MSCA COFUND Post-doctoral programme

Advanced Manufacturing Research Fellowship Programme
in the Basque – New Aquitaine Region

ADAGIO

GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

Second Call

Important DATES to remember

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1. General description of the ADAGIO programme

The “Advanced Manufacturing Research Fellowship Programme in the Basque – New Aquitaine Region” (ADAGIO) is a Marie Sklodowska-Curie COFUND Action.

It is a Cross-border Programme aimed at enhancing the research and innovation (R&I) capacity and high-quality human resources, of the regions of New Aquitaine (France) and the Basque Country (Spain), specifically in the area of Advanced Manufacturing.

1.1 The programme

ADAGIO offers 15 post-doctoral fellowships in either of the 2 hosting institutions: the University of the Basque Country, Spain, and the University of Bordeaux, France.

The fellows will do a 36 month advanced research project at one of the hosting institutions and may choose to combine it with a more applied research path oriented towards market needs, by doing up to 12 months secondments (with a minimum of 3 months). They can choose to do a secondment at one or more of the industrial partner organisations or another partner organisation of their choice to be added during the implementation of the Programme.

The postdoctoral fellow will have a full trans-national mobility experience and access to the research facilities of the organisations associated with the programme. Furthermore, all fellows will be offered high-quality scientific and multidisciplinary training, and a complementary crosscutting agenda based on the scientific and technological capabilities of the two cross-border recruiting universities in the field of advanced manufacturing and the participation of their research groups with research lines related to this area. The partner organisations involved will also contribute to the training of the fellows by providing training opportunities to the researchers in transversal sectors such as knowledge transfer, innovation, or entrepreneurship.
1.2 The host universities

University of the Basque Country, Spain

The University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) is a public teaching and research institution officially founded in 1980. The university employs over 7,500 people in 31 faculties and schools distributed in three different campuses (Bilbao, San Sebastian and Vitoria), with more than 57,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students. The UPV/EHU offers the highest number of doctorate programmes of all Spanish universities, one third of which have received a mention of excellence from the Spanish Ministry of Education. The UPV/EHU has been recognised as an International Research Campus of Excellence by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (MICINN).

The University of the Basque Country is the main research agent in the Spanish Basque Country, and was the 2nd best Spanish university for creating spin offs during the 2008-2019 period. In its four business incubators, 90 university spin offs were created up to 2019. It holds 199 patented inventions protected internationally with more than 400 patents, and 32% of the technologies developed in the university are currently licensed to companies for their exploitation on the market. The university is currently ranked amongst the 301-400 best universities in the world, according to the latest Shanghai Ranking.

University of Bordeaux, France

The University of Bordeaux (UBx) is a multidisciplinary university that produces 4000 publications and 50 patents per year. UBx is a dynamic university offering innovative educational programs and a high level of research with an international scope. The University of Bordeaux is one of the leading French public research and higher education institutions, located in this dynamic, fast-developing region. The university has developed a wide range of international study programs that are taught in English (or other languages) and that offer students the possibility of studying abroad and/or completing joint or double degrees. A leading university in France for participation in the Erasmus Mundus program, the University of Bordeaux offers around 20 EU-labelled study programs of excellence.

With the increasing mobility of students and researchers, UBx offers strong arguments to attract and retain talent: cutting-edge work facilities, motivating career prospects as well as a very comfortable living environment. Junior and senior researchers who join us work alongside highly skilled colleagues and benefit from the latest technology in terms of research
The university is currently ranked amongst the 201-300 best universities in the world, according to the latest Shanghai Ranking.

2. What are Marie Skłodowska Curie actions?

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) contribute to excellent research, boosting jobs, growth and investment by equipping researchers with the new knowledge, skills and international and intersectoral exposure to fill the top positions of tomorrow and solve current and future societal challenges.

The MSCA are open to all domains of research and innovation. These are chosen freely by the applicants in a fully bottom-up manner.

The MSCA foster innovation, research-business cooperation and include a strong international component. Mobility is key to MSCA actions, and researchers receive funding on the condition that they move from one country to another to acquire new knowledge and develop their research career.

The MSCA are open to researchers and innovation staff at all stages of their career and support their research career paths, thereby ensuring good working conditions and work/life balance.

2.1 Benefits of being a Marie Curie Fellow

Fellowships contribute significantly to other career drivers such as access to high quality research, facility and labs, enlarging professional networks and improving interdisciplinary skills. Specifically:

- MSCA Fellows’ publications are more-often cited than equivalent peers, and are more frequently published in influential scientific journals.
- MSCA Fellows are more successful in applying for European Research Council (ERC)’s competitive grants for high quality research.
- MSCA Fellows achieve professorship titles more frequently than others, and are more likely to hold principal investigator position.

2.2 What type of Marie Curie action is ADAGIO?

ADAGIO is a MSCA COFUND post-doctoral fellowship programme (Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes). This programme provides organisations with additional financial support for their own researcher training and career development programmes.

ADAGIO fellowships are jointly funded by the two recruiting universities and the European Commission. Fellowship programmes fund individual research training and career
development fellowships for experienced researchers (in the case of ADAGIO, fellows must be experienced researchers that already hold a PhD).

The Fellows belonging to the ADAGIO Cofund scheme will develop their projects independently, under the overall management structure of the programme provided by the ADAGIO management support team, but will also be expected to work with their ADAGIO peers as part of a unique research ecosystem in the area of Advanced Manufacturing, providing mutual support and collaboration where relevant.

