



Horizon Europe Programme

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Doctoral Networks (HE MSCA DN)

Application form (Part A)
Project proposal – Technical description (Part B)

Version 8.0
04 April 2026



Application form (Part A)

Example, not to be completed

Call:

()

Topic:

Type of Action:

()

Proposal number:

Proposal acronym:

Type of Model Grant Agreement:

Table of contents

Section	Title	Action
1	General information	
2	Participants	
3	Budget	
4	Ethics and security	

How to fill in the forms

The form must be filled in for each proposal using the templates available in the submission system. Some data fields in the form are pre-filled based on the steps in the submission wizard.

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym

1 - General information

Fields marked * are mandatory to fill.

Topic	Type of Action
Call	Type of Model Grant Agreement

Acronym

Proposal title *Max 200 characters (with spaces). Must be understandable for non-specialists in your field.*

Note that for technical reasons, the following characters are not accepted in the Proposal Title and will be removed: < > " &

Duration in months *Estimated duration of the project in full months.*

Panel

Please select up to 5 descriptors (and at least 3) that best characterise the subject of your proposal, in descending order of relevance. Note that descriptors will be used to support REA services in identifying the best qualified evaluators for your proposal.

Descriptor1

Word or words that best describe(s) the subject of your project.

Add

Free keywords

Enter any words you think give extra detail of the scope of your proposal (max 200 characters with spaces).

Abstract *

Remaining characters

2000

Has this proposal (or a very similar one) been submitted in the past 2 years in response to a call for proposals under any EU programme, including the current call? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Please give the proposal reference or contract number.

Remove

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym

Declarations

Field(s) marked * are mandatory to fill.

1) We declare to have the explicit consent of all applicants on their participation and on the content of this proposal. * ☐

2) We confirm that the information contained in this proposal is correct and complete and that none of the project activities have started before the proposal was submitted (unless explicitly authorised in the call conditions). ☐

3) We declare:

- to be fully compliant with the eligibility criteria set out in the call
- not to be subject to any exclusion grounds under the [EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046](#)
- to have the financial and operational capacity to carry out the proposed project.

☐

4) We acknowledge that all communication will be made through the Funding & Tenders Portal electronic exchange system and that access and use of this system is subject to the [Funding & Tenders Portal Terms and Conditions](#). ☐

5) We have read, understood and accepted the [Funding & Tenders Portal Terms & Conditions](#) and [Privacy Statement](#) that set out the conditions of use of the Portal and the scope, purposes, retention periods, etc. for the processing of personal data of all data subjects whose data we communicate for the purpose of the application, evaluation, award and subsequent management of our grant, prizes and contracts (including financial transactions and audits). ☐

6) We declare that the proposal complies with ethical principles (including the highest standards of research integrity as set out in the [ALLEA European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#), as well as applicable international and national law, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the European Convention on Human Rights and its Supplementary Protocols. [Appropriate procedures, policies and structures](#) are in place to foster responsible research practices, to prevent questionable research practices and research misconduct, and to handle allegations of breaches of the principles and standards in the Code of Conduct. ☐

7) We declare that the proposal has an exclusive focus on civil applications (activities intended to be used in military application or aiming to serve military purposes cannot be funded). If the project involves dual-use items in the sense of [Regulation 428/2009](#), or other items for which authorisation is required, we confirm that we will comply with the applicable regulatory framework (e.g. obtain export/import licences before these items are used). ☐

8) We confirm that the activities proposed do not

- aim at human cloning for reproductive purposes;
- intend to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such changes heritable (with the exception of research relating to cancer treatment of the gonads, which may be financed), or
- intend to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer.
- lead to the destruction of human embryos (for example, for obtaining stem cells)

☐

These activities are excluded from funding.

9) We confirm that for activities carried out outside the Union, the same activities would have been allowed in at least one EU Member State. ☐

The coordinator is only responsible for the information relating to their own organisation. Each applicant remains responsible for the information declared for their organisation. If the proposal is retained for EU funding, they will all be required to sign a declaration of honour.

False statements or incorrect information may lead to administrative sanctions under the EU Financial Regulation.

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym

2 - Participants

List of participating organisations

#	Participating Organisation Legal Name	Country	Action
1			

Example, not to be completed

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym **Acronym is mandatory**

Short name

Organisation data

PIC	Legal name
Short name:	
Address	
Street	
Town	
Postcode	
Country	
Webpage	
Specific Legal Statuses	
Legal person	unknown Academic Sector unknown
Public body	unknown
Non-profit	unknown
International organisation	unknown
Secondary or Higher education establishment	unknown
Research organisation	unknown
SME Data	
Based on the below details from the Participant Registry the organisation is unknown (small- and medium-sized enterprise) for the call.	
SME self-declared status	unknown
SME self-assessment	unknown
SME validation	unknown

Does this participant deliver doctoral degrees, recognised as such by the relevant national authorities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym **Acronym is mandatory**

Short name

Departments carrying out the proposed work

Department 1

Department name *Name of the department/institute carrying out the work.* ☐ not applicable

☐ Same as proposing organisation's address

Street *Please enter street name and number.*

Town *Please enter the name of the town.*

Postcode *Area code.*

Country *Please select a country*

Links with other participants

Type of link	Participant

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym **Acronym is mandatory**

Short name

Main contact person

This will be the person the EU services will contact concerning this proposal (e.g. for additional information, invitation to hearings, sending of evaluation results, convocation to start grant preparation). The data in blue is read-only. Details (name, first name and e-mail) of Main Contact persons should be edited in the step "Participants" of the submission wizard.

Title _____

Gender ☐ Woman ☐ Man ☐ Non Binary

First name*

Last name*

E-Mail*

Position in org. Please indicate the position of the person.

Department *Name of the department/institute carrying out the work.*

☐ Same as organisation name

☐ Same as proposing organisation's address

Street *Please enter street name and number.*

Town *Please enter the name of the town.*

Post code *Area code.*

Country *Please select a country*

Website *Please enter website*

Phone +xxx xxxxxxxxxx

Phone 2 +xxx xxxxxxxxxx

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym **Acronym is mandatory**

Short name

Researchers involved in the proposal

Title	First Name	Last Name	Gender	Nationality	E-mail	Career Stage ¹	Role of researcher (in the project)	Reference Identifier	Type of identifier	Remove

¹Career stages as defined in Frascati 2015 manual:

Category A – Top grade researcher: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted. Example: 'Full professor' or 'Director of research'.

Category B – Senior researcher: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates (IsCED level 8). Examples: 'associate professor' or 'senior researcher' or 'principal investigator'.

Category C – Recognised researcher: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited. Examples: 'assistant professor', 'investigator' or 'post-doctoral fellow'.

Category D – First stage researcher: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers, or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree. Examples: 'PhD students' or 'junior researchers' (without a PhD).

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym **Acronym is mandatory**

Short name

Role of participating organisation in the project

Project management	☐
Communication, dissemination and engagement	☐
Provision of research and technology infrastructure	☐
Co-definition of research and market needs	☐
Civil society representative	☐
Policy maker or regulator, incl. standardisation body	☐
Research performer	☐
Technology developer	☐
Testing/validation of approaches and ideas	☐
Prototyping and demonstration	☐
IPR management incl. technology transfer	☐
Public procurer of results	☐
Private buyer of results	☐
Finance provider (public or private)	☐
Education and training	☐
Contributions from the social sciences or/and the humanities	☐
Other	☐
If yes, please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 50)	

Application forms

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Acronym **Acronym is mandatory**

Short name

List of up to 5 publications, widely-used datasets, software, goods, services, or any other achievements relevant to the call content.

Type of achievement	Short description (Max 500 characters)

List of up to 5 most relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.

Name of Project or Activity	Short description (Max 500 characters)

Description of any significant infrastructure and/or any major items of technical equipment, relevant to the proposed work.

