ABOUT

ERCIM, the European Research Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics, manages a postdoctoral programme, the ERCIM “Alain Bensoussan” Fellowship Programme, to foster collaborative work within the European research community.

The ERCIM “Alain Bensoussan” Fellowships are awarded for a period of one year in an ERCIM member institute. During the fellowship stay, the postdoctoral fellows also receive support for research exchange(s) at ERCIM institutes and participation in conferences throughout Europe and the world. An extension of the duration may be possible (up to one year), on request of the hosting organisation.

Since its inception in 1991, over 400 fellows have benefited from the programme. The ERCIM “Alain Bensoussan” Fellowship Programme has enabled bright young postdoctoral scientists from all over the world to work on challenging problems within ERCIM member institutes.

APPLICATION OVERVIEW

Applications must be submitted via the online application system. Registration to the system is mandatory (https://fellowship.ercim.eu/home/register).

The programme’s calls for applicants are held twice a year, closing on April 30th and September 30th. The application form is opened about one month prior to the application deadline.

Applications can be submitted when all required information is complete. The interested applicants should send via the on-line system:

- a detailed curriculum vita;
- a list of publications;
- two scientific papers in English; and
contact details of two referees.

As an option, a link to a self-presentation video and reference letter can be added.

Please note that registration for an ERCIM online application account is not sufficient to enter the evaluation process. An application is only regarded as complete once it has been submitted (not only saved) with all the required information and documents. Applicants receive an email confirming the completeness of the submission. It is strongly recommended to submit several days before the deadline to correct and re-submit, if necessary, before the application closure date.

ELIGIBILITY

Applications are accepted from candidates who meet the following criteria:

PHD DEGREE

Applicants must hold a PhD degree or equivalent at the start of the fellowship, but not necessarily at the time the application is submitted.

Applicants who already hold a PhD degree are eligible if they obtained their PhD degree during the previous eight year period (prior to the year of the application deadline).

As an example: An applicant with a PhD degree obtained on 1st January 2010 can apply for the September call 2018.

Exceptions to this rule are made for applicants with prolonged career breaks due to parental leave and/or mandatory military/civil service in which case the time of the career break will not be counted. Additional exceptions might be made on a case-by-case basis for extraordinary personal circumstances, such as severe illness. In order to benefit from one of these exceptions, the ERCIM Office must be contacted prior to the application submission. Each career break period request will require justification.

PUBLICATIONS

An applicant must have two research papers accepted for publication or published in an international peer-reviewed journal at the time of the application. The applicant must be one of the author(s) and the papers must be written in English.

The following will not be considered:

- Papers submitted or in preparation not yet accessible to the community
- Patent applications
- Abstract of presentations at conference

In addition to the resume and list of publications, these two papers must be uploaded on the application portal. Only full versions (not only the abstract) are accepted.
MOBILITY

The ERCIM “Alain Bensoussan” Fellowship Program is intended to promote international exchange. In order to encourage mobility:

- A member institute will not be eligible to host a candidate of the same nationality.
- A candidate cannot be hosted by a member institute, if by the start of the fellowship, he or she has already been working for this institute (including for PhD or postdoc studies) for a total of 6 months or more, during the previous 3 years.

OTHER CONDITIONS

HOST ORGANISATION

In the application form, you will have to select at least one favourite Host Organisation (up to four) among the ERCIM Members. This (these) choice(s) will have to be carefully motivated such as mentioning the team with whom you would like to work with and/or why this Host Organisation fits with your research project. There is no priority given to favourite institutes when you are selecting more than one organisation. Your application is also valid for other potential hosts, not mentioned as favourite. To exclude a potential host, you have to explicitly deselect it on the application form.

As an example: A French applicant deselects CWI and selects NTNU as a favourite institute. The applicant can receive a grant from RISE SICS. Nevertheless, the applicant will not be able to select Inria (a French applicant cannot apply for an institution in France) and CWI will not be in the position to select the applicant.

SCIENTIFIC SCOPE

Proposals must be within ERCIM’s scientific scope. For the detailed list of topics, see ERCIM scientific fields of competencies: (https://www.ercim.eu/activity/expertise).

In the application form, the candidate must:

- Select up to three main scientific fields and three subtopics within each scientific field.
- Fix the research area for which he/she expects to carry out the post-doc in ten words maximum.
- Describe the proposed research project. It should contain concise information about his/her research intentions (max. 100 words).

Tips for describing the research project

- What do you propose to do?
- What is innovative about the research?
- What are the specific research goals and methodologies?
- What is important or significant about the project?
- Why do you want to undertake this project?
- How will your project help further your academic or professional development?
- What are your qualifications for carrying out this project?

