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**Letter of Support of the ERC Principal Investigator: Background and instructions (Pismo podpore vodje ERC projekta: Ozadje in navodila - v angleškem jeziku)**

Background:

A Letter of Support is required for each application to the *Public Call for (co)financing Potential ERC Candidates for Visiting ERC Grantees in 2019* by the Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS). The Call is implemented by ARRS in accordance with the ERC Guidelines: *Fellowship to Visit ERC Grantee*, European Research Council, from 19th January 2016, available on the following website:

[https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/Fellowship\\_Visit\\_ERC\\_Grantee.pdf](https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/Fellowship_Visit_ERC_Grantee.pdf), and in line with the ERC press release on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016: *Fellowships launched to encourage potential ERC grantees*, available on the following website: [https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/press\\_release/files/ERC\\_Visiting\\_Fellowship\\_Programmes.pdf](https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/press_release/files/ERC_Visiting_Fellowship_Programmes.pdf); whereby the Slovenian Research Agency is designated as one of those countries which are permitted to implement the instrument created by the ERC.

Therefore, subject matter of the Public Call is (co) financing researchers (hereinafter: Visiting Researcher) visiting the European Research Council Grantees (hereinafter: ERC Principal Investigator). The duration of the visits from Slovenia should be for a minimum of three months and up to six months, starting in the year 2019.

The objective of the Public Call is cooperation between the Visiting Researcher and one of the former or current ERC Principal Investigators with a view to develop and prepare the ERC project proposal of her/his own. The Call's ultimate objective is that within the two ERC-calls after the visit's conclusion, the Visiting Researcher applies for an appropriate ERC grant: Starting Grant, Consolidator Grant or Advanced Grant.

Accordingly, a Letter of Support with prescribed elements is intended only for the purpose of this public Call, and is a necessary element in the evaluation of the Visiting Researcher's proposal. The Letter of Support should be completed and signed by the ERC Principal Investigator.

In the Letter of support of the ERC Principal Investigator (PI) the following items should be included:

1. PI's ERC Project Title, ID number and duration period.
2. PI's willingness to host the Visiting Researcher (name, affiliation, duration and period of the visit).

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*Javni razpis za sofinanciranje gostovanj pri vodjah ERC projektov v letu 2019 - Public call for (co)financing potential ERC candidates to visit ERC grantees in 2019*

3. Statement as follows: "I hereby declare that I am aware of and agree with the ERC Visiting Fellowship conditions as stated in the Public Call by ARRS, based on the ERC Guidelines: *Fellowship to Visit ERC Grantee*, European Research Council, from 19th January 2016".
4. Statement as follows: "I confirm that I have been acquainted with the outline of the research project of the Visiting Researcher".
5. Assessment of the potential success of the outlined research project in the future ERC calls? (followed by detailed description).
6. Plan for an active inclusion of the Visiting Researcher (indicate as well the equipment, facilities and infrastructure available to the Visiting Researcher during her/his visit).