Name of infrastructure of equipment	Short description (Max 300 characters)

Example, not to be completed

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym **Acronym is mandatory**

Short name

Gender Equality Plan

Does the organization have a Gender Equality Plan (GEP) covering the elements listed below?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Minimum requirements (building blocks) for a GEP

Public GEP: formal document published on the institution's website and signed by the top management, addressing the following issues:

- **Dedicated resources:** commitment of human resources and gender expertise to implement it.
- **Data collection and monitoring:** sex/gender disaggregated data on personnel and students and annual reporting based on indicators.
- **Training:** Awareness raising/trainings on gender equality and unconscious gender biases for staff and decision-makers.
- **Minimum areas** to be **covered** and addressed via concrete measures and targets:
 - o work-life balance and organisational culture;
 - o gender balance in leadership and decision-making;
 - o gender equality in recruitment and career progression;
 - o integration of the gender dimension into research and teaching content;
 - o measures against gender-based violence including sexual harassment.

Example, not to be completed

Application forms

Proposal ID
Acronym **Acronym is mandatory**

3 - Budget

Participant number	Organisation short name	Role	Country	Country correction coefficient	Academic sector	IO	No of recruited researchers	Number of person months	Contributions for recruited researchers			Institutional contributions		Total
									Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance	Research, training and networking costs	Management and indirect costs	
1				1			0							
Total							0		0.00	0	0	0	0	

Example, not to be completed

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym

4 - Ethics & security

Ethics Issues Table

1. Human Embryonic Stem Cells and Human Embryos		Page
Does this activity involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Does this activity involve the use of human embryos?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
2. Humans		Page
Does this activity involve human participants?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Does this activity involve interventions (physical also including imaging technology, behavioural treatments, etc.) on the study participants?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Does this activity involve conducting a clinical study as defined by the Clinical Trial Regulation (EU 536/2014) ? (using pharmaceuticals, biologicals, radiopharmaceuticals, or advanced therapy medicinal products)	☐ Yes ☒ No	
3. Human Cells / Tissues (not covered by section 1)		Page
Does this activity involve the use of human cells or tissues?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
4. Personal Data		Page
Does this activity involve processing of personal data?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Does this activity involve further processing of previously collected personal data (including use of preexisting data sets or sources, merging existing data sets)?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Is it planned to export personal data from the EU to non-EU countries? Specify the type of personal data and countries involved	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Is it planned to import personal data from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? Specify the type of personal data and countries involved	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Does this activity involve the processing of personal data related to criminal convictions or offences?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
5. Animals		Page
Does this activity involve animals?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
6. Non-EU Countries		Page
Will some of the activities be carried out in non-EU countries?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
In case non-EU countries are involved, do the activities undertaken in these countries raise potential ethics issues?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Is it planned to use local resources (e.g. animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Is it planned to import any material (other than data) from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? For data imports, see section 4.	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Is it planned to export any material (other than data) from the EU to non-EU countries? For data exports, see section 4.	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Does this activity involve low and/or lower middle income countries , (if yes, detail the benefit-sharing actions planned in the self-assessment)	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Could the situation in the country put the individuals taking part in the activity at risk?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
7. Environment, Health and Safety		Page

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Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to the environment, to animals or plants.(during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact) ? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Does this activity deal with endangered fauna and/or flora / protected areas? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to humans, including those performing the activity.(during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact) ? ☐ Yes ☒ No

8. Artificial Intelligence

Page

Does this activity involve the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence? (if yes, detail in the self-assessment whether that could raise ethical concerns related to human rights and values and detail how this will be addressed). ☐ Yes ☒ No

9. Other Ethics Issues

Page

Are there any other ethics issues that should be taken into consideration? ☐ Yes ☒ No

I confirm that I have taken into account all ethics issues above and that, if any ethics issues apply, I will complete the ethics self-assessment as described in the guidelines [How to Complete your Ethics Self-Assessment](#)

☐

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym

Ethics Self-Assessment

Ethical dimension of the objectives, methodology and likely impact

Explain in detail the identified issues in relation to:

- objectives of the activities (e.g. study of vulnerable populations, etc.)
- methodology (e.g. clinical trials, involvement of children, protection of personal data, etc.)
- the potential impact of the activities (e.g. environmental damage, stigmatisation of particular social groups, political or financial adverse consequences, misuse, etc.)

Remaining characters

5000

Compliance with ethical principles and relevant legislations

Describe how the issue(s) identified in the ethics issues table above will be addressed in order to adhere to the ethical principles and what will be done to ensure that the activities are compliant with the EU/national legal and ethical requirements of the country or countries where the tasks are to be carried out. It is reminded that for activities performed in a non-EU countries, they should also be allowed in at least one EU Member State.

Remaining characters

5000

Application forms

Proposal ID

Acronym

Security issues table

1. EU Classified Information (EUCI) ²		Page
Does this activity involve information and/or materials requiring protection against unauthorised disclosure (EUCI)?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Does this activity involve non-EU countries?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
2. Misuse		Page
Does this activity have the potential for misuse of results?	☐ Yes ☒ No	
3. Other Security Issues		Page
Does this activity involve information and/or materials subject to national security restrictions? If yes, please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1000)	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Are there any other security issues that should be taken into consideration? If yes, please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1000)	☐ Yes ☒ No	

²According to the Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information, "European Union classified information (EUCI) means any information or material designated by an EU security classification, the unauthorised disclosure of which could cause varying degrees of prejudice to the interests of the European Union or of one or more of the Member States".

³Classified background information is information that is already classified by a country and/or international organisation and/or the EU and is going to be used by the project. In this case, the project must have in advance the authorisation from the originator of the classified information, which is the entity (EU institution, EU Member State, third state or international organisation) under whose authority the classified information has been generated.

⁴EU classified foreground information is information (documents/deliverables/materials) planned to be generated by the project and that needs to be protected from unauthorised disclosure. The originator of the EUCI generated by the project is the European Commission.

Validation result

Show Error

The red 'Show Error' button indicates an error due to a missing or incorrect value related to the call eligibility criteria. The submission of the proposal **will be blocked** unless that specific field is corrected!

Show Warning

The yellow 'Show Warning' button indicates a warning due to a missing or incorrect value related to the call eligibility criteria. The submission of the proposal **will not be blocked** (proposal will be submitted with the missing or incorrect value).

Section

Description

The form has not yet been validated, click "Validate Form" to do so!

Example, not to be completed

Project proposal – Technical description (Part B)



Horizon Europe Programme

Standard Application Form

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – Doctoral Networks (HE MSCA DN)

Project proposal – Technical description (Part B)

Version 6.0
04 April 2026



HISTORY OF CHANGES		
Version	Publication date	Changes
1.0	18.06.2021	Initial version
1.1	30.07.2021	Typo corrected: implementation risk Table 3.1 d renamed 3.1 e
1.2	10.05.2022	- Additional paragraph on page 3 about proposals evaluated as they are submitted. - Definition of risk added on page 6. - Addition of note to use same participant numbering and names as in part A on page 8. - Addition of note specifying aspects to be taken into account under Excellence on page 10. - Work Package List moved from Excellence to Implementation as Table 3.1a on page 16. - Addition of Artificial Intelligence subheading on page 12. - Recruitment Deliverables per Beneficiary moved from Excellence to Implementation as Table 3.1e, and relabelled Recruitment Table per Beneficiary. - Addition of note specifying aspects to be taken into account under Impact on page 13. - Examples added for section 2.1 on page 13. - Addition of note on communication measures and public engagement strategy on page 14. - Addition of note on exploitation in non-associated third countries on page 14. - Addition of note specifying aspects to be taken into account under Implementation on page 16. - Update of the Description of Work Packages, Table 3.1 b, to remove deliverables descriptions, in order to avoid duplication of information with Table 3.1 c. - Update of the Deliverables List, Table 3.1 c, with additional column "Short description" - Network organisation subheading moved from part B1 to part B2, section 4, with further explanations. - Joint governing structure subheading merged with Network organisation, in part B2 section 4. - Gender aspects concerning decision-making and recruitment embedded in the Supervisory board and Recruitment strategy sub-headings respectively. - Environmental aspects in light of the MSCA Green Charter moved from part B1 to part B2 section 5.
1.3	27.06.2022	Typo corrected in sections 7.1 (Template of Commitment letter for DN associated partners) & 7.2 (Template of pre-agreement letter for DN-JD participants awarding a joint/double or multiple degree).
2.0	11.07.2022	Consolidation, formatting and layout changes. Tags added
2.1	08.09.2022	Added instructions on Artificial intelligence
2.2	18.04.2023	- Link between scientific challenges in excellence 1.2 and implementation risk table 3.1g. - Clarification on DMP and subheading Research data management and management of other research outputs in excellence 1.2 - Deletion of sub-heading Role of non-academic sector in the training programme from section 1.3 as already covered by section 2.1. - Further clarification on section 2.1 part b. - Further explanations on section 2.2. - Clarification on Consortium agreement and subheading Strategy for the management of intellectual property - Supervisory board description moved to part B2 - Recruitment strategy: gender aspect replaced by adherence to the Code of Conduct