2.3 Why the Basque Country and Bordeaux?

Basque Country

The Basque Country is one of the seventeen autonomous regions that make up Spain. Geographically it is located in the eastern part of the Cantabrian Cornice, next to the French border. The Basque Country is a small region with an area of 7,234.8 Km² and a population of 2,174,033 inhabitants, and has three major cities (Bilbao, San Sebastian and Vitoria) that also are capitals of the three regions that make up the Basque Country.

The Basque Country represents one of the largest industrial concentrations in Spain and is highly involved in the European race towards increasing competitiveness in the global and highly industrialised economy.

In addition to being one of the most attractive places to work and do business, the Basque Country is also considered a knowledge hub. This is thanks to the significant public investment in R&D and to the high proportion of active population holding a university degree and working as researchers in the business sector.

For more interesting cultural information, please check out the Official YouTube channel of the Basque Country Tourist Office https://www.youtube.com/user/TurismoEuskadi

Bordeaux

Bordeaux is a charming harbour city, world-famous for its wine and acknowledged for its outstanding architecture (it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site). Moreover, the lively student population brings a buzz to the air and the well-kept outdoor spaces make life in Bordeaux a pleasure.

Bordeaux is home to many global companies that are a big incentive to work in the city, along with the traditional wine industry and its world famous university. Bordeaux’s economy is diverse; alongside traditional sectors such as agriculture, fishing and wine, newer sectors have come to the fore relatively recently, including aeronautics (employing 20,000 people in the area), electronics and telecommunications.
New Aquitaine is a leading region in the areas of life sciences and laser technology. Laser Mégajoule is a major, multi-million pound research project situated near Bordeaux. Bordeaux is a major trading port, with some nine million tons of goods transported to and from the city. In addition, thanks to the lure of its grand architecture and history, tourism is a key sector.

2.4 Relocation assistance to candidates

We are fully conscious of the difficulties and challenges involved in changing both employment and country of residence. Therefore the programme includes partners specialized in providing assistance to selected researchers in all necessary administrative procedures to obtain any residency permits or research visas and to find local accommodation.

Within Euskadi, the Bizkaia Talent Relocation Service assists researchers relocating to the Basque Country with regard to:

- Administrative matters: Taxation, Legislation (visas/permits), Legal Procedures, Vehicle Registration and Driving Licenses, Foreigners’ ID Number-NIE, Census Registration, Civil Register, etc.
- Issues, including Family Support, involved in settling in the community in Bilbao/Bizkaia (health, education, schooling, leisure, culture…)
- Housing: General Information, real estate agencies’ contacts, BBK TALENT apartments for researchers etc.
- Social Cultural Integration - Recreational Experiences and Meetings to foster interpersonal relationships between users.
- Be Basque Dual Career Centre: Its aim is to provide, in a personal way, a Relocation Service for dual career couples, concerning labour & sociocultural integration; it acts as an Intermediate with the agents of the system and the Network, informs about Funding and Grants, and about activities and events. If a researcher’s partner is a self-employed professional, they can have the same opportunity to broaden their network (meeting other local professionals, mentoring, co-working options, etc.)


In UBx, the Welcome Center for International Researchers (WCIR) is a dedicated service that acts as the intermediary between hosting laboratories and international researchers arriving to Bordeaux. The WCIR supports researchers with essential procedures upon their arrival, such as finding accommodation, carrying out administrative tasks and completing general paperwork that is required for daily life in France.

The multilingual team at the WCIR supports researchers with essential procedures upon their arrival and throughout their stay, such as assistance with the immigration process, carrying
out administrative tasks and completing general paperwork that is required for daily life in France, such as:

- Conditions of arrival in France
- Obtaining a resident card
- Social security and health insurance
- Tax returns
- Schooling of children and banking assistance

More information about the Welcome Center for International Researchers is available here: https://www.u-bordeaux.com/Research/Join-us/Welcome-Center/About-us

3. About the ADAGIO fellowships

The ADAGIO fellowship programme gives researchers from all over the world the opportunity to develop their own innovative projects within a network of internationally recognized European universities, research centres and R&D companies. This programme therefore constitutes the ideal stepping-stone in order for fellows to develop their academic and professional profile and explore future career perspectives both within and outside academia.

Candidates must be motivated to learn and technically proficient in their chosen discipline, but also outgoing and capable of working in a team based environment.

3.1 Industrial perspective

ADAGIO additionally foresees an important implication of its industrial partners in the programme. Each researcher will be assigned an industrial mentor and secondments and courses at the premises of one or more participating R&D enterprises will form an integral feature of their training. Apart from gaining first-hand insights into the private R&D sector and professional experience outside academia, these secondments present an excellent opportunity for the researchers to build a significant professional network that they will be able to draw on when seeking employment after their contract.

Moreover, the wide variety of participating industrial partners will allow the fellows to explore the interdisciplinary aspects and applications of their research projects and to develop intersectoral skills, which will open up additional opportunities and enhance their professional profile.

3.2 International orientation

The international orientation of the programme will furthermore have a positive impact on the fellow’s future career perspectives. ADAGIO strongly encourages its researchers to participate in international research networks in order to acquaint themselves with the
international research community active in their field and explore other research and employment opportunities both in the region and abroad.

3.3 Career breaks.

The ADAGIO Programme welcomes researchers that have taken a career break and wish to return to a career in research. Indeed, a career break might be considered an advantage if the applicant’s CV reflects relevant achievements acquired during that period, e.g. experience in industry. Career breaks due to maternity/paternity leave or national service will not have a negative impact on the assessment of any applicant as the thresholds and scores defined in the evaluation process will compensate for this.

