12 months within the last 3 years in the potential host country.

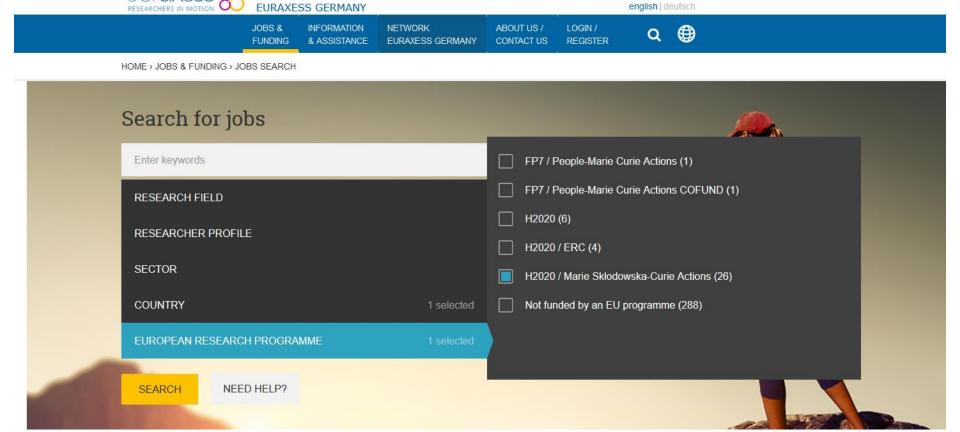


Not eligible for a Fellowship in Germany!

Eligible for a Fellowship in France and other countries



EURAXESS Job Portal

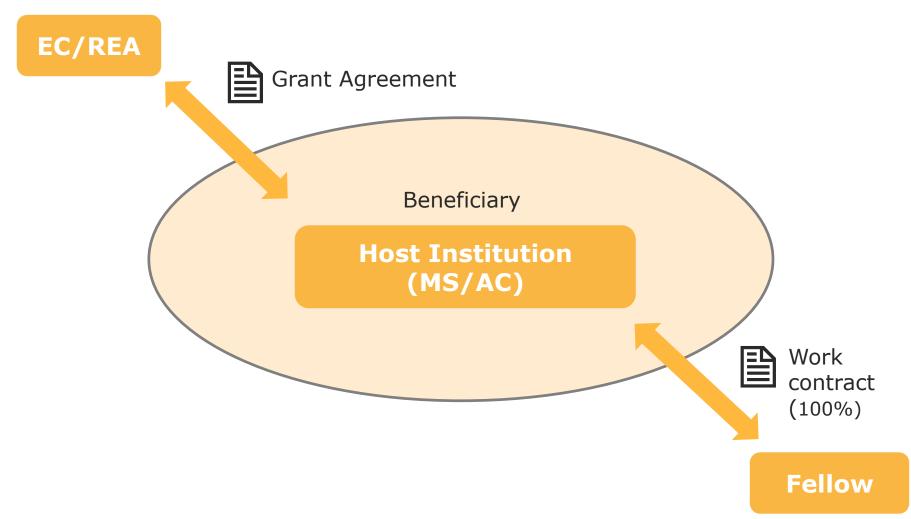


Your search results (326)

Selected: Germany X



MSCA Basic Contracts*



*without partner organisations

Funding within an ITN**

Funding 100%	Researcher unit cost (person/month)			Institutional unit cost (person/month)	
	Living allowance*	Mobility allowance	Family allowance	Research, training and networking costs	Management & Overhead
ITN (ESR)	EUR 3,270	EUR 600	EUR 500	EUR 1,800	EUR 1,200



Advantages

- Funded PhD positions for up to three years
- Topic of the PhD project already defined
 - You can start very soon
- Employment contract including social contributions
- 100% working time on your project
- Training within an international network
- Part of a structured training program
- Contact to the non-academic sector and potential future employers