		for the recruitment of researchers - Implementation risk table 3.1g, instructions added to insert any scientific and technical risk(s) identified in section 1.2 - Letters of Commitment deleted as not applicable to 2023 call. - Supervision table added in Supervisory board section in part B2
3.0	22.04.2024	- Guidance on the use of AI for the preparation of the proposal - Additional information on how to describe the activities per work package - Challenges to the chosen methodology and ways to overcome them has been moved from section 1.2 to section 3.1. - Quality of the supervision arrangements for standard DNs added as required subheading in section 1.4. - Developing sustainable elements of doctoral programme has been redrafted in section 2.1 - Recruitment strategy has been moved from section 3.1 to section 4 in part B2. - Subheading on commitment of associated partners has been redrafted in Section 3.2
4.0	16.12.2024	Removed references to AI robustness
5.0	29.04.2025	- Individual DC research project description moved from section 3.1 into section 1.1. - Clarification on other diversity aspects - Removal of research data management plan and management of other research outputs - Additional explanations under section 1.3 - Additional explanations under section 1.4 - Additional explanations under section 2.2 - Request to briefly justify the lack of economical and/or societal impacts in section 2.4 - Merging of the two Work Package tables (3.1a and 3.1b) into a single table (3.1a) - Renaming and restructuring of the recruitment table into the DC table (3.1d) - Individual Research Projects tables deleted under 3.1 - Progress monitoring and evaluation of individual research projects deleted as covered by quality of supervision description under 1.4 - Implementation risk relabelled as Project risks (3.1e) - Commitment of associated partners changed to role of associated partners under 3.2.
5.1	5.11.2025	Tags removed
6.0	26.3.2026	- Updated references to call 2026 - Part B2 includes section 11 on RAISE DN for applicants of HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-MSCA

Instructions for Drafting Part B of the Proposal

Part B of the proposal contains the details of the proposed research and training programmes along with the practical arrangements planned to implement them. They will be used by the independent experts to undertake their assessment. We would therefore advise applicants to address each of the award criteria as outlined in the relevant sections, using both descriptive text and the tables provided. Please note that the explanatory notes included in the part B proposal template serve to explain the award criteria without being exhaustive. To draft a proposal, applicants should also consult the current version of the MSCA Work Programme.

Please be aware that proposals will be evaluated as they were submitted, rather than on their potential if certain changes were to be made. This means that only proposals that successfully address all the required aspects will have a chance of being funded. There will be no possibility for significant changes to content, budget and consortium composition during grant preparation. Applicants must structure their proposal according to the headings indicated in the Part B proposal template.

Please note that this call will be a single-stage proposal submission and evaluation procedure. **An RTF (rich text format) version** of the submission template can be downloaded from the Electronic Submission Service. Applicants must ensure that their proposals conform to this layout and to the instructions given.

Note on RAISE Doctoral Networks for AI in Science (HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-03 pilot call)

Applicants who wish to opt in for the [RAISE Doctoral Networks for AI in Science](#) should do so by filling in section 11 of part B2 and justifying how their proposal fits the scope of the [RAISE DN call](#). We strongly advise applicants to check the specific scope of the RAISE DN call before they decide to opt-in.

Note: For the 2026 call, applicants **must** submit Part B of their proposal as **two separate documents**:

Document 1 (part B1): must comprise the Start Page, Table of Contents, List of Participating Organisations data (including non-academic sector and declarations tables), and then Part B sections 1-3. **The maximum total length for this document is 34 pages.** The Start Page must consist of **1 whole page**. The Table of Contents must consist of **1 whole page**. The list of Participating Organisations data, including the non-academic beneficiaries and declarations tables, **must consist of a maximum of 2 whole pages**. If two whole pages are not used for this section, the remaining space must be left blank: **section 1 must start on page 5 of the document**. Of the **maximum 30 pages applied to sections 1, 2 and 3**, applicants are free to decide on the allocation of pages between the sections. However, the overall page limit will be strictly applied and applicants must keep the proposal within the limits. **The Expert evaluators will disregard any excess pages above the 34 page limit, since all pages in excess will automatically be blanked out once the application is submitted.** Please note that if section 1 starts before page 5, evaluators will be instructed to disregard any pages in excess of the 30 pages limit.

Document 2 (part B2): must consist of Part B sections 4-11. No overall page limit will be applied to this document, but applicants should respect the instructions given per section (e.g. in section 8, a maximum of one page should be used per beneficiary and half a page per associated partner).

Note that applicants will not be able to submit their proposals in the submission system unless both documents 1 and 2 are provided.

Size limit of the documents: Please note that the **maximum size for each document is 10 MB**. The upload of any documents above this size limit will fail in the submission system. Applicants are reminded to test the system in advance, and avoid submitting their proposal at the last minute.

The **minimum font size** allowed throughout the proposal is **11 points**. Standard character spacing and a minimum of single line spacing has to be used. The page size is A4, and all **margins** (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least **15 mm** (not including any footers or headers). The reference font for the body text of proposals is **Times New Roman** (Windows platforms), **Times/Times New Roman** (Apple platforms) or **Nimbus Roman No. 9 L** (Linux distributions). Please note that failure to respect the minimum font size will lead REA to request applicants to convert their proposal to the minimal font size. Any excess pages resulting from this conversion will be disregarded by the evaluators.

The use of a different font is not allowed unless the cumulative conditions are fully met, namely that the font is clearly legible and that its use does not significantly reduce the length of the proposal in terms of the number of pages compared to the reference font (for example, with a view to circumventing the page limit). As an indication, such a layout should lead to a maximum of between 5,000 and 6,000 possible characters per page (including spaces). In cases of non-compliance with the formatting or font size requirements, the proposal might be reformatted and any pages exceeding the page limit would be disregarded by the expert evaluators, in order to ensure equal treatment of all applicants.

For the tables, the minimum font size allowed is 11 points. **Literature references should be listed in footnotes**, font size 8. All footnotes will count towards the page limit.

Please note that the experts will be instructed to **ignore hyperlinks to information** that is specifically designed to expand the proposal, thus circumventing the page limit.

Please make sure that both documents comprising Part B of the proposal carry as a **header to each page** the proposal acronym and the implementation mode applied to (i.e. DN, DN-ID or DN-JD). All **pages should also be numbered** in a single series on the footer of the page to prevent errors during handling. It is recommended to apply the following numbering format: "**Part B - Page X of Y**".

For both documents comprising Part B of the proposal, applicants must use exclusively PDF ("Portable Document Format", compatible with Adobe version 3 or higher, with embedded fonts). Other file formats will not be accepted by the Electronic Submission Services of the Commission.