3.4 Research areas

Candidates’ project proposals must fall within one of the following broad research areas:

- ADVANCED MATERIALS AND PROCESSES
- INTELLIGENT, FLEXIBLE & EFFICIENT PRODUCTION SYSTEMS
- DIGITAL AND CONNECTED FACTORY
- ENERGY EFFICIENCY
- SUSTAINABLE MANUFACTURING

Each hosting institution has published a list of the research groups and research lines related to each of the above areas that are available in ANNEX V. The applicants are free to select their research proposal that will have to encompass in a broad sense one of these available research lines. Both institutions have a significant number of RESEARCH GROUPS that could host the fellows and support them in the development of their respective projects.

3.5 Training for researchers

Alongside developing their own independent research, ADAGIO fellows will be trained in relevant scientific and research techniques in order to improve their scientific background by broadening their specific research skills and acquiring new transversal ones. To this end, the ADAGIO training programme will provide a broad range of activities according to the needs of each fellow. The offer of these trainings to fellows is an in-kind contribution by the UPV/EHU and UBx, which has been considered in the budget according to the cost that these courses imply for the students paying for them.

Progress of the fellow will be measured against a Personal Career Development Plan (PCDP), a tailor-made strategy that the research fellow develops together with her/his academic and industrial mentors. Therefore, expectations of the research projects will be defined and
project activities, deliverables and milestones will be planned accordingly. Key performance indicators will be defined for future assessment of the fellow’s progress. Additionally, individual knowledge gaps and training needs will be identified at the beginning of the project in order to choose the most beneficial courses, seminars and workshops for the research fellow in question out of the wide range of course offers provided by the entire network. These courses are aimed at improving both scientific and non-academic skills.

To enhance the future employability of researchers, the programme furthermore follows a learning-by-doing approach and provides training in both research-related and non-scientific transferable skills such as drafting grant applications, exploitation of research results through patenting and technology transfer, as well as entrepreneurship.

3.6 Intersectoriality and secondments

Fellows will benefit from the participation of an extensive group of **highly innovative and cutting edge manufacturing companies** that support the selected research areas of the ADAGIO programme, from aeronautics to robotics, and from digital transformation of manufacturing to advanced electronics, amongst others.

In order to guarantee the intersectoriality of their research career strategy, fellows will be encouraged to redirect their research activity to a more industrial research path oriented towards market needs by doing secondments.

ADAGIO fellows will be strongly **encouraged to carry out secondments for a minimum period of 3 months and a maximum period of 12 months** in a choice of partner organisations or in other partner organisations that can be included at any time during the implementation of the programme. This maximum secondment period may be extended if considered beneficial to the fellow’s research, and if approved by the fellow’s PI and other parties concerned.

A **list of the collaborating industries and non-academic research centres are published on the ADAGIO website**; this will enable the fellow to schedule short visits to the most suitable partner organisations to carry out tailored-made intersectoral training according to the specific needs of the fellow.

Each applied research project will be jointly supervised by both an academic and industrial mentor. This way, research fellows will receive direct input and assistance from an industrial point of view, ensuring the relevance and quality not only of their research project but also of their overall professional development.

These skills will be further developed through short visits and secondments at industrial partner organisations that will expose the fellows to the intersectoral applications of their research areas and provide them with highly relevant interdisciplinary training. This collaboration between the two participating universities and the programme’s industrial partners will furthermore lead to an intensified knowledge exchange that will go beyond the specific research projects developed within its framework and will benefit the regions’ R&D
sectors as a whole. Moreover, this network cooperation will facilitate labour market introduction of all ADAGIO fellows.

### 4. Eligibility criteria

#### 4.1 Candidate eligibility criteria

In the selection process, researchers of **any nationality** that comply with the following basic eligibility criteria can participate:

- Be an Experienced Researcher (ER): to **hold a doctoral degree (PhD)** at the date of the call deadline.

  **Comply with the MSCA mobility rule**: you must not have resided or carried out your main activity (work, studies, living etc.) in the country of the recruiting institution (either France or Spain, as selected) for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the date of the call deadline.

  Applicants **cannot be permanent employees of any of the hosting organisations** nor **Partner Organisations** and must be able to **communicate fluently in English** (written and spoken). This last aspect will be checked during the interview process. Command of **Spanish** (for candidates that have selected the UPV/EHU as Host Institution) and **French** (for those candidates that have selected U. Bordeaux as Host Institution) will be an asset.

#### 4.2 Proposal eligibility criteria

- The proposal must be in **English**. Any incomplete proposals will be rejected.

- An applicant may **only submit one application per call**; unsuccessful applicants from the 1<sup>st</sup> call are invited to resubmit a proposal in the 2<sup>nd</sup> call.

- The proposal must be within one of the **5 themes of the programme**.

- The candidate should select only **1 Hosting group**.

- All ethical standards required by the European Union must be adhered to.

- A complete application must be submitted, including all required documentation before the established deadline.

- The candidates must submit their application using the ADAGIO on-line platform (no other method of submission such as email will be accepted) which can be accessed from the project website (see section 5 Online Application System)
5. Online application system

The proposal must be received on or before the call deadline through the online application system: [https://www.ehu.eus/en/web/cofund-adagio/applications-process](https://www.ehu.eus/en/web/cofund-adagio/applications-process). A full application pack must be submitted, containing the following forms and documents:

- An online administrative form, including the following information (all the items marked with asterisk * are mandatory):
  - Personal information:
    1. Indicate your passport number, name, surname, gender, nationality, and country of residence, date of birth, city, email, and telephone. Indicate also whether you will need a VISA to travel to Spain and/or France.
  - Mobility:
    1. Indicate if you have resided or carried out your main activity (living, work, studies etc.) in Spain for more than 12 months in the last 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline (compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account).
    2. Indicate if you have resided or carried out your main activity (living, work, studies etc.) in France for more than 12 months in the last 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline (compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account).
    3. List the places where you have resided in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline, including the start-date and end-date for each place.

