



EURAXESS members in Focus

EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion is an initiative of the European Research Area (ERA) that addresses barriers to the mobility of researchers and seeks to enhance their career development. This pan-European effort is currently supported by 41 countries, of which **we will profile one in each of our quarterly EURAXESS Links Brazil newsletters**. In this edition, we zoom in on Spain



Spain is a Member State of the European Union since 1986 and it has a population of 46.455.123 people. It's Gross Domestic Product was 1.041.160 million € in 2014. Life expectancy in Spain keeps growing every year, reaching 82,8 years in 2014. Spain welcomes every year a huge number of tourists, reaching 64.938.945 visits in 2014

Sources:

INE (www.ine.es) and ICONO (www.icono.fecyt.es)

²http://www.idi.mineco.gob.es/stfls/MICINN/Investigacion/FI_CHEROS/Spanish_Strategy_Science_Technology.pdf

EURAXESS members in Focus: SPAIN

The Spanish research, development and innovation system in figures ¹

The **Spanish System of Science, Technology and Innovation** encompasses internationally recognised institutions where scientists and entrepreneurs are able to enjoy a variety of funding opportunities. The “Spanish strategy on science, technology and innovation (2013-2020)²” promotes the capacities of the system and enables collaboration between all the stakeholders of the system while increasing the social and economic returns from investment in R&D&I.

In 2014, the Spanish institutions published 77,013 publications (including articles, conference proceedings and reviews), ranking 10th in the world, which means 3.19% of the total world production. In terms of excellence (share of highly cited publications (top 10%)), energy and veterinary medicine were the top research areas in Spain. Also, international collaboration of Spanish institutions keeps growing every year: up to 44.69 % of the Spanish documents in 2014 were co-authored with a foreign institution. Finally, the total number of European patents with a Spanish origin in 2014 was 467.

Spain is a very active participant in European research projects. At the moment, around 9% of H2020 funding is allocated to Spanish institutions, mainly in Energy and NMBP (Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing) areas, as well as under the SME (small and medium-sized enterprises) instrument.

Research excellence in Spain

The “[Severo Ochoa Centres of Excellence](#)” programme for independent research centres and the “Maria de Maeztu Units of Excellence” programme for smaller unit recognises institutions from all areas of knowledge that perform cutting-edge research at world standards. The awarded centers and units show outstanding international scientific leadership and are open to international collaborations. The evaluation committees involved in the selection process are all foreign, highly respected researchers, including Nobel laureates.

In Spain can be found a number of so-called “[Unique Scientific and technological infrastructures \(ICTS\)](#)” composed of facilities of different scientific areas ranging from the life sciences to astrophysics or engineering, distributed throughout Spain and in areas and devoted to cutting edge research and the highest quality technological development.

[Interviews with Brazilian researchers in Spain](#)

As part of this focus on Spain, FECYT conducted interviews with **Fernanda Pires**, Brazilian PhD researcher at the Open University of Catalonia, (UOC) and **Luciana Ferrari Montemezzo**, Brazilian research on Spanish Literature, former Fundación Carolina fellow They agreed to share their views with our readers and give advice to those interested in following their path. Read their interviews [HERE](#).



[Find details on the following funding opportunities here](#)

1 - Spanish State recruitment opportunities

Ramón y Cajal contracts
 Juan de la Cierva – incorporation
 Juan de la Cierva - Training
 Industrial doctorates
 Pre-doctoral grants-training doctors
 Pre-doctoral grants. Training of university teachers
 Torres Quevedo contracts

2 - Regional recruitment opportunities

[IKERBASQUE](#) (Basque Country)

[ICREA](#) (Cataluña)

[ARAID](#) (region of Aragon)

[OPORTUNIUS](#) (Galicia)

[FUNDACIÓN SÉNECA](#) (Murcia)

3 - Private sector recruitment opportunities

[OBRA SOCIAL LA CAIXA INTERNSHIPS](#)

[National, regional and private sector recruitment and funding opportunities](#)

The Spanish State has many recruitment opportunities on both the national level and regionally, as well as in the private sector. If you are interested in research mobility opportunities in Spain, see the extensive list [here](#).

Spain also hosts more than 300 European Research Council (ERC) grants in more than 50 Host Institutions and is also very attractive for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) fellows. At present, through 2014 and 2015 MSCA calls, more than 220 experienced researchers are carrying out their research in Spanish Institutions, which ranks Spain among the top four EU countries.

Contact the [Spanish MSCA/ERC contact points](#) if you are interested in carrying out research in Spain with European Commission funding.

Important information for incoming researchers

Spain belongs to the EURAXESS initiative that provides support to researchers and their families when arriving in the country (in key areas such as visas, housing, schooling, etc.). **The Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT)** is the national coordinator of the Spanish network. There are almost 100 services and local centres ready to support incoming researchers. All information can be found at www.euraxess.es/eng

Every two years, FECYT publishes exhaustive, up-to-date information about the labour situation, everyday life, and the specific characteristics of Spain, as well as the procedures necessary to become established in Spain: <http://www.euraxess.es/eng/services/foreign-researchers-in-spain>

Opportunities for research, technology development and innovation in the region

The **Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology - CDTI** -, Spain's National Innovation Agency, is a public entity currently under the Secretariat of State for Research, Development and Innovation, Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness, Government of Spain.

CDTI is the public agency in Spain financing industry-driven R&D projects (industrial research, experimental development) developed by Spanish companies, and promoting Spanish technologies in foreign markets via innovation and technology adaptation projects.

Based on the paradigm of open innovation, CDTI manages the participation of Spain in HORIZON 2020 and multilateral programmes promoting industrial R&D cooperation such as EUREKA, IBEROEKA and EUROSTARS. Similarly, CDTI has entered into agreements with several R&D funding agencies and developed industrial R&D funding programmes with countries like **Brazil (FINEP)**, amongst others.

The Primary Goal of the **bilateral program between Spain and Brazil** is to foster the technology cooperation between entities of Spain and Brazil through joint research and technology development projects. More [here](#).



CDTI External network: present in 27 countries and offering support to those Spanish entities which are interested in developing technological cooperation projects with companies in other countries, facilitating the identification of technological opportunities outside the EU and promotes technology transfer.