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships



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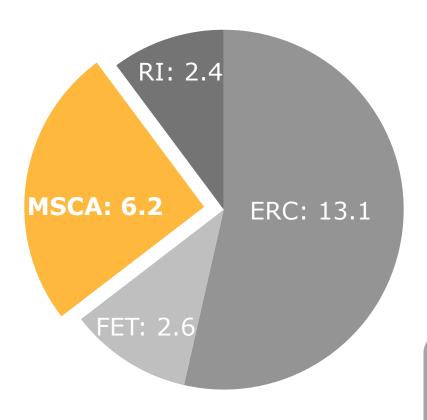
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Horizon 2020 Budget

Excellent Science: 24.4 billion



Total: ca. 74.8 bn.



Individual Fellowships - Principles

Who?

 Experienced Researchers or Postdocs with at least 4 years of research experience ("experienced researchers – ERs")

What?

 Implementation of an independent research project in Europe (MS or AC) or in a Third Country (TC)

How?

- Fellow writes individual application jointly with Host Institution;
 proposal is submitted jointly with supervisor
- Research & skills training at Host Institution
- Optional secondment(s)



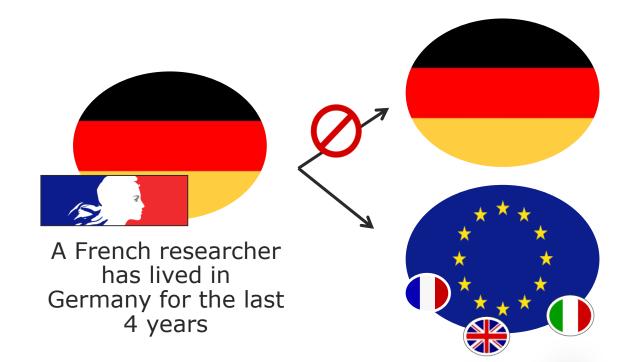
Country Categories in Horizon 2020

- Europe:
 - 28 EU Member States (MS), including their overseas departments
 - 16 associated countries (AC): Iceland, Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Israel, Moldova, Switzerland, Faroe Islands, Ukraine, Tunisia, Georgia, Armenia
- Third countries: all other countries



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Mobility Rule

Fellow has lived or worked ≤ 12 months within the last 3 years in the potential host country



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Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Individual Fellowships





Global Fellowship

European Fellowship



European Fellowships (EF)

Research project in Europe (EU Member State or FP-Associated Country)

Eligible	Postdocs or researchers with at least 4 years of research experience	
Nationality	No restrictions	
Mobility rule	May not have lived/worked more than 12 months within the last 3 years in host country	
Secondments	 Optional for 3 to 6 months to the academic or non-academic sector in Europe Can be split (e. g. 2 x 3 months) 	
Project	1 – 2 years	



MSCA Evaluation Criteria and Panels

Excellence

(weighting: 50%)

Impact

(weighting: 30%)

Implementation

(weighting: 20%)

- Standard Panel-scientific areas
 - 1. Chemistry (CHE)
 - Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)
 - 3. Economic Sciences (ECO)
 - Information Science and Engineering (ENG)
 - Environment and Geosciences (ENV)
 - 6. Life Sciences (LIF)
 - Mathematics (MAT)
 - 8. Physics (PHY)



European Fellowships (EF): Multidisciplinary Panels

- CAR Career Restart
 - > Researchers who have not been active in research for at least 12 months within the last 18 months before the call deadline
- RI Reintegration
 - > Researchers **returning to Europe** after a research phase in a Third Country
- SE Society & Enterprise
 - > Applicants with a **non-academic Host Institution**

Fellow has lived or worked ≤ 3 years within the last 5 years in the potential host country



Global Fellowships (GF)

Research project in a Third Country and Europe (MS/AC)