Note that in order to be eligible, you must comply with the MSCA mobility rule: you must not have resided or carried out your main activity (living, work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting institution (either France or Spain, as selected) for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the date of the call deadline.

- Family obligations:
  1. Indicate if you have family obligations.

"Family" is defined as "persons linked to the researcher (1) by marriage; (2) by a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognised by the legislation of the country or the region where this relationship was formalised; (3) as dependent children who are actually being maintained by the researcher". The family status is determined at the date of the call deadline.
- **PhD degree, research experience and career breaks:**
  1. Indicate if you hold a PhD degree. Note that the ADAGIO fellowship programme is only open for researchers holding a PhD degree, therefore **all the candidates must hold a PhD degree at the call deadline**.
  2. Specify your PhD study area (free text maximum 150 characters without spaces).
  3. Indicate the number of years of research experience. For the calculation, this should be taken from the point where you started your research career in academia or industry, including doctoral experience (i.e. including the time taken to complete your PhD).
  4. Indicate if you have had any career breaks.
  5. In the case of career breaks, include the number of months.

- **Language skills:**
  1. Level of English: note that **all candidates are expected to have minimum advanced-C1 or equivalent** (selected candidates will be interviewed by videoconference and the applicant’s command of English will be assessed). Indicate if you are a native speaker, or if you hold a C1 or equivalent level with certification (in that case upload the relevant certificate) or if you hold a C1 or equivalent level without certification (in that case list any relevant detail that demonstrates an advanced command in English: places where you have lived/worked, etc.).
  2. Indicate level of Spanish (not obligatory, but knowledge of Spanish may be advisable for the feasibility of some of the research projects when working with specific stakeholders in the Spanish context.)
  3. Indicate level of French (not obligatory, but knowledge of French may be advisable for the feasibility of some of the research projects when working with specific stakeholders in the French context.)
  4. Indicate any other languages that might be relevant.

- **Hosting Group:**
  **Select the research group (only 1 option)** where you wish to develop your research. You can display the research groups by field. A full list of each host organization’s groups is included in appendix V of this document, and the full details of the groups, group leader(s) and research lines, are available on the ADAGIO website [https://www.ehu.eus/en/web/cofund-adagio](https://www.ehu.eus/en/web/cofund-adagio).

Note that due to the mobility rule, if you have indicated in the previous “mobility section” that you have resided or carried out your main activity in the country of the recruiting institution for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior
to the date of the call deadline, the system will not allow you to apply to any research groups in that country.

- **Reference letters (if provided):** upload the reference letters (max. 2) in the field provided. For each letter, you will need to indicate the contact details of the persons signing the letter(s). Note that reference letters, if provided, will be evaluated during the interview phase.

- **Excluded reviewers:** you can provide up to three names of persons that should not act as an evaluator in the evaluation of your proposal.

- **Ethics self-check:** complete the ethics self-check. If you need information on how to complete this section, you can check the document “How to complete your ethics self-assessment”.

- **Project abstract and keywords:** provide a project keywords (max. 250 characters) and project abstract (max. 2000 characters). Note that project abstract and keywords will be used for the selection of evaluators that will assess your proposal.

- **Documentation to be uploaded:**
  - **Motivation letter:** add a letter expressing your interest in the ADAGIO programme (max. 1 page).
  - **Passport or ID card:** upload a scanned copy of your official identification document.
  - **PhD certificate:** upload a scanned copy of your PhD certificate.
  - **Proposal:** the proposal comprises of two sections: research proposal (max. 5 pages; the cover page and Gantt diagram are not included) and Curriculum Vitae (max. 4 pages). The template is available for download from the project website [https://www.ehu.eus/en/web/cofund-adagio/guide-for-applicants-templates](https://www.ehu.eus/en/web/cofund-adagio/guide-for-applicants-templates). Proposals must respect the maximum length and the extra pages exceeding the maximum length will not be evaluated.

6. **Evaluation process**

Proposals will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria defined in Appendix 3 of this document.
7. Selection process

The fellows’ selection process will be organised as a single-stage evaluation, and will last approximately 4 to 5 months. The individual steps making up the overall selection process are described below:

- **1st Step - Submission of applications.**
  
  Once the call is launched, candidates will have until **11 January 2023** (at 15:00 CET) to submit their application and the requested documentation. The applicants must complete and upload the documents described in the Full Application Pack above.

- **2nd Step - Eligibility check.**
  
  This will take place in parallel with the application process. All applications received before the deadline will be checked to ensure that the basic eligibility criteria are fulfilled by applicants. If an application lacks some critical documentation or information, candidates will be given **10 working days** to rectify the situation. Those applications that are not complete will be rejected and therefore not evaluated.

- **3rd Step - Evaluation Phase.**
  
  Once the eligibility of all applications has been checked, the eligible applications will be evaluated by international and independent experts by an external agency. Each application will be evaluated by **2 experts** taking into account their area of expertise, the topic of the proposal and the research area of the groups selected by the candidates.

  Each candidate will be assessed individually based on the ADAGIO criteria, and provide an **Individual Evaluation Report (IER)**.