TWO REFEREES (MANDATORY)
You will have to give the contact details of two referees. They will be contacted by the evaluators if needed.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION(S) (NOT MANDATORY)
If you wish, you can upload one document with letter(s) of recommendation (not mandatory). In such a case, the author should be individual(s) who can best speak to your ability to carry out your project. Your intellectual and professional preparation should be discussed. The letter(s) must be written in English and signed. If there is more than one letter, these documents must be uploaded as a single document.

LINK TO A VIDEO PRESENTING YOURSELF (NOT MANDATORY)
You have the opportunity to present yourself and your research with a short (one minute) video. A simply recorded video with your webcam and uploaded to YouTube, for example, would be just fine. This is not mandatory but the potential host would appreciate to see who you are and what you would like to do during your fellowship.

RE-APPLICATION
is permitted but the fellowship is restricted to two terms. Only one reselection is possible.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

The applications are evaluated by scientists from ERCIM Institutes.

After the confirmation by the evaluator that the applicant’s research area of interest matches with his/her scientific fields of expertise and is a strategic research area of the member institute, the evaluator will proceed to an on-line evaluation.

The ERCIM Fellowship is targeted at the most promising young researchers from all around the world. The primary selection criterion applied by all ERCIM evaluators is therefore scientific excellence. The evaluator will consider in particular the scientific expertise of the applicants and the quality of the scientific publications. He/she will also evaluate if the relevance of the research project fits with the research agenda of the host organisation. In addition, the previous mobility and/or professional experience(s) will be taken into account.

TIMELINE (TIMING IS APPROXIMATE)
- Submission to cut-off date: The candidates having submitted an application will receive from a message from ERCIM Office confirming the eligibility (or not) of the application.
- 0-5 weeks after cut-off date: Application evaluation.
• **6-8 weeks** after the cut-off date: Pre-selection by the host institutes. The number of allocated fellowships will be determined and the pre-selected candidates will be ranked by priority order. The number of pre-selected applications is usually twice the number of available fellowships in each round.

• **9-10 weeks** after the cut-off date: Selection decisions made internally at ERCIM. The Fellowship Programme contacts will confirm the selection.

• **11 weeks** after the cut-off date: Notification sent to the applicants with their status (selected, waiting list, not selected).

• **12-13 weeks** after the cut-off date: Replies sent by the candidates confirming their decisions to be granted or not. In case of refusal, the ERCIM Office will contact applicants on the waiting list.

• When no more fellowship can be allocated, ERCIM Office closes the call.

Successful applicants in the Spring Selection Round of the year are supposed to start their fellowship between July 1st and October 1st of the same year. Successful applicants in the Autumn Selection Round must start their fellowships between December 1st and May 1st of the following year. For practical reasons, fellowships always start on the 1st day of the month.

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**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

ERCIM is committed to ensuring equal opportunities and promoting diversity. People seeking a fellowship within the ERCIM consortium are not discriminated against by race, colour, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status or disability.

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**BENEFITS**

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**FELLOWSHIP DURATION**

Fellowships are awarded for a period of 12 months. An extension can be requested by the host organisation a few months before the end of the fellowship. The extension is limited to 12 additional months.

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**TWO TYPES OF CONTRACTS**

The fellows are appointed for 12 months either by a stipend (an agreement for a research training programme) or a working contract. The type of contract and the monthly allowance (for stipends) or salary (for working contracts) depend on the hosting institute (see table). The money received by the fellow might be subject to taxation.

It should be noted that the stipend (Fellowship Agreement) does not constitute a contract of employment. As such, no contributions are made, on behalf of the fellow, in respect of unemployment insurance or either state or private retirement schemes. The fellow will not,
therefore, be entitled to any unemployment or retirement benefits under the Fellowship Agreement.

This allowance/salary will be transferred to the fellow's personal bank account (with an IBAN a Swift code).

The fellowship is strictly limited to the Fellow.

**INSURANCE**

For WORKING CONTRACTS, the fellow is covered by social insurance according to the national regulation of the hosting country.

For STIPENDS the fellow is covered by a personal health insurance provided by Campus France (see [http://www.campusfrance.org/](http://www.campusfrance.org/)), the cost of which is paid by ERCIM-EEIG. The insurance covers medical transportation costs if needed, payment of a lump sum for invalidity or death, personal liability. Female fellows are informed that expenses related to pregnancy can be covered by this insurance under certain limited circumstances. The insurance does not cover the fellow's family. The fellow will have to conform strictly to the modalities required by Campus France to obtain benefit of this insurance.

**ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCES**

Additional allowances, restricted to the fellow only are planned for covering:

- **Costs for travelling to and from the host organisation**
  Costs for travelling to and from the host organisation will be reimbursed on the basis of an economic class airplane ticket or first class train ticket. No moving expenses are allocated. The limit is 500 euros per trip (2 trips can be planned).

