



PREPARING A PROPOSAL

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Preparing your proposal

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF AS AN APPLICANT

About your proposal:

- Does it promise to go substantially beyond the state of the art?
- Is it timely? (Why wasn't it done in the past? Is it feasible now?)
- What's the risk? Do I have a plan for managing the risk?
- Why is my proposed project important?

About you:

- Why am I the best/only person to carry it out?
- Am I internationally competitive as a researcher at my career stage and in my discipline?
- Am I able to work independently, and to manage a 5-year project with a substantial budget?



Start writing....

SPARK CURIOSITY & EXCITEMENT

PART B1

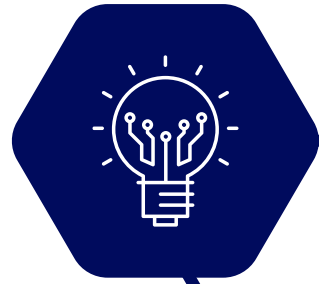
- Ground breaking nature
- High risk
- State of the art
- Hypothesis
- Novelty & Originality
- Impact & Feasibility
- Scientific approach

BOTH

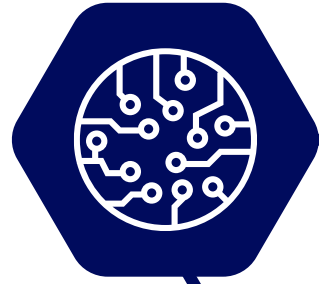
IMPRESS WITH PLANS & DETAILS

PART B2

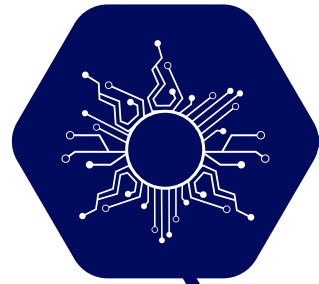
- Detailed scientific approach
- Preliminary results
- Detailed workplan
- Risk assessment/contingency plans
- Resources
- Budget
- Time commitment



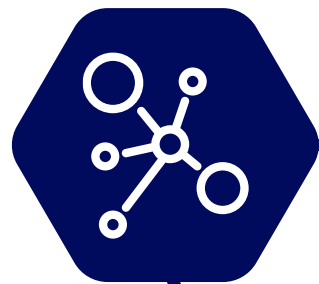
Pay particular attention to the **ground-breaking nature** of the research project –no incremental research. State-of-the-art is not enough!



For SYG: Synergetic aspects important – know-how of the group is assessed together with the combination of the scientific elements

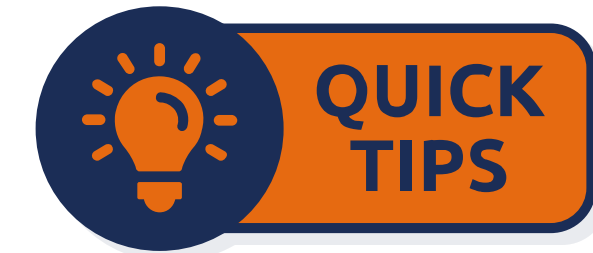


Know your competitors –what is the state of play and why is your idea and scientific approach outstanding?

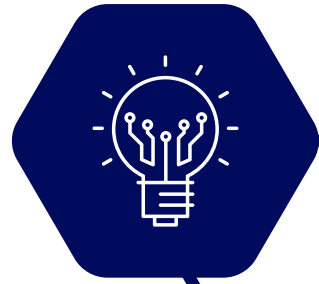


Only the extended Synopsis is read at Step 1: concise and clear presentation is crucial (Outline only of the methodological approach – feasibility is assessed at Step 1)

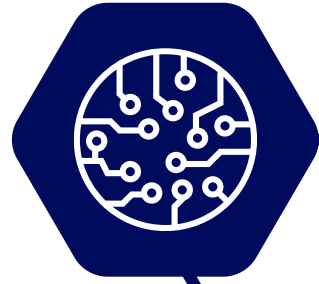
Preparing an application



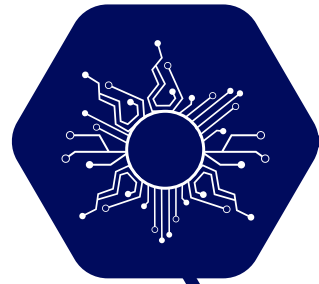
In Step 1: Panel members (act as generalists) they see only Part B1 of your proposal: Prepare it accordingly, make sure it is accessible to non-specialists!



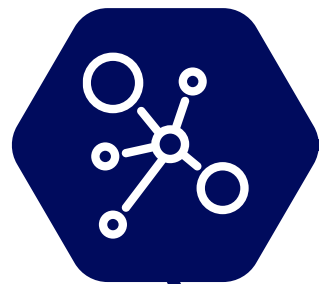
Do not just repeat the synopsis in part B2; Provide sufficient detail on methodology, work plan, selection of case studies etc.



Check coherency of figures, justify requested resources pay attention to the calculations and provide budget for each category



Explain involvement of additional team members (it is possible to have further beneficiaries/partners in the project)



Funding ID to be filled in carefully

Preparing an application



In Step 2: Both **Part B1** and **Part B2** are sent to specialists (specialised external referees)

Contrary to what you may think



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The budget is distributed among the scientific panels as a function of demand

.....
The success rate is not linked to academic age

.....
The panel descriptors do not represent ERC scientific priorities

.....
Publication record is not decisive in selection decisions

.....
The Host Institution is not an evaluation criterion

CONTACT US

We are here to **HELP YOU**



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