  Whenever necessary, the Ethical Committee will perform the ethical assessment of the compliance with the international, EU and national ethics laws and principles, and will make recommendations.

  **Rebuttal Process:**

  All candidates have a right to a rebuttal procedure if they feel that there has been a shortcoming in the way their application was evaluated in the initial evaluation process. All candidates will receive their IER, with the strengths and weaknesses of their application. Rebuttal requests will only be accepted up to **7 natural days** from receipt of the evaluation results, and are related to the technical comments of the evaluators from the evaluation process. The rebuttal requests will be collected and re-evaluated during the 1st panel meeting.

  Once the rebuttal process and panel meeting has finished, a ranked list of the candidates according to the final scores of the evaluators will be created. Only those candidates in the top 20 positions will be invited to interview. The evaluation phase (including the rebuttal process) will last approximately 3 months.

- **4th Step – Interview and selection of the candidates.**
The pre-selected candidates will be invited to take part in the interview process. The interview will be carried out by videoconference with the Principal Investigator (PI) of the chosen Research Group and the members of the ADAGIO internal evaluation committee. All interviews will be in English and will seek to:

- Evaluate the candidate's academic and professional potential.
- Enlarge the information provided in the application, especially in relation to the candidate's project.
- Ask about issues not mentioned in the application and which are considered relevant for evaluating the candidate's suitability to carry out the proposed project.
- Evaluate candidate's overall training, interests, concerns and curiosities for social, scientific, economic, cultural or artistic contexts, although not directly related to their experience.
- Assess candidate's personal and academic maturity, motivation for carrying out the fellowship and the project proposed and the ability to express themselves clearly and convincingly defend the ideas expressed.

All interviewed candidates will receive their final global score (evaluation process & interview).

As part of the last step of the selection process, the Steering Committee will invite the successful candidates (7-8 candidates, 4 in the University of Bordeaux, 3-4 in the University of the Basque Country) to become fellows of the ADAGIO Programme.

For the allocation of the fellowship positions, the order of priority of candidates for each institution established in the final scoring list received from the independent evaluators will be respected.

If feasible, the assignment of the candidates will be limited to no more than two candidates per hosting group, respecting as far as possible the original group choices of the candidates.

8. Employment and contractual conditions

Each selected researcher for the Programme will be offered 36-month full-time employment contract with a very competitive salary (at regional, national and European level) in one of the two recruiting universities under applicable regional & national legislation, compatible with EU law and following the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. Each fellow will be offered equal conditions as follows:

Basic salary

- A basic gross salary of between 37.000,00 and 40.000,00 €/year, subject to income tax, national insurance and pension deductions according to national rates.

In addition:
- A Family allowance of 1.800 €/year for researchers with family dependants. Fellows with dependent family at the call deadline are eligible for the family allowance. Family is defined as persons linked to the Fellow by (i) marriage, or (ii) a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognised by the legislation of the country where this relationship was formalised; or (iii) dependent children who are actually being maintained by the Fellow.
Other benefits:

- Social benefits such as **annual leave, maternity/paternity leave, national public health insurance and pension provision.**

In addition, the fellows will receive **generous contributions towards the cost of conducting the research proposal** (i.e. consumables, publications, travel, specific workshop or training activities). This equates to:

- **Travel allowance: up to 2.400 €/year/fellow** to cover travel costs related to secondments from the Recruiting Universities to the participating organisations.
- **Research costs up to 6.000 €/year/fellow** to cover the costs of any research material (excluded hardware), consumables, scientific events attendance, and publication costs, participation in seminars and infodays, and courses for the development of both scientific, research and transversal skills. This amount covers participation fees, travel and accommodation. These costs include the travel costs for attending the events selected according to the career plan defined subsequently between the supervisor and the researcher.
- **Training cost up to 2.760 €/year/fellow** for courses for the development of both scientific, research and transversal skills.
9. Administrative support for fellows

The ADAGIO programme is fully conscious of the difficulties involved in changing both employment and country of residence. Therefore the programme includes partners specialized in providing assistance to selected researchers in all necessary administrative procedures to obtain any residency permits or research visas and to find local accommodation.

Within Euskadi, the Bizkaia Talent Relocation Service assists researchers relocating to the Basque Country with regard to:

- Administrative matters: Taxation, Legislation (visas/permits), Legal Procedures, Vehicle Registration and Driving Licenses, Foreigners’ ID Number-NIE, Census Registration, Civil Register, etc.)
- Issues, including Family Support, involved in settling in the community in Bilbao/Bizkaia (health, education, schooling, leisure, culture...)
- Housing: General Information, real estate agencies’ contacts, BBK TALENT apartments for researchers etc.
- Social Cultural Integration - Recreational Experiences and Meetings to foster interpersonal relationships between users.
- Be Basque Dual Career Centre: a Relocation Service for dual career couples; it acts as an Intermediate with the agents of the system and the Network, informs about Funding and Grants, and about activities and events. If a researcher’s partner is a self-employed professional, they can have the same opportunity to broaden their network (meeting other local professionals, mentoring, co-working options, etc.)

Within New Aquitaine, the UBx Welcome Center for International Researchers (WCIR) is a dedicated service that acts as the intermediary between hosting laboratories and international researchers arriving to Bordeaux. The WCIR supports researchers with essential procedures upon their arrival, such as finding accommodation, carrying out administrative tasks and completing general paperwork that is required for daily life in France.
Relevant links


Contact details

Email: adagio-cofund@ehu.eus
Address: International R&D Office, University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), Barrio Sarriena s/n, 48940 Leioa, Vizcaya, Spain
Website: www.ehu.eus/cofund-adagio

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https://www.facebook.com/upvehu/
https://es.linkedin.com/school/upv_ehu/
Appendix I: Online Application System

Applications must be submitted via the **ADAGIO online application system**. A link to the system will be made available on the project website once the call has opened.