Applicants are instructed to **name their part B1 and B2** as follows:

Proposal Number-Acronym-Part B1.pdf / Proposal Number-Acronym-Part B2.pdf

DEFINITIONS	
Academic sector	Public or private higher education establishments awarding academic degrees, public or private non-profit research organisations and International European Research Organisations (IERO).
Non-academic sector	Any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector and fulfilling the requirements of the Horizon Europe Rules for Participation.
Deliverable	A report that is sent to the Commission or Agency providing information to ensure effective monitoring of the project. There are different types of deliverables (e.g. a report on specific activities or results, data management plans, ethics or security requirements).
Impacts	Wider long term effects on society (including the environment), the economy and science, enabled by the outcomes of R&I investments (long term). Impacts generally occur some time after the end of the project. Example: <i>The deployment of the advanced forecasting system enables each airport to increase maximum passenger capacity by 15% and passenger average throughput by 10%, leading to a 28% reduction in infrastructure expansion costs.</i>
Milestone	Control points in the project that help to chart progress. Milestones may correspond to the achievement of a key result, allowing the next phase of the work to begin. They may also be needed at intermediary points so that, if problems have arisen, corrective measures can be taken. A milestone may be a critical decision point in the project where, for example, the consortium must decide which of several technologies to adopt for further development. The achievement of a milestone should be verifiable.
Objectives	The goals of the work performed within the project, in terms of its research and innovation content. This will be translated into the project's results. These may range from tackling specific research questions, demonstrating the feasibility of an innovation, sharing knowledge among stakeholders on specific issues. The nature of the objectives will depend on the type of action, and the scope of the topic.
Outcomes	The expected effects, over the medium term, of projects supported under a given topic. The results of a project should contribute to these outcomes, fostered in particular by the dissemination and exploitation measures. This may include the uptake, diffusion, deployment, and/or use of the project's results by direct target groups. Outcomes generally occur during or shortly after the end of the project. Example: <i>9 European airports adopt the advanced forecasting system demonstrated during the project.</i>
Pathway to impact	Logical steps towards the achievement of the expected impacts of the project over time, in particular beyond the duration of a project. A pathway begins with the projects' results, to their dissemination, exploitation and communication, contributing to the expected outcomes in the work programme, and ultimately to the wider scientific, economic and societal impacts of the work programme destination.
Research output	Results generated by the action to which access can be given in the form of scientific publications, data or other engineered outcomes and processes such as software, algorithms, protocols and electronic notebooks.
Results	What is generated during the project implementation. This may include, for example, know-how, innovative solutions, algorithms, proof of feasibility, new business models,

	policy recommendations, guidelines, prototypes, demonstrators, databases and datasets, trained researchers, new infrastructures, networks, etc. Most project results (inventions, scientific works, etc.) are ‘Intellectual Property’, which may, if appropriate, be protected by formal ‘Intellectual Property Rights’. <i>Example: Successful large-scale demonstrator: trial with 3 airports of an advanced forecasting system for proactive airport passenger flow management.</i>
Critical risk	A critical risk is a plausible event or issue that could have a high adverse impact on the ability of the project to achieve its objectives.

Guidance on the use of generative AI tools for the preparation of the proposal

When considering the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools for the preparation of the proposal, it is imperative to exercise caution and careful consideration. The AI-generated content should be thoroughly reviewed and validated by the applicants to ensure its appropriateness and accuracy, as well as its compliance with intellectual property regulations. Applicants are fully responsible for the content of the proposal (even those parts produced by the AI tool) and must be transparent in disclosing which AI tools were used and how they were utilized.

Specifically, applicants are required to:

- Verify the accuracy, validity, and appropriateness of the content and any citations generated by the AI tool and correct any errors or inconsistencies.
- Provide a list of sources used to generate content and citations, including those generated by the AI tool. Double-check citations to ensure they are accurate and properly referenced.
- Be conscious of the potential for plagiarism where the AI tool may have reproduced substantial text from other sources. Check the original sources to be sure you are not plagiarizing someone else’s work.
- Acknowledge the limitations of the AI tool in the proposal preparation, including the potential for bias, errors, and gaps in knowledge.

Please provide such information in section 10 of part B2.

START PAGE

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

Doctoral Networks (DN)
Call: HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01-01
HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-MSCA

PART B

“PROPOSAL ACRONYM”

This proposal is to be evaluated as:

[DN] [DN-ID] [DN-JD]
[delete as appropriate]

TABLE OF CONTENTS (max. 1 page)**LIST OF PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS (max. 2 pages)**

Please provide a list of the consortium's members (both beneficiaries and associated partners¹) indicating the legal entity, the department carrying out the work and the scientist/person-in-charge of the action. Entities with a capital or legal link should be added under the associated partners linked to a beneficiary.

Consortium Member	Legal Entity Short Name*	Academic ** (tick)	Non-academic ** (tick)	Awards Doctoral Degrees (tick)	Country	Dept./ Division / Laboratory	Scientist/person-in-Charge	Role of associated Partner ² or link to beneficiary
<u>Beneficiaries</u>								
- NAME*								
<u>Associated Partners</u>								
- NAME*								
<u>Associated Partners linked to a beneficiary</u>								
- NAME*								

* Please use the same participant numbering and names as the ones used in the administrative proposal forms. Please note that in the submission forms in Part A, Beneficiaries are labelled as “Partners”.

** Please ensure that the sector of the entity is consistent with the one from part A and follows the definition from the Work Programme which is recalled at the beginning of this document.

For non-academic beneficiaries, please provide additional data as indicated in the table below.

Data for non-academic beneficiaries:

Name	Location of research premises (city / country)	Type of R&D activities	No. of full-time employees	No. of employees in R&D	Web site	Annual turnover ³ (in Euro)	Enterprise status (Yes/No)	SME status ⁴ (Yes/No)

- The information in the above table **must be based on current data, not projections**
- The financial and operational capacity of organisations participating in successful proposals will be subject to verification during the grant preparation phase

¹ Please refer to the section on associated partners

² For example, delivering specialised training courses, hosting secondments, etc.

³ Defined as the total value of sales of goods and services during the last accounting period.

⁴ As defined in [Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC](#).

Declarations

Name (institution / individual)	Nature of inter-relationship

- Applicants **must** use the table above to **declare any inter-relationship between different participating institutions or individuals** (e.g. family ties, shared premises or facilities, joint or part ownership, financial interest, overlapping staff or directors, etc.)

Example, not to be completed

START PAGE COUNT – MAX 30 PAGES**1. Excellence (starting on p.5)*****Excellence – aspects to be taken into account.***

- Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art).
- Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality and appropriateness of open science practices).
- Quality and credibility of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary, inter-sectoral and gender as well as other diversity aspects).
- Quality of the supervision (including mandatory joint supervision for industrial and joint doctorate projects).

1.1 Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)

Required sub-headings:

- Introduction, objectives and overview of the overall research programme. Briefly describe the objectives of your proposed work. Are the objectives verifiable with appropriate quantitative or qualitative indicators? Are they realistically achievable?
- Individual Doctoral Candidate (DC) research projects. Describe each DC's individual research project, including for each a title, objectives, expected results, and planned secondments (purpose, timing, duration, host, sector). Explain how those projects will be integrated into – and contribute to – the overall research programme and objectives.
- Pertinence and innovative aspects of the research programme (in light of the current state of the art and existing programmes / networks / doctoral research trainings). Describe briefly the current state-of-the-art and how your project goes beyond it, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious.

The action should be divided in **Work Packages** and described in the Table 3.1a under the Implementation section.

1.2 Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality and appropriateness of open science practices)

Required sub-headings:

- Overall methodology: Describe and explain the overall methodology including the concepts, models and assumptions that underpin your work. Explain how this will enable you to deliver your project's objectives.
- Integration of methods and disciplines to pursue the objectives: Explain how expertise and methods from different disciplines will be brought together and integrated in pursuit of your objectives. If you consider that an inter-disciplinary approach is not necessary in the context of the proposed work, please provide a justification.

- **Gender dimension and other diversity aspects:** Describe how the gender dimension and other diversity aspects (age, disability, race and ethnicity, religion or belief, and sexual orientation) are taken into account in the project's research and innovation content, if relevant for your project. If you do not consider such a gender dimension to be relevant in your project, please provide a brief justification.

 Remember that this question relates to the content of the planned research and innovation activities, and not to gender balance in the teams in charge of carrying out the project.

 Sex, gender and diversity analysis refers to biological characteristics and social/cultural factors respectively. For guidance on methods of sex / gender analysis and the issues to be taken into account, please refer to <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/33b4c99f-2e66-11eb-b27b-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

- **Open science practices:** Describe how appropriate open science practices are implemented as an integral part of the proposed methodology. Show how the choice of practices and their implementation are adapted to the nature of your work, in a way that will increase the chances of the project delivering on its objectives. If you believe that none of these practices are appropriate for your project, you should provide a justification.