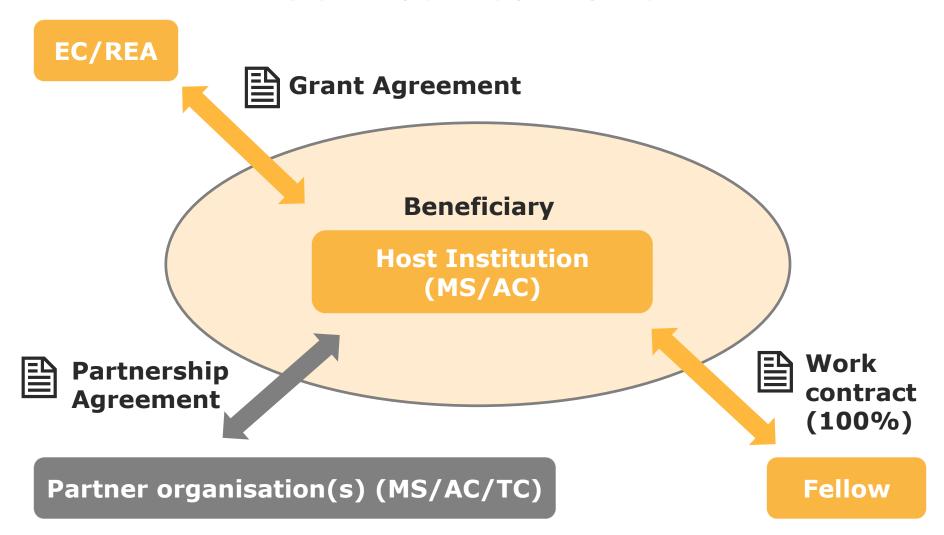
Eligible	Postdocs or researchers with at least 4 years of research experience	
Nationality	MS/AC nationals and long-term residents (must have lived/worked ≥5 years in MS/AC)	
Mobility rule	May not have lived/worked more than 12 months within the last 3 years in host country	
Secondments	 Optional for 3 to 6 months to the academic or non-academic sector in Europe Can be split (e. g. 2 x 3 months) 	
Project 1 – 2 years + 1 year mandatory return phase to Europe		

MSCA Evaluation Process

- Each proposal will be evaluated by at least three reviewers (selection by Research Executive Agency, REA)
- 3 phases of evaluation:
 - 1. Individual evaluation (Individual Evaluation Report + comments and points for each criterion)
 - 2. Consensus meeting (Agreement of the experts +Consensus Report)
 - 3. Panel review (Evaluation Summary Reports + Panel Ranked List)



MSCA Basic Contracts IF



New: Special Needs Allowance (max. 60.000€ Per Fellow)

IF Financing

Living allowance ER(*country correction coefficient)

- Mobility allowance

- Family allowance (if applicable)

 Research, training and networking costs

- Management & overhead

elle...

Fellow 600 x 12 M

500 x 12 M

4,880 x 12 M

800 x 12 M

Project

650 x 12 M

Total

EUR 89,160 /y

Employer's gross e. g. Belgium (*100 %) 5,980 EUR/M 71,760 EUR/y

e. g. Germany (*correction co-efficient 97.0 %) = 5,833.60 EUR/M



Preparation of the proposal

- Work Programme
- Guide for Applicants
- Templates

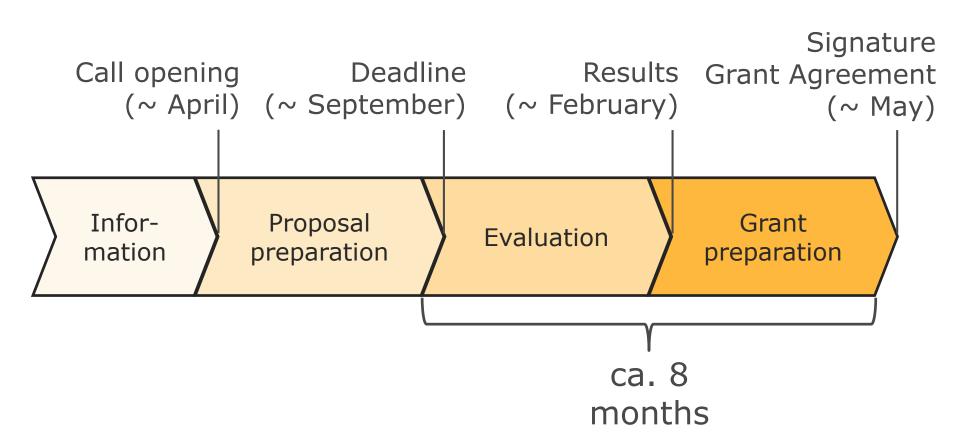


Participant Portal:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/ portal/desktop/en/home.html