To submit an application, you must register in the system, and create an individual login. Following registration, you can begin your application, save and submit it. Prior to submission, you may save and return to edit your application at any time before the call deadline. Once your application is submitted, or the call deadline has passed, you are not allowed to edit it any further.

A summary of the information required by the application system is included in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elements</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Compulsory documents</th>
<th>Optional documents</th>
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<td>Personal information details and VISA requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mobility information</td>
<td>Answer the 3 questions</td>
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<td>Family obligations</td>
<td>answer the question (YES/NO)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHD degree, research experience and career breaks</td>
<td>Answer the 5 questions</td>
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<td>Language skills</td>
<td>English skills</td>
<td>Certificate C1 or equivalent</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Spanish skills</td>
<td>Spanish language certificate</td>
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<td>French skills</td>
<td>French language certificate</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Other languages skills</td>
<td>Other language certificate</td>
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<td>Hosting group</td>
<td>Select 3 Hosting group in your order of preference</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference letters</td>
<td>Add the details of the persons signing the letters</td>
<td>Scanned copy of the letter(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excluded reviewers (optional)</td>
<td>Exclude reviewers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project abstract and keywords</td>
<td>Complete the project abstract and keywords</td>
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<td><strong>Documentation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Motivation letter</td>
<td>letter expressing your interest in the programme</td>
<td>scanned copy of the letter</td>
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<td>Passport</td>
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<td>Scanned copy of your official identification</td>
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<td>PhD certificate</td>
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<td>scanned copy of your PhD certificate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposal</td>
<td>Technical part + CV</td>
<td>scanned copy of the proposal</td>
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<td>Other files (if any)</td>
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Appendix II: The Proposal Template
(This includes the templates for the CV and Technical part)

The application template is the most important part of the application process, and will be uploaded and submitted through the online application system as a PDF document: 4 pages for the CV and 5 pages for the project proposal (please note that the page count for the project proposal does not include the title page or Gantt chart).

A template is provided on the ADAGIO website: https://www.ehu.eus/en/web/cofund-adagio/guide-for-applicants-templates

The application template is divided into 2 sections, both of which must be completed: Section 1: CV of the candidate (máx. 4 pages) and Section 2: Project Proposal (maximum 5 pages, not including 1 cover page and 1 Gantt). Proposals must respect the maximum length and the extra pages exceeding the maximum length will not be evaluated. As you develop your application, you should also refer to the evaluation criteria in Appendix III.

The CV of the applicant contains the following subsections: Part 1 CV of the Candidate and Part 2 Expected impact of the fellowship on your career. The content of each part is clearly described in the application template.

The research proposal contains two subsections: Part 1 Scientific quality, concept, originality and potential impact, and Part 2 Research methodology and feasibility. Notes on the expected content of each section are given in the template application form.

Proposals must respect the following minimum standards:
- a minimum font size of 11 points, except for the Gantt chart and tables where the minimum font size is 8 points
- single line spacing
- A4 page size
- margins (top, bottom, left, right) of at least 15 mm (not including any footers or headers)
- a clearly readable font (e.g. Times New Roman) when printed
Appendix III: Evaluation Criteria

The evaluations will be managed by an independent evaluation organization, the European Science Foundation (ESF). The ESF will be responsible for contacting the candidates with the results of their initial evaluation results and the results of any rebuttal procedures. Direct contact with the ESF by candidates is not allowed, and any enquiries should be directed through the ADAGIO programme manager following the email provided at the end of this document.

Each proposal and CV will be reviewed remotely by 2 independent external reviewers. The final selected list will be based on the results of both the evaluation process and the interview procedure. Over a total maximum final score of 25, 75% will correspond to the Evaluation Phase, and 25% to the Interview Phase.

Evaluation scores will be given for each criterion whereas sub-criteria are elements to be considered by the expert evaluator. Each criterion will be scored out of 5, with one decimal place, and refer to:

**Score 0 (Very Poor)** – fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed owing to missing or incomplete information;

**Score 1 (Poor)** – The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses;

**Score 2 (Fair)** – broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses;

**Score 3 (Good)** – addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present;

**Score 5 (Excellent)** – successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor. Threshold and specific weight is specified in the tables below. For each criterion a maximum score and a minimum threshold (based on the weight of each criterion) has been settled in order to pass to the next stage of the evaluation process.

**Equal opportunities:**
In addition, different values will be applied in the Evaluation Phase in the case of researchers with less experience (less than 10 years or career break) compared to those for researchers with more than 10 years of experience in order to guarantee equal opportunities regardless of background.

**Total Max Score (Proposal + Interview)**

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<th>Max Score</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<td>60%</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>15/15</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>14</td>
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</table>
Specific evaluation criteria for the Evaluation Phase (max. score 20):

1. **CANDIDATE** (max. score 10, min. threshold 5)

   The following aspects will be considered when assigning an overall score for this criterion:

   **Excellence of the CV of the applicant (max. score 5)**
   Assess the applicant’s scientific contributions to the field as evidenced by the quality and impact of the publication record, and other scientific outputs (patents, teachings, monographs, etc.) as well as impact beyond the publications. The applicant’s scientific seniority and career breaks will be taken into account in the final scoring.