 Open science is an approach based on open cooperative work and systematic sharing of knowledge and tools as early and widely as possible in the process. Open science practices include early and open sharing of research (for example through preregistration, registered reports, pre-prints, or crowd-sourcing); research output management; measures to ensure reproducibility of research outputs; providing open access to research outputs (such as publications, data, software, models, algorithms, and workflows); participation in open peer-review; and involving all relevant knowledge actors including citizens, civil society and end users in the co-creation of R&I agendas and contents (such as citizen science).

 Please note that this question does not refer to outreach actions that may be planned as part of communication, dissemination and exploitation activities. These aspects should instead be described below under 'Impact'.

-  Proposals selected for funding under Horizon Europe will need to develop a detailed data management plan (DMP) for making their data/research outputs findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR) as a deliverable by month 6 and revised towards the end of a project's lifetime. The DMP should describe how research outputs (especially research data) generated and/or collected during the project will be managed so as to ensure that they are findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.

-  For guidance on open science practices and research data management, please refer to the relevant section of the [HE Programme Guide](#) on the Funding & Tenders Portal.

1.3 Quality and credibility of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary, inter-sectoral and gender as well as other diversity aspects)

Required sub-heading:

- **Overview and content structure of the doctoral training programme.** Please explain how the activities included in the network-wide training events are meaningful for the intended research and to which extent the training programme includes transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary and intersectoral training in support of the DCs development. Please

explain how well the network-wide training events complement those programmes offered locally at the participating organisations (please include table 1).

Table 1 Main Network-Wide Training Events, Conferences and Contribution of Beneficiaries

	Main Training Events & Conferences	ECTS ⁵ (if any)	Lead Institution	Action Month (estimated)
1				
2				
3				
4				

1.4 Quality of the supervision (including mandatory joint supervision for industrial and joint doctorate projects)

Required sub-headings:

- Qualifications and supervision experience of supervisors (and co-supervisors, if applicable). Please explain how the proposed supervisors are sufficiently experienced in supervising research, and have the time, knowledge, experience, and specific expertise for the envisaged individual research project they would supervise.
- Quality of supervision for DN. Please explain how well the supervision of the DCs is organized, how it provides for progress and review procedures, feedback mechanisms, and appropriate support for the DCs.
- Quality of the mandatory joint supervision arrangements (for DN-ID and DN-JD).

⚠ To avoid duplication, the role and scientific profile of the supervisors should only be listed in the "Participating Organisations" tables (see section 8 below).

⚠ The following section of the European Charter for Researchers refers specifically to supervision:

Supervision

Employers and/or funders should ensure that a person is clearly identified to whom researchers can refer for the performance of their professional duties, and should inform the researchers accordingly.

Such arrangements should clearly define that the proposed supervisors are sufficiently expert in supervising research, have the time, knowledge, experience, expertise and commitment to be able to offer the research doctoral candidate appropriate support and provide for the necessary progress and review procedures, as well as the necessary feedback mechanisms.

⚠ **Supervision** is one of the crucial elements of successful research. Guiding, supporting, directing, advising and mentoring are key factors for a researcher to pursue his/her career path. In this context, all MSCA-funded projects are encouraged to follow the recommendations outlined in the [Guidelines for MSCA supervision](#)⁶.

#§REL-EVA-RE§#

⁵ ECTS: European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System.
http://ec.europa.eu/education/ects/users-guide/docs/ects-users-guide_en.pdf.

⁶ While the Guidelines for MSCA supervision are non-binding, funded-projects are strongly encouraged to take them into account.

2. Impact

Impact – aspects to be taken into account.

- Contribution to structuring doctoral training at the European level and to strengthening European innovation capacity, including the potential for:
 - a) meaningful contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral training, as appropriate to the implementation mode and research field
 - b) developing sustainable elements of doctoral programmes.
- Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of researchers and contribution to their skills development.
- Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.
- The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts.

2.1 Contribution to structuring doctoral training at the European level and to strengthening European innovation capacity, including the potential for:

- a) meaningful contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral training, as appropriate to the implementation mode and research field, this could include (non exhaustively) e.g. meaningful exposure of Doctoral Candidates to the non-academic sector through secondments, contribution of the non-academic sector to the research activities, contribution of the non-academic sector to the network-wide training.
- b) Developing sustainable (= lasting) elements of doctoral programmes after the end of the DN funding.

This could include, for example training programmes open to doctoral students outside the consortium, or training courses that would still be available and running after the end of the project; long lasting collaboration and secondment opportunities with consortium partners continuing to publish together, complementing their research work and exchanging research visit and doctoral students after the end of the project.

2.2 Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of researchers and contribution to their skills development

In this section, please explain the impact of the research and training on the fellows' careers prospects. Explain how the project and the training will equip DCs with a combination of technical and transferable skills that will improve their employability in academia and/or the industry. Explain the specific measures taken by the project to enhance the career perspectives of the DCs, i.e. to support them in exploring a wide range of career options in terms of topics, disciplines, professional environments or sectors.

2.3 Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities

Required sub-headings:

- Plan for the dissemination and exploitation activities, including communication activities:
Describe the planned measures to maximise the impact of your project by providing a first version of your 'plan for the dissemination and exploitation including communication activities'. This plan should describe the dissemination, exploitation and communication measures, the target group(s) addressed (e.g. scientific community, end users, financial actors, public at large), with objectives,

how these activities and the fulfilment of these objectives will be monitored, with appropriate indicators.

 *Regarding communication measures and public engagement strategy, the aim is to inform and reach out to society and show the activities performed, and the use and the benefits the project will have for citizens. Activities must be effectively planned, with clear objectives, start at the outset and continue through the lifetime of the project. The description of the communication activities needs to state the main messages as well as the tools and channels that will be used to reach out to each of the chosen target groups.*

 *In case your proposal is selected for funding, a more detailed plan will need to be provided as a mandatory project deliverable submitted at mid-term stage with an update towards the end of the project.*

- Strategy for the management of intellectual property, foreseen protection measures, such as patents, design rights, copyright, trade secrets, etc., and how these would be used to support exploitation.

 *If your project is selected, you will need an appropriate consortium agreement to manage (amongst other things) the ownership and access to key knowledge (IPR, research data etc.). Where relevant, these will allow you, collectively and individually, to pursue market opportunities arising from the project. Please note that although a detailed IP management plan is not expected at this stage, an outline of the strategy for the management of IP is mandatory at the proposal stage.*

 *All measures should be proportionate to the scale of the project, and should contain concrete actions to be implemented both during and after the end of the project, e.g. standardisation activities. Your plan should give due consideration to the possible follow-up of your project, once it is finished. In the justification, explain why each measure chosen is best suited to reach the target group addressed. Where relevant, describe the measures for a plausible path to commercialise the innovations.*

 *If exploitation is expected primarily in non-associated third countries, justify by explaining how that exploitation is still in the Union's interest.*

Concrete plans for sections 2.3 must be included in the corresponding table 3.1 a Description of Work Packages.

 *Note that the following sections of the European Charter for Researchers refer specifically to public engagement and dissemination:*

Dissemination, Exploitation of Results

All researchers should ensure, in compliance with their contractual arrangements, that the results of their research are disseminated and exploited, e.g. communicated, transferred into other research settings or, if appropriate, commercialised. Senior researchers, in particular, are expected to take a lead in ensuring that research is fruitful and that results are either exploited commercially or made accessible to the public (or both) whenever the opportunity arises.

Public Engagement

Researchers should ensure that their research activities are made known to society at large in such a way that they can be understood by non-specialists, thereby improving the public's understanding of science. Direct engagement with the public will help researchers to better understand public interest in priorities for science and technology and also the public's concerns.

 You can also refer to the [Communicating EU research and innovation guidance for project participants](#) as well as to [the "communication" section of the Online Manual](#).

2.4 The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts (project's pathways towards impact)

Required sub-headings:

- Provide a narrative explaining how the project's results are expected to make a difference in terms of impact, beyond the immediate scope and duration of the project. The narrative should include the components below, tailored to your project. Please justify and explain how the stated impacts are credible, relevant, and achievable. Expected scientific impacts must always be described. If your project is not expected to have significant economic/technological or societal impacts, please provide a brief justification.
 - Expected scientific impact(s), e.g. contributing to specific scientific advances, across and within disciplines, creating new knowledge, reinforcing scientific equipment and instruments, computing systems (i.e. research infrastructures);
 - Expected economic/technological impact(s), e.g. bringing new products, services, business processes to the market, increasing efficiency, decreasing costs, increasing profits, contributing to standards' setting, etc.
 - Expected societal impact(s), e.g. decreasing CO₂ emissions, decreasing avoidable mortality, improving policies and decision-making, raising consumer awareness.