From Submission to Funding (IF)





Success Rates 2017

MSCA	Proposals retained for funding	Success rate
ITN-ETN	98	6.8 %
ITN-EJD	9	10.5 %
ITN-EID	20	10.5 %
RISE	80	24,9 %
IF-EF	1.211	14,9 %
IF-GF	137	16,4 %
COFUND-DP	8	16,7 %
COFUND-FP	13	17,1 %



IF Success Rates 2017





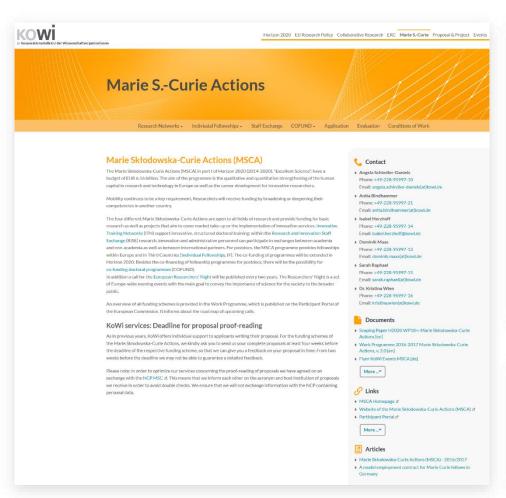
MSCA	Proposals retained for funding	Success rate
EF (ST)	1.029	14.6 %
EF (RI)	78	14.6 %
EF (CAR)	46	14.3 %
EF (SE)	58	28.4 %
GF	137	16.4 %



MSCA Calls 2018/2019*

	Budget (million)	Opening	Deadline
ITN	EUR 470	13 Sep 2018	15 Jan 2019*
RISE	EUR 80	04 Dec 2018	02 Apr 2019*
COFUND	EUR 80	12 Apr 2018	27 Sep 2018
IF	EUR 273	12 Apr 2018	12 Sep 2018

Information online





Participant Portal





KoWi Website EU Commission

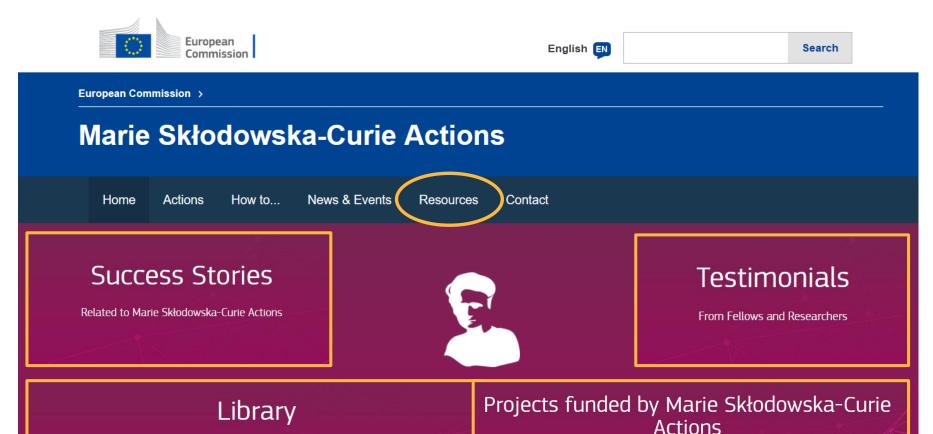
NKS MSC



Legal documents, Policy documents, Reports, Publications, Guides, Factsheets and more.