- **Research Exchange Programme**
  Fellows have to spend at least a one-week (5 working days) visit to another ERCIM member institute. ERCIM-EEIG will cover reasonable expenses (including but not limited to: travel, accommodation, meals) up to a maximum amount calculated on the basis of 100 euros per month over the fellowship period.

- **Participation in scientific conference(s)**
  The fellow is encouraged to attend and to submit papers to scientific conference(s) during his or her fellowship. ERCIM-EEIG will cover registration costs and travelling expenses up to a maximum sum calculated at a rate of 100 euros per month under the condition that the fellow has an accepted paper at the conference. This additional allowance can also be used for covering processing fees for Open Access journals.

  The fellow will receive some more detailed reimbursement guidelines prior to his/her fellowship.
# ANNEX I – ONLINE APPLICATION FORM

## Your Application

- **Round:** 2018 (2)
- **Application deadline:** 2018-06-20 the application form will be closed at midnight CEST (Paris time zone)
- **Your last update:** 2018-07-12

Fields with (*) are mandatory

### 1. Personal information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>First Name</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Family Name (Surname)</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Email</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Must be entered accurately to enable us to contact you. Enter only one email address. If you wish to provide an additional alternative email address, please mention it in the field "Remarks" on the next page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Date of birth</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Place of birth</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(city and country as mentioned in your passport, for example: Paris, France)

- **Nationality**
  - Choose one
  - In case of dual nationality, enter your second nationality
  - Second nationality

- **Address**

Please provide your personal address, i.e. the address where you normally reside and can be contacted. If your current address is different, please indicate it too.

- **Current country of residence**

- **Phone**

- **Fax**

- **Gender**
  - Male
  - Female

- **ORCID**
  - https://orcid.org/xxxxx-xxxxx-xxxxx-foox

- **Your possible starting date**

The fellowship must be started no later than 1 May 2019

- **In which country will you be living at this date?**

- **Please certify**
  - I'm in the last year of the thesis work:
  - I hold a PhD or equivalent. Earlier than 01 January 2010

- **Year of PhD award or expected**

Candidates must have obtained a PhD degree during the last 8 years prior to the application deadline, or be in the last year of the thesis work.

- **University where you have obtained your PhD**

- **Country of the University**

- **Name of your thesis supervisor**
Your Application

- Round: 2018 (2)
- Application deadline: 2018-05-31 the application form will be closed at midnight CEST (Paris time zone)
- Your last update: 2018/07/12
- Fields with [*] are mandatory


2. Hosting institute(s)

By default your application is valid for all ERCIM member institutes listed below.

Nevertheless a candidate cannot be hosted:
- By a member institute located in the country of the applicant's nationality.
- By a member institute, if by the start of the fellowship, he or she has already been working for (excluding PhD studies) this institute for a total of 6 months or more, during the last 3 years. If you are in this case, please select the corresponding institute.

For information about the possible hosting institutes, see "ERCIM members" and follow the links to the homepages of the individual members or contact the National Contact for the ERCIM Fellowship Programme.

When a member is a consortium or a funding organisation, the hosting institute might be any of their members or affiliate.

Please deselect the member you are not interested in.

*Hosts:
- CNR (Italy)
- CWI (Netherlands)
- FORTH-ICS (Greece)
- Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft (Germany)
- ITI Institutes
- NTNU (Norway)
- RISE SIGA AB (Sweden)
- SBA Research (Austria)
- SZTEI (Hungary)
- UCY (Cyprus)
- University of Warwick (UK)
- VIT (Finland)

Favourite institute(s)

Please motivate your choice by indicating why this institute is interesting and in line with your research area. Please also indicate with whom you have already been in contact about a possible fellowship or with whom you are willing to work with. If you have already identified a research team in an ERCIM institute willing to host you, we strongly recommend that you ask your prospective host to blade with the national contact of the programme or with Emma Lilie at the ERCIM Office for details, see https://www.ercim.org/for/fellawees.

*First choice [Please select]...
Second choice [Please select]...
Third choice [Please select]...
Fourth choice [Please select]...

Duration

The duration will be of 12 months in one of the ERCIM hosting institutes.
Your Application

- **Round 2019 (2)**
- **Application deadline:** 2019-05-30, the application form will be closed at midnight CEST (Paris time zone)
- **Your text version:** 2018-11-15

Fields with '*' are mandatory.