   - Potential of the researcher to reach or re-enforce professional maturity/independence during the fellowship, postdoctoral experience (role/responsibilities)
   - Scientific-technical skills and knowledge of the candidate in relation to the project to be developed
   - Match between the fellow’s profile and the project: if the candidate has matched his/her career development as researcher to the scientific area presented in the proposed research project
   - Quality of the results of his/her research activity: number and relevance of publications, impact factor evolution, previous research experience and skills, scientific results...
   - Experience in applied research and technology transfer activities: intersectorial skills (mobility between the academic world and the business sector), interdisciplinary experience, and exploitation of results (e.g. patents...)
   - Other activities related to teaching, supervision of Masters and PhD students, scientific outreach activities, project/team management/leadership experience
   - Academic awards/honours/prizes received
   - Letters of motivation

   **Impact of the fellowship on the candidate’s career (max. score 5)**
   Assess the applicant’s future career prospects including:

   - The expected impact of the planned research and training on the future career prospects of the experienced researcher during and after the fellowship
   - The career goals of the researchers and how the planned research and training are likely to contribute to their achievement, in particular how the new competences and skills can make the researcher more successful in their long-term career whether within or outside academia
2. PROJECT (max. score 10, min. threshold 5))

Scientific quality, concept, originality and potential impact (max. score 5)

The following aspects will be considered:

- State of the art and specific objectives
- Originality and innovative aspects of the planned research and contributions to the advancements within the research field
- Novel concepts, approaches or methods implemented
- Interdisciplinary aspects of the action (if relevant)
- Gender dimension or ethic aspects in the research content (if relevant)
- Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results to interested stakeholders, including: public engagement activities; dissemination and exploitation activities (strategy for targeting peers and key stakeholders such as scientific community, industry, professional organizations or policy makers); trans-regional impact between the Basque Country and New Aquitaine region, whether from new research ties to new academic/industrial collaborations

Quality of research methodology (max. score 5)

The following aspects will be considered:

- Research methodology and type of research/innovation activities proposed
- Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks
- Coherence and effectiveness of the secondment plan and/or short stays
- Assessment of the quality and appropriateness of the transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host, either through background knowledge or secondments

### Summary of CV and proposal scoring process

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<td>2. PROJECT</td>
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<table>
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<th>Minimum threshold according to candidate’s experience</th>
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<td>&lt;10 years experience/career break</td>
<td>&gt;10 years experience</td>
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<td>MINIMUM THRESHOLD CANDIDATE+PROJECT (out of 20)</td>
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## Evaluation criteria for the Interview Phase (max score 15 points):

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<td><strong>CANDIDATES POTENTIAL AND PROJECT DEFENCE (5)</strong></td>
<td>In order to have a general perception of the candidate’s potential, experts will pay attention to “soft” skills, such as clear, consistent discourse and articulation of ideas, ability to present complex reasoning, team working; and capabilities such as independent reasoning, originality, entrepreneurship, and leadership. Liaison between the fellow’s research project and the research lines of the hosting group. Ability to establish synergies in relation to the development of research potential (leading new projects, expanding funding sources...) and the transfer of knowledge to a more applied market that can benefit both parties.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MOTIVATION AND PURPOSE TO JOIN THE ADMIRE PROGRAMME. (5)</strong></td>
<td>The impact of the candidate’s motivation, understood in its broadest sense: capacity to contribute to transformation and improvement in Advanced Manufacturing, but also in other transversal areas such as the economy, society, the quality of life of citizens, the environment etc. Experts will assess the impact for the candidate and society; innovation, originality and feasibility; and the candidate’s capabilities with regard to the scope of their proposed work.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND (5)</strong></td>
<td>Assessment of previous track record and referees’ comments. The academic and professional background of the candidate in relation to the stage of the career they are in and opportunities, in this respect, that they may have obtained.</td>
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### Summary of interview scoring process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum score per criteria</th>
<th>Total max. score</th>
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<td>Candidate potential and project defence</td>
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<td>Motivation and purpose to join ADAGIO programme</td>
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<td>Academic and professional background</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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</table>
Appendix IV: Ethics

For all activities funded or co-funded by the European Union, such as the ADAGIO programme, ethics is an integral part of research from beginning to end, and ethical compliance is seen as pivotal to achieve real research excellence. A thorough ethical evaluation is needed from the conceptual stage of the proposal not only to respect the legal framework but also to enhance the quality of the research. Ethical research conduct implies the application of fundamental ethical principles and legislation to scientific research in all possible domains of research.

Candidates must always consider and address any of the following ethics issues, if they arise, in their proposals:

- Humans
- Human cells/tissues
- Personal data
- Animals
- Third countries
- Environment & Health and Safety
- Dual use
- Misuse
- Other ethics issues

Research areas excluded from funding include:

- Research activities aiming at human cloning for reproductive purposes
- Research activities intended to modify the genetic heritages or human beings which could make such changes heritable
- Research activities intended to create human embryos solely for the purposes of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer

Research activities involving human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) require an additional level of approval from the Research Executive Agency funding this programme. If your concept involves use of hESCs we strongly recommend contacting the programme manager in advance of submitting a proposal.

All applicants are required to complete an Ethics Self-Assessment, which is part of the ADAGIO online application form. Should the self-assessment indicate potential ethical issues (i.e. if you answer YES to any of the questions), a statement describing how these issues will be addressed should be specified within the free-text areas provided at the end of the Ethics Self-Assessment in the ADAGIO on-line application.