 Be specific, referring to the effects of your project, and not R&I in general in this field. State the target groups that would benefit.

 Only include such outcomes and impacts where your project would make a significant and direct contribution. Avoid describing very tenuous links to wider impacts.

 Give an indication of the magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected outcomes and impacts, should the project be successful. Provide quantified estimates where possible and meaningful. 'Magnitude' refers to how widespread the outcomes and impacts are likely to be. For example, in terms of the size of the target group, or the proportion of that group, that should benefit over time; 'Importance' refers to the value of those benefits. For example, number of additional healthy life years; efficiency savings in energy supply.

3. Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation

Quality and efficiency of the implementation – aspects to be taken into account

- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages.
- Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.

3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages

Required sub-headings:

- Description of Work Packages (please include Table 3.1a);

- Deliverables List (please include Table 3.1b);
- Milestones List (please include Table 3.1c);
- DC table (please include Table 3.1d);
- Project Risks (please include Table 3.1e);
- For DN-JD, joint admission, selection, supervision, monitoring and assessment procedures (if not applicable, please remove).

Table 3.1 a Description of Work Packages

WP Number	WP title	Start month – End month
Lead participant	Lead participant short name	
Participants	<i>Please list all participating entities (short names)</i>	
DCs involved		
Objectives		
Description of Work and Role of Specific Beneficiaries / Associated partners <i>broken down into tasks), indicating lead participant and role of other participating organisations. For each task, clarify which participating organisation and/or DC(s) will do it. Deliverables linked to each WP are listed in Table 3.1b (no need to repeat the information here).</i>		

Table 3.1 b Deliverables List

Scientific Deliverables							
Number ⁷	Title	Short description	WP No.	Lead Beneficiary Short Name	Type ⁸	Dissemination Level ⁹	Due Date (month h)
Management, Training, Recruitment¹⁰ and Dissemination Deliverables							
Number	Title	Short description	WP No.	Lead Beneficiary Short Name	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month h)

⁷ Deliverable numbers in order of delivery dates. Please use the numbering convention <WP number>.<number of deliverable within that WP>. For example, deliverable 4.2 would be the second deliverable from Work Package 4.

⁸ Please indicate the nature of the deliverable using one of the following codes:
R = Report; **ADM** = Administrative (website completion, recruitment completion, etc.); **PDE** = dissemination and/or exploitation of results; **OTHER** = Other, including coordination.

⁹ Please indicate the dissemination level using one of the following codes:
PU = **Public**: fully open, e.g. web; **SEN** = **Sensitive**: restricted to consortium, other designated entities (as appropriate) and Commission services; Please consider that deliverables marked as "PU" will automatically be published on CORDIS once approved: the applicants should therefore consider the relevance of marking a deliverable as "PU";
CI = **Classified**: classified information as intended in Commission Decision 2001/844/EC.

¹⁰ Including overall recruitment (e.g. advertising vacancies), Researcher Declarations on Conformity, Career Development Plan, training deliverable x, etc. The individual recruitments should only be listed in Table 1.2a.

⚠ *The deliverables should be divided into scientific deliverables and management, training, recruitment and dissemination deliverables. Scientific deliverables have technical/scientific content specific to the action. The number of deliverables in a given Work Package must be reasonable and commensurate with the Work Package content. Note that during implementation, the submission of these deliverables to the REA will be a contractual obligation.*

⚠ *Note that, if the proposal is successful, several mandatory deliverables will be added during the Grant Agreement preparation such as the establishment of a supervisory board of the network, due at month 2; the progress report, due at month 13; the career development plan etc. (full list in the MSCA Work Programme – Definitions section, paragraph 1.6).*

⚠ **Due date:** *The schedule should indicate the **number of months** elapsed from the start of the action (Month 1).*

Table 3.1 c Milestones List

Number	Title	Related Work Package(s)	Lead Beneficiary	Due Date ¹¹	Means of Verification ¹²

Table 3.1 d DC Table

DC No.	Recruiting Participant (short name)	PhD awarding entities (short name)	Planned Start Month	Duration (months) 3-36 (up to 48 for DN-JD)	Total duration of secondments (months) *	Total duration in non-academic sector (months)
1.						
2.						
3.						
...						
Total						

If a Doctoral Candidate is recruited by more than one beneficiary, please indicate this in the table accordingly.

*Note that for Standard DNs, the total duration of secondments is limited to half of the total DC fellowship duration.

Please ensure that the total number of person months in this table is consistent with the total number of person months from the budget table in part A.

Table 3.1 e Project Risks

¹¹ Measured in months from the action start date (month 1).

¹² Show how the consortium will confirm that the milestone has been attained. Refer to indicators if appropriate. For example: a laboratory prototype completed and running flawlessly; software released and validated by a user group; field survey complete and data quality validated.

Please list the critical managerial, scientific and technical risks, relating to project implementation and detail the risk mitigation measures. Please include dealing with scientific misconduct as one of the critical risks for research. Please also refer to any important methodological challenges you may have identified and how you intend to overcome them.

Description of risk	Likelihood (Low/Medium/High)	Severity (Low/Medium/High)	Work package(s) involved	Proposed risk-mitigation measures

*A **critical risk** is a plausible event or issue that could have a high adverse impact on the ability of the project to achieve its objectives.*

Level of likelihood to occur: Low/medium/high

The likelihood is the estimated probability that the risk will materialise even after taking account of the mitigating measures put in place.

Level of severity: Low/medium/high

The relative seriousness of the risk and the significance of its effect.

3.2 Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise

Required sub-headings:

- Appropriateness of the infrastructure and capacity of each participating organisation, as outlined in Section 8 (Participating Organisations), in light of the tasks allocated to them in the action;
- Consortium composition and exploitation of participating organisations' complementarities: explain the compatibility and coherence between the tasks attributed to each beneficiary/associated partner in the action, including in light of their experience; Show how this includes expertise in social sciences and humanities, open science practices, and gender aspects of R&I, as appropriate.
- Role of associated partners to the programme (please see also section 8). The role of associated partners and their contribution to the project should be explained.
- Funding of non-associated third countries (if applicable): Only entities from EU Member States, from Horizon Europe Associated Countries or from countries listed in the [HE Programme guide](#) are automatically eligible for EU funding. If one or more of the beneficiaries requesting EU funding is based in a country that is not automatically eligible for such funding, the application shall explain in terms of the objectives of the action why such funding would be essential. Only in exceptional cases will these organisations receive EU funding. The same applies for international organisations other than IERO.

STOP PAGE COUNT – MAX 30 PAGES (SECTIONS 1-3)

DOCUMENT 2 (no overall page limit applied)**4. Recruitment strategy (including how the project will strive to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the recruitment of researcher.**

 The following sections of the European Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers refer specifically to recruitment and selection:

Recruitment

Employers and/or funders should establish recruitment procedures which are open, efficient, transparent, supportive and internationally comparable, as well as tailored to the type of positions advertised.

Advertisements should give a broad description of knowledge and competencies required, and should not be so specialised as to discourage suitable applicants. Employers should include a description of the working conditions and entitlements, including career development prospects. Moreover, the time allowed between the advertisement of the vacancy or the call for applications and the deadline for reply should be realistic.

Selection

Selection committees should bring together diverse expertise and competences and should have an adequate gender balance and, where appropriate and feasible, include members from different sectors (academic and non-academic) and disciplines, including from other countries and with relevant experience to assess the candidate. Whenever possible, a wide range of selection practices should be used, such as external expert assessment and face-to-face interviews. Members of selection panels should be adequately trained.

5. Network organisation

Please explain the management structure and organisation of the network, including the roles of the different actors, and modus operandi including project monitoring and decision making. Please describe the Joint Governing structure for DN-ID and DN-JD.