Marie S.-Curie Resources





This is just a small sample of the projects funded



KoWi Services on Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Information

- Information events and workshops
- Newsletter "Active Information Service" (AiD), factsheets, MSCA Host Offers, etc.

Consulting

- Individual consulting and support for applicants
- Tailored advice for small groups
- Advice on legal and financial project management

Training

- Workshops on application and grant management
- Workshops on legal and financial project management



European Research Council





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ERC Funding Schemes

Starting Grant

Consolidator Grant

Advanced Grant

2 – 7 years after PhD 7 – 12 years after PhD

10 years track record

Proof of Concept

Preparing ideas from ERC Grant for the market **Synergy** Grant

Teams of 2-4 PIs pursuing highly ambitious research goals

ERC Underlying Principles

- European funding of basic research ("frontier research")
- Open to all fields of research: bottom-up, investigatordriven, annual calls for proposals
- Open for researchers of any age and nationality
- Funding of individuals: Principal Investigator + project
- Funding: 100 % direct + 25 % indirect project costs

Scientific excellence is the sole criterion for evaluation



ERC Grantees - Profile Features

- Starting-Grantees usually have longer (and often several)
 "mobility experiences"
- Solid third-party funding (DFG, BMBF, EU etc.)
- Publications in the most high-ranking international journals
- Memberships in academies and editorial boards, review activities
- Distinct (inter)national research cooperation with leading scientists



ERC Starting Grants – Overview

Target group	2-7 years after PhD (extensions possible in exceptional cases; special rules for MD)			
Funding	max. EUR 1.5 million for max. 5 years (exception: + EUR 500,000 for major equipment or for PIs from Third Countries)			
Host institution	in EU Member State or Associated Country			
Time commitment	≥ 50% (≥ 50% in Europe)			
Application procedure	single submission of full proposal, two-step evaluation (incl. interview)			
Call	annually			



ERC application process

- Calls for proposals
 - Annually
 - Specific deadline
- The proposal
 - submitted by the PI
 - together with a Host Institution (Host Support Letter)
- Online submission
 - Participant Portal of the European Commission:
 - ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html



Evaluation (StG, CoG, AdG)

- Peer-review: Evaluation panels (10-15 members)
- Applicants choose panel(s)
- Up to 3 reviewers can be excluded in advance
- Three scientific domains:
 - Physical Sciences & Engineering (PE): 10 Panels
 - Life Sciences (LS):9 Panels
 - Social Sciences & Humanities (SH): 6 Panels
- Reviewers give marks for PI and project, respectively



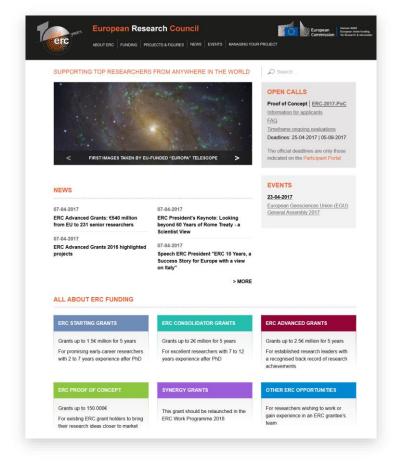
ERC Success Rates 2015-2018

Call Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
Starting Grants	12 %	11 %	13.3 %	12.7 %
Consolidator Grants	15 %	13.8 %	13.2 %	
Advanced Grants	14 %	9.6 %	12 %	



ERC Information Online





National Contact Point (NCP)

European Research Council (ERC)



KoWi Services on the ERC*



Information

- Information events and workshops
- NCP ERC website, incl. ERC-FAQs): <u>nks-erc.de</u>
- Newsletter: eubuero.de/newsletter

Consulting

- Individual consulting and support for applicants
- Tailored advice for small groups
- Advice on legal and financial project management

Training

- Interview trainings for Starting und Consolidator Grants in Bonn + on-site support in Brussels
- Workshops on application and grant management

^{*} Cooperation with the EU-Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (EU-Büro des BMBF)

Contact



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