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Seven Marie Curie Fellowships for the University of Bern

Each year, the European Commission awards Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships to post-doctoral researchers. Seven Fellowships went to researchers of the University of Bern, making it the most successful candidate institution in Switzerland.

The individual fellowships are awarded under Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) as part of the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020. The aim of the funding programme is to improve the quality of research training and career development for young researchers by supporting a project at a foreign university. Researchers find a supervisor in their field who is able to offer an excellent environment for their development and for their project, and together with their supervisor, the fellows apply to Horizon 2020. At the end of January 2018, the European Commission announced that it was awarding a total of 1348 MSCA Individual Fellowships. Seven went to researchers at the University of Bern.

High success rate

The University of Bern's success rate is up on the previous year – and at 26%, it is considerably higher than the Swiss average (17%). Europe-wide, the rate is even slightly lower still at 15%. The strong result was welcomed by Daniel Candinas, Vice-Rector for Research. He believes that “the high success rate shows that the University of Bern is seen internationally as a leading research institution.” Bern as a research centre is also benefiting from the MSCA fellows: “They raise the profile of the University of Bern within the international research community and bring their existing networks to Bern.”

Six incoming – one outgoing

Six of the Bern MSCA fellows are coming from various EU countries and will be carrying out individual research projects at the University of Bern over a period of two years. One fellow from Bern will be spending two years at Yale University in the USA. The selected researchers operate in a wide range of fields such as geography, biology, sociology, biomedicine, neurology and ecology. Detailed project descriptions and pictures of the MSCA fellows are attached and can also be found on our [website](#).

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