We are writing to you regarding the current <u>ERC Starting Grant 2023 Call</u> (Deadline 25th October 2022).

At present, applicants with a Swiss Host Institute are not eligible to apply to this Call. However, the possibility of proposal submissions from applicants with a Swiss Host Institutes is currently being explored. The State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) therefore recommends that applicants prepare their proposal for the ERC Starting Grant (ERC StG) 2023 Call. If a proposal submission is still not possible by the deadline in October, a replacement Call will be launched by the SNSF in November. This will be similar to the "SNSF Starting Grant Call" in 2022, however the SNSF Call would be aligned as closely as possible to the ERC scheme.

Please find below the original information from the SERI.

## Original text:

SERI recommends researchers in Switzerland to prepare their submission for the ERC Starting Grant (ERC StG) 2023. The Federal Council's declared goal is to enable researchers in Switzerland to submit their proposals. For the event that a submission is still not possible by the deadline of 25 October 2022, the Federal Council already decided to propose funds for a corresponding transitional measure in May 2022. According to a consultation held by SERI on 15 July 2022, it is unanimously envisaged by the SNSF, swissuniversities and the ETH Board that the SNSF would open an integrative call for proposals in November 2022 in the form of the "SNSF Starting Grants 2023" as in early 2022. The SNSF call would be aligned as close as possible with the ERC, in particular with regard to the proposal to be submitted as well as the evaluation criteria. The SNSF would provide information on this call in due course.

Also see p 12 of <u>https://www.sbfi.admin.ch/dam/sbfi/de/dokumente/2020/01/qa-h-europa.pdf.download.pdf/QA-Horizon-Europe\_E.pdf</u>

**ERC Starting Grants:** Applicants should have 2-7 years post PhD research experience. The relevant date for calculation is 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. Please note that reference date is now the certified date of the successful defence (and not, as with previous ERC Calls, the award of the PhD degree.).