

Four Questions on Submitting an ERC Application

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About me

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- PhD in Social Sciences
- FRS-FNRS Research Associate (*chercheur qualifié*)
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Université de Liège
- Area of expertise: human migration
- ERC Starting Grant: *Migration and Transnational Social Protection in a (Post-)crisis Europe* (MiTSoPro)

Do I have a good question?

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- Interpret the “high risk – high gain” mantra
- Trade-off between expertise and innovation
- Coherence between question & funding scheme
- Test your question

Is this a good moment in my career?

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- Desire to build a team
- Accept that a CV can never be perfect
- Define career priorities

Can I find the time to write?

- 5 weeks full-time in my case
- Time management is key:
 - Avoid keeping administrative parts of the application for the last minute
 - Plan to submit the day before the deadline

Do I have the support needed?

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- Focus on what I like: research!
- Externalize annoying tasks if you can
- Peer-review and feedback at all stages of the evaluation process
- Involve colleagues with different thematic interests or disciplinary approaches

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