**MEET THE ERC AND ITS PRESIDENT**

**26TH MARCH 2015**

**PALAZZO SCHUSTER - SALA PIO XII**

Università degli Studi di Milano
Via S. Antonio 5, Milano

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**14:00** Registration

**14:30** Welcome (Università degli Studi di Milano)
- Chiara Tonelli, Vice-Rector for Research, Università degli Studi di Milano

**14:45** The European Research Council: achievements, opportunities and challenges
- JEAN-PIERRE BOURGUIGNON, European Research Council (ERC) President

**15.15** Some reflections on ERC Grants in Italy
- FABIO ZWIRNER, Università degli Studi di Padova
  Member of the ERC Scientific Council

**15:30** ERC Grant Holders
- Grazziella Messina, ERC Starting Grantee, Università degli Studi di Milano
- Alberto Guardone, ERC Consolidator Grantee, Politecnico di Milano
- Maristella Botticini, ERC Advanced Grantee, IGIER - Università Commerciale “Luigi Bocconi”

**16.00** Q&A

**16.30** End of the meeting

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**The ERC funding strategy**

The European Research Council (ERC) is the first pan-European funding body designed to support investigator-driven frontier research and stimulate scientific excellence across Europe. The ERC aims to support the best and most creative scientists to identify and explore new opportunities and directions in any field of research (Physical Sciences and Engineering, Life Sciences and Social Sciences and Humanities), without thematic priorities. In particular, it encourages proposals which cross disciplinary boundaries; address new and emerging fields; and introduce unconventional and innovative approaches. The ERC awards long-term grants to individual researchers of any nationality and age from anywhere in the world who wish to carry out their research projects in a host organisation based in Europe.

**General features of ERC funding**

- Long-term individual grants
- One researcher, one host institution, one project
- No consortia, no co-financing
- Open to any field of research, no thematic priorities
- Ground-breaking, high-risk/high-gain, research projects
- Host organisations based in an EU Member State, an Associated country or an International European Interest Organisation
- Sole evaluation criterion: scientific excellence of researcher and research proposal
- International peer review evaluation process based on 25 different panels
- Simple procedures that combine flexibility with accountability
- There are restrictions on resubmission: apply only if your project is ready.

Excellence is the sole evaluation criterion

http://erc.europa.eu/