6. Supervisory board

Please explain the composition and organisation of the Supervisory board, and how it will strive to adhere to the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions guidelines on supervision.

Please insert a table that displays the names and gender of supervisors for all Doctoral Candidates, to be adapted to your particular proposal

Doctoral candidate	Main Supervisor	Gender	Co-supervisor	Gender
DC1				
DC2				
DC3				
DC4				

7. Environmental aspects in light of the MSCA Green Charter ¹³

Please explain how the proposed project would strive to adhere to the MSCA Green Charter during its implementation.

8. Participating Organisations

All organisations (whether beneficiaries or associated partners¹⁴) must complete the appropriate table below. Complete one table of maximum one page per beneficiary and half a page per associated partner. Associated partners linked to a beneficiary should be described separately.

For **beneficiaries**:

Beneficiary Legal Name:	
General Description	<i>Short description of the activities relevant to the action</i>
Role and Commitment of key persons (including supervisors)	<i>Including names, title and the intended extent of involvement in the action (in <u>percentage of full-time employment</u>) of the key scientific staff who will be involved in the research, training and supervision</i>
Key Research Facilities, Infrastructure and Equipment	<i>Outline the key facilities and infrastructure available and demonstrate that each team has sufficient capacity to host and/or offer a suitable environment for supervising the research and training of the recruited researchers (relevant for the specific nature/content of this proposal).</i>
Status of Research Premises	<i>Please explain the status of the beneficiary's research facilities – i.e. are they owned by the beneficiary or rented by it? Are its research premises wholly independent from other beneficiaries and/or associated partners in the consortium?</i>
Previous Involvement in Research and Training Programmes, including H2020 ITN	<i>Detail any relevant EU, national or international research and training actions/projects in which the beneficiary has previously participated. Please clearly mention any previous involvement in H2020 ITN or HE DN funded project(s), including project(s) acronym and reference number.</i>
Current Involvement in Research and Training Programmes, including H2020 ITN	<i>Detail any relevant EU, national or international research and training actions/projects in which the beneficiary is currently participating. Please clearly mention any current involvement in ongoing ITN or DN funded project(s), including project(s) acronym and reference number.</i>
Relevant Publications/datasets/softwares/ Innovation Products/ other achievements	<i>Max. 5 Key elements of the achievement, including a short qualitative assessment of its impact and (where available) its digital object identifier (DOI) or other type of persistent identifier (PID). Publications, in particular journal articles, are expected to be open access. Datasets are expected to be FAIR and 'as open as possible, as closed as necessary'.</i>

For **associated partners**:

Associated Partner Legal Name:

¹³ The MSCA Green Charter constitutes a code of good practice for all recipients of MSCA funding – both individuals and institutions – and promotes the mainstreaming of environmental considerations in all aspects of project implementation. In so doing, the Charter seeks to reduce the environmental footprint of MSCA-funded projects, to raise awareness of environmental sustainability, and to serve as a catalyst in promoting best practice in sustainable research management.

¹⁴ Please refer to the section on associated partners

General description	<i>Short description of the activities relevant to the action</i>
Key Persons and Expertise	<i>Including names, title and expertise of the key scientific staff who will be involved in the project.</i>
Key Research Facilities, Infrastructure and Equipment	<i>Outline the key facilities and infrastructure available and demonstrate that each team has sufficient capacity to host and/or offer a suitable environment for supervising the research and training of the recruited researchers (relevant for the specific nature/content of this proposal).</i>
Previous and Current Involvement in Research and Training Programmes	<i>Detail any relevant EU, national or international research and training actions/projects in which the entity is participating or has previously participated. Please clearly mention any previous involvement in H2020 ITN or HE DN funded project(s), including project(s) acronym and reference number.</i>
Relevant Publications/datasets/softwares/ Innovation Products/ other achievements	<i>Max. 3 Key elements of the achievement, including a short qualitative assessment of its impact and (where available) its digital object identifier (DOI) or other type of persistent identifier (PID). Publications, in particular journal articles, are expected to be open access. Datasets are expected to be FAIR and 'as open as possible, as closed as necessary'.</i>

For associated partners linked to a beneficiary:

Associated Partner linked to a beneficiary Legal Name:	
General description and link to the concerned beneficiary	<i>Short description of the activities relevant to the action</i>
Key Persons and Expertise	<i>Including names, title and expertise of the key scientific staff who will be involved in the project.</i>
Key Research Facilities, Infrastructure and Equipment	<i>Outline the key facilities and infrastructure available and demonstrate that each team has sufficient capacity to host and/or offer a suitable environment for supervising the research and training of the recruited researchers (relevant for the specific nature/content of this proposal).</i>
Previous and Current Involvement in Research and Training Programmes	<i>Detail any relevant EU, national or international research and training actions/projects in which the entity is participating or has previously participated. Please clearly mention any previous involvement in H2020 ITN or HE DN funded project(s), including project(s) acronym and reference number.</i>
Relevant Publications/datasets/softwares/ Innovation Products/ other achievements	<i>Max. 3 Key elements of the achievement, including a short qualitative assessment of its impact and (where available) its digital object identifier (DOI) or other type of persistent identifier (PID). Publications, in particular journal articles, are expected to be open access. Datasets are expected to be FAIR and 'as open as possible, as closed as necessary'.</i>

9. Letters of pre-agreement (for DN-JD)

For DN-JD, letters of pre-agreement must also be included from those academic beneficiaries/associated partners that will award the doctoral degrees, in part B (document 2) of the proposal. These letters should be signed by an **authorised legal representative** of the organisation in question so as to offer reasonable assurance regarding the commitment to award the joint, double or multiple doctoral degree(s). These letters should also indicate agreement with the principle that the awarding of such degrees is a precondition for funding. **A template** for these letters is provided below and **must be followed by all academic DN-JD applicants awarding the doctoral degree(s)**.

In case the letter does not follow in full the template or fails to give enough assurance on the commitment in the project (e.g. no signature, wrong proposal references, outdated letter...), the experts may penalise the proposal on these aspects under the implementation evaluation criterion. Missing letters of pre-agreement will lead to the exclusion of the entity, which may affect the eligibility of the proposal.

Letters of pre-agreement must be included in the PDF file (Part B, document 2); these should not be attached in a separate PDF file or as an embedded file since this makes them invisible.

10. Declaration on the use of AI

11. RAISE DN (Only for applicants of HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-MSCA, 1 page)

By completing this section, the applicants declare their interest in opting in for the RAISE-DN call.

If you would like to be evaluated under HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-MSCA, please justify how your proposal fits the scope of the RAISE DN call i.e. to either develop or significantly participate in the development of innovative AI systems, models, tools or methodologies for their scientific domain. These systems, models, tools or methodologies must substantially innovate the way in which scientific information is analysed and enable a scientific contribution that furthers the state of the art in the discipline of the doctoral research.

The development of the AI tool, model or methodology is to be an integral and indispensable part of the research work and be clearly delineated in the research work package. The scientific advancements of the project are to be directly dependent on the capabilities and application of these AI algorithms to drive the scientific inquiry, prediction, or understanding.

Proposals are to achieve research results in the domain-scientific discipline of the doctoral research through using innovative AI techniques, going beyond a unique focus on computer-scientific AI development (e.g. to result in publications only in computer-scientific AI-related venues) or the use of existing AI systems, methodologies or general-purpose computational tools for data processing/statistical analysis in an instrumental way.

Template of pre-agreement letter for DN-JD participants awarding a joint/double or multiple degree

- *On headed paper of the Institution or of the Doctoral School*
- *Beyond any additional information that the participating organisation wishes to indicate in its Letter of pre-agreement, the following text should appear in all its parts and with no modifications:*

I undersigned¹⁵, in my quality of¹⁶, commit to set up all necessary provisions to award a joint/double/multiple¹⁷ research doctoral degree in the frame of the DN-JD proposal¹⁸ submitted within the call HORIZON-MSCA-DN-2026, should the proposal be funded.

I am aware of and agree with the principle that the setting up of such provisions is a precondition for funding.