In case you have any questions please check the EU guidelines on How to Complete your Ethics Self-Assessment.
## Appendix V: Research Groups

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Group Name</th>
<th>PI Name</th>
<th>Host Institute</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<th>Research Areas</th>
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<td>Aizpurua, Javier</td>
<td>EHU</td>
<td>Spain</td>
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<td>Signal Processing and Radiocommunications Group</td>
<td>Angueira, Pablo</td>
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<td>Polymerization Processes (PPG)</td>
<td>Asua, José María</td>
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<td>Calderon, Marcelo</td>
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<td>Colmenero, Juan</td>
<td>EHU</td>
<td>Spain</td>
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<td>Fernandez Gubieda, Maria Luisa</td>
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This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 101034379.
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<th>Lead Researcher</th>
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<td>Molecular Materials &amp; Magnetism (M3)</td>
<td>Clérac, Rodolphe</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cerac@crpp-bordeaux.cnrs.fr">cerac@crpp-bordeaux.cnrs.fr</a></td>
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<td>FR3</td>
<td>Production systems group</td>
<td>Vallespir, Bruno</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bruno.vallespir@ims-bordeaux.fr">bruno.vallespir@ims-bordeaux.fr</a></td>
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<td>FR4</td>
<td>Research Institute of Advanced Industrial Technologies - ESTIA</td>
<td>Couture, Nadine</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:n.couture@estia.fr">n.couture@estia.fr</a></td>
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<td>FR5</td>
<td>Energy, Fluids and Transfers Dept - I2M LAB</td>
<td>Glockner, Stéphane</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:glockner@bordeaux-imp.fr">glockner@bordeaux-imp.fr</a></td>
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<td>Mechanical Engineering &amp; Design Dept - I2M LAB</td>
<td>Perry, Nicolas / Alix, Thecle</td>
<td>France</td>
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<td>FR7</td>
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<td>Chastanet, Guillaume</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Guillaume.chastanet@icmcb.cnrs.fr">Guillaume.chastanet@icmcb.cnrs.fr</a></td>
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<td>Castet, Frederic / Larregaray, Pascal</td>
<td>France</td>
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<td>FR9</td>
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<td>Saiyouri, Nadia</td>
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<td>Cahuc, Olivier</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:olivier.cahuc@u-bordeaux.fr">olivier.cahuc@u-bordeaux.fr</a></td>
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<td>Ousten, Yves</td>
<td>France</td>
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<td>Dupas, Rémy</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:remy.dupas@u-bordeaux.fr">remy.dupas@u-bordeaux.fr</a></td>
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<td>FR13</td>
<td>Quantum transport and Nano Electro Mechanical Systems - LOMA Lab</td>
<td>Fabio Pistolesi / Rémi Avriller / Clement Dutreix</td>
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<td>FR14</td>
<td>Process data monitoring and sustainability for additive manufacturing</td>
<td>Pierre Michaud</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:p.michaud@estia.fr">p.michaud@estia.fr</a></td>
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<td>FR15</td>
<td>SINGULAR</td>
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<td>Carlos Drummond</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carlos.drummond@crpp.cnrs.fr">carlos.drummond@crpp.cnrs.fr</a></td>
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<td>FR17</td>
<td>Characterization of Additive Manufacturing processes</td>
<td>Julie Lartigau</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.lartigau@estia.fr">j.lartigau@estia.fr</a></td>
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<td>Material Processes Interaction</td>
<td>Robin Kromer</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:robin.kromer@u-bordeaux.fr">robin.kromer@u-bordeaux.fr</a></td>
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<td>FR19</td>
<td>ART BioPrint</td>
<td>Jean-Christophe Fricain / Hugo Oliveira</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hugo.de-oliveira@insERM.fr">hugo.de-oliveira@insERM.fr</a></td>
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<td>FR20</td>
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<td>Gilles Guichard</td>
<td>France</td>
<td><a href="mailto:g.guichard@iecb.u-bordeaux.fr">g.guichard@iecb.u-bordeaux.fr</a></td>
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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 101034379
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<th>Single-molecule Biophysics group_</th>
<th>Mikayel Aznauryan-Carmelo Di Primo</th>
<th>UBx</th>
<th>France</th>
<th><a href="mailto:carmelo.diprimo@inserm.fr">carmelo.diprimo@inserm.fr</a></th>
<th><a href="https://www.aznauryan-lab.com/">https://www.aznauryan-lab.com/</a></th>
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<td>UBx</td>
<td>France</td>
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<td><a href="https://bordeaux-nanophotonics.fr">https://bordeaux-nanophotonics.fr</a></td>
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* AMP Advanced Materials & Processes; IFP Intelligent, Flexible & Efficient Production Systems; DCF Digital & Connected Factory; EE Energy Efficiency; SM Sustainable Manufacturing
Appendix VI: Partner Organisations (participating in ADAGIO for secondments and short stays)

ADAGIO fellows will be strongly encouraged to carry out secondments for a minimum period of 3 months and a maximum period of 12 months in one of the partner organisations listed below, or in other partner organisations that can be included at any time during the implementation of their project. The secondment period can be extended if considered beneficial to the fellow’s research.

Where possible, short visits for technical and/or complimentary trainings will be scheduled according to “co-location periods”, where various fellows can make simultaneous joint visits in order to obtain optimal opportunities to collaborate amongst themselves, and to transfer knowledge and exchange experiences more effectively. This will also increase the efficiency of the training offer.

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<th>Participating organisation name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aquitaine Robotics Human-Robot Cluster</td>
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<td>SEMSO Special Machines &amp; Engineering</td>
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<td>Basque Center for Applied Mathematics</td>
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<td>R&amp;D Organisation</td>
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