The research doctoral degree will be awarded to those Marie Skłodowska-Curie researchers who will fulfil, at the end of their research work, the requirements as set out in the formal agreement to establish the joint/double/multiple research doctoral degree between the relevant participating organisations.

[Free field for any additional information that the participating organisation wishes to indicate]

I am aware that the formal agreement to establish the joint/double/multiple research doctoral degree is due by month 6 from the start date of the project and I commit to comply with this deadline.

I hereby declare that I am entitled to commit into this process the Institution/Doctoral School I represent.

Name, date, signature

¹⁵ First name and surname.

¹⁶ Role in and name of the Institution/Doctoral School.

¹⁷ Choose the relevant one(s).

¹⁸ Title of the proposal.

END PAGE

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

**Doctoral Networks (DN)
Call: HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01-01
HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-MSCA**

PART B

“PROPOSAL ACRONYM”

This proposal is to be evaluated as:

**[DN] [DN-ID] [DN-JD]
[delete as appropriate]**

Proposal Template Part B (without instructions)

START PAGE

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

Doctoral Networks (DN)

Call: HORIZON-MSCA-2026-DN-01-01

HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-MSCA

PART B

“PROPOSAL ACRONYM”

This proposal is to be evaluated as:

[DN] [DN-ID] [DN-JD]
[delete as appropriate]

TABLE OF CONTENTS (max. 1 page)

[This document is tagged. Do not delete the tags; they are needed for processing.] #@APP-FORM-HEMSCADN@#

LIST OF PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS (max. 2 pages)

Consortium Member	Legal Entity Short Name	Academic (tick)	Non-academic (tick)	Awards Doctoral Degrees (tick)	Country	Dept./ Division / Laboratory	Scientist/Person-in-Charge	Role of associated Partner ¹⁹ or link to beneficiary
<u>Beneficiaries</u>								
- NAME								
<u>Associated Partners</u>								
- NAME								
<u>Associated Partners linked to a beneficiary</u>								
- NAME								

Data for non-academic beneficiaries:

Name	Location of research premises (city / country)	Type of R&D activities	No. of full-time employees	No. of employees in R&D	Web site	Annual turnover ²⁰ (in Euro)	Enterprise status (Yes/No)	SME status ²¹ (Yes/No)

Declarations

Name (institution / individual)	Nature of inter-relationship

¹⁹ For example, delivering specialised training courses, hosting secondments, etc.²⁰ Defined as the total value of sales of goods and services during the last accounting period.²¹ As defined in [Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC](#).

START PAGE COUNT – MAX 30 PAGES**1. Excellence #@REL-EVA-RE@# (starting on p.5)****1.1 Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation objectives** (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)

Required sub-headings:

- Introduction, objectives and overview of the overall research programme.
- Individual Doctoral Candidate (DC) research projects.
- Pertinence and innovative aspects of the research programme (in light of the current state of the art and existing programmes / networks / doctoral research trainings).

1.2 Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality and appropriateness of open science practices)

Required sub-headings:

- Overall methodology
- Integration of methods and disciplines to pursue the objectives
- Gender dimension and other diversity aspects
- Open science practices
-

1.3 Quality and credibility of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary, inter-sectoral and gender as well as other diversity aspects)

Required sub-headings:

- Overview and content structure of the doctoral training programme, (please include table 1).

Table 1 Main Network-Wide Training Events, Conferences and Contribution of Beneficiaries

	Main Training Events & Conferences	ECTS (if any)	Lead Institution	Action Month (estimated)
1				
2				
3				
4				

1.4 Quality of the supervision (including mandatory joint supervision for industrial and joint doctorate projects)

Required sub-headings:

- Qualifications and supervision experience of supervisors.
- Quality of supervision for DN.
- Quality of the mandatory joint supervision arrangements for DN-ID and DN-JD.

2. Impact

2.1 Contribution to structuring doctoral training at the European level and to strengthening European innovation capacity, including the potential for:

- a) Meaningful contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral training, as appropriate to the implementation mode and research field
- b) Developing sustainable (=lasting) elements of doctoral programmes after the end of the DN funding

2.2 Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of researchers and contribution to their skills development

- Impact of the research and training on the fellows' careers.

2.3 Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities

Required sub-headings:

- Plan for the dissemination and exploitation activities, including communication activities.
- Strategy for the management of intellectual property, foreseen protection measures.

Concrete plans for sections 2.3 must be included in the corresponding implementation tables.

2.4 The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts (project's pathways towards impact)

Required sub-headings:

- Expected scientific impact(s);
- Expected economic/technological impact(s);
- Expected societal impact(s).

3. Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation

3.1 Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages

Required sub-headings:

- Description of Work Packages (please include Table 3.1a)
- Deliverables List (please include table 3.1b);
- Milestones List (please include table 3.1c);

- DC table (please include Table 3.1d);
- Project risks (please include Table 3.1e;
- For DN-JD, joint admission, selection, supervision, monitoring and assessment procedures (if not applicable, please remove).

Table 3.1 a Description of Work Packages

WP Number	WP title	Start month – End month
Lead participant		
Participants		
DCs involved		
Objectives		
Description of Work and Role of Specific Beneficiaries / Associated partners		

Table 3.1 b Deliverables List

<i>Scientific Deliverables</i>							
Number	Title	Short description	WP No.	Lead Beneficiary Short Name	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month h)
<i>Management, Training, Recruitment and Dissemination Deliverables</i>							
Number	Title	Short description	WP No.	Lead Beneficiary Short Name	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month h)

Table 3.1 c Milestones List

Number	Title	Related Work Package(s)	Lead Beneficiary	Due Date	Means of Verification

Table 3.1 d DC Table

DC No.	Recruiting Participant	PhD awarding	Planned Start	Duration (months)	Total duration of secondments (months)	Total duration

	(short name)	entities (short name)	Month	3-36 (up to 48 for DN-JD)		in non-academic sector (months)
1.						
2.						
3.						
...						
Total						

Table 3.1e Project Risks

Description of risk	Likelihood (Low/Medium/High)	Severity (Low/Medium/High)	Work package(s) involved	Proposed risk-mitigation measures

3.2 Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise

Required sub-headings:

- Appropriateness of the infrastructure and capacity of each participating organisation, as outlined in Section 8 (Participating Organisations), in light of the tasks allocated to them in the action;
- Consortium composition and exploitation of participating organisations' complementarities;
- Role of associated partners to the programme (please see also section 8);
- Funding of non-associated third countries (if applicable).

STOP PAGE COUNT – MAX 30 PAGES (SECTIONS 1-3)

DOCUMENT 2 (*no overall page limit applied*)

4. Recruitment strategy (including how the project will strive to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the recruitment of researchers).

5. Network organisation

6. Supervisory board

Doctoral candidate	Main Supervisor	Gender	Co-supervisor	Gender
DC1				
DC2				
DC3				
DC4				

7. Environmental aspects in light of the MSCA Green Charter

8. Participating Organisations

For beneficiaries:

Beneficiary Legal Name:	
General Description	
Role and Commitment of key persons (including supervisors)	
Key Research Facilities, Infrastructure and Equipment	
Status of Research Premises	
Previous Involvement in Research and Training Programmes, including H2020 ITN	
Current Involvement in Research and Training Programmes, including H2020 ITN	
Relevant Publications/datasets/softwares/ Innovation Products/ other achievements	

For associated partners:

Associated Partner Legal Name:	
General description	

Key Persons and Expertise	
Key Research Facilities, Infrastructure and Equipment	
Previous and Current Involvement in Research and Training Programmes	
Relevant Publications/datasets/softwares/ Innovation Products/ other achievements	

For associated partners linked to a beneficiary:

Associated Partner linked to a beneficiary Legal Name:	
General description and link to the concerned beneficiary	
Key Persons and Expertise	
Key Research Facilities, Infrastructure and Equipment	
Previous and Current Involvement in Research and Training Programmes	
Relevant Publications/datasets/softwares/ Innovation Products/ other achievements	

9. Letters of pre-agreement (for DN-JD)

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11. RAISE DN (Only for applicants of HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-MSCA, 1 page)

END PAGE

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

Doctoral Networks (DN)
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HORIZON-RAISE-2026-01-MSCA

PART B

“PROPOSAL ACRONYM”

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