**Scientific Fields**
Please select your main areas of interest.

For the detailed list of topics, see ERCIM scientific fields of competencies you can select up to three main scientific fields and three subtopics within each scientific field.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Fields 1</th>
<th>[Select your first preferred main scientific field]</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Fields 2</td>
<td>[Select your second preferred main scientific field]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Fields 3</td>
<td>[Select your third preferred main scientific field]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Research areas**
Research area on which you expect to carry out your post-doc (100 words max)

- ERCIM is particularly interested in fellows with skills in areas such as: Adaptive Robotics, Agent and Intelligent Systems, Agent-based intelligent systems, ...
- Adaptive Inference
- Adaptative Robotics
- Agent and Intelligent Systems
- Agent-based intelligent systems
- Agent-based Modelling
- Algorithm Geometry
- Associated Algebra
- Behaviour extraction from human generated data
- Big Data
- Cloud Computing
- Complex Network Analysis
- Computational biology and bioinformatics
- Computational intelligence
- Computer Vision
- Computing and Statistics
- Concurrency and programming languages
- Theory of parallel and distributed computing
- Constraint
- Cooperating Objects
- Data and Information Science (DIS)
- Data and sensor infrastructures
- Data classification and clustering
- Data management for education
- Database Architecture
- Dependable Software-Intensive Embedded Systems
- Design of Service-Oriented Architectures
- Discrete optimization
- Distributed Multimedia Systems
- Dynamical Systems
- eGovernment (eGovernment and Applications)
- Eductivity
- Environmental Modelling
- Formal Methods for Industrial Critical Systems
- Geometric Analysis, Calculus of Variations
- Green ICT (in energy efficient computing and communication)
- Grids, P2P and Services
- HPC - High Performance Computing
- Image and Video Understanding
- Information Retrieval
- Interactive Information Access
- Large-scale Data Analytics
- Linked Open Data
- Machine Learning
- Media Technology & Entertainment
- Middleware for Wireless Sensor Networks
- Models and Logics for Quantitative Analysis
- MultiAgent Systems
- Multimedia, runtime, memory, and communication systems
- Multimedia Pattern Recognition
- Next generation network infrastructures
- Probabilistic Theory
- Process Intelligence in Business Informatics
- Quality of Services
- Robotic ICT infrastructure and services
- Scalable storage systems and storage technologies
- Scientific Databases
- Security and Trust Management
- Sensor Web
- Social Data Mining
- Social Network Analysis
- Software Engineering for Resilient Systems
- Software Evolution
- Bioinformatics
- User access to scientific data
- User media interaction
- User-centered media design
- Visual Analytics
- Visual computing

*Describe your proposal of research project for your ERCIM post-doc. This description will be used by the evaluators for a preliminary selection, so please make sure that it contains concise and pertinent information about your research intentions (near 100 words)
Your Application

- Round: 2018 (2)
- Application deadline: 2018-09-30 the application form will be closed at midnight CEST (Paris time zone)
- Your last update: 2018-07-12

Fields with * are mandatory

### 4. Experience

- **Scientific background**
  
  Please describe here your scientific background such as academic education, research activity (e.g., grants), number of peer-reviewed publications.

- **Previous mobility/professional experience**
  
  (max 30 lines)

- **Parental leave**
  
  Did you contribute to parented and/or copyrighted work? If not, leave this field empty.
  
  (max 30 lines)

- **Management**
  
  Did you have previously managerial responsibilities (e.g., team leader, project manager)? If not, leave this field empty.
  
  (max 30 lines)

- **Career break**
  
  Have there been any career breaks in your professional life? If yes, please explain.
  
  (max 30 lines)

### Important

Your application will be evaluated by senior scientists at our member institutes on the basis of your CV, list of publications, and two main papers in English. These documents must be accessible in the requested format, otherwise your application cannot be processed. Make sure that you provide the full version of your papers (not only the abstract). Take care that the files are the documents remain valid until you receive a notification of acceptance/rejection. Size limits is 5 MB per file.

When submitting the form, you will receive an automatic reply to your application is registered. This does NOT necessarily mean that your application is accepted. We try to contact you in case of a problem or in order to advise you at time. The application deadline is strictly applied and applications that are incomplete by the deadline will be rejected. And because we need some time to check your application and you might need some time to correct it if necessary, we strongly recommend to apply as soon as possible!

**Note that ERCB cannot consider files submitted by email!**

Do not send any paper copies to the ERCB office!
Your Application

- Round: 2018 (2)
- Application deadline: 2018-09-30 the application form will be closed at midnight CEST (Paris time zone)
- Your last update: n/a

Fields with (*) are mandatory

### Documents

- **CV**
  - No file selected.
  - Upload your detailed CV in English, highlighting experience and achievements, including education and employment record (accepted formats: pdf, ps, doc, docx)

- **Publication list**
  - No file selected.
  - Upload your list of publications (accepted formats: pdf, ps, doc, docx)

- **Paper 1**
  - No file selected.

- **Paper 2**
  - No file selected.

  Upload your two main papers in English (accepted formats: pdf, ps, doc, docx). Only full version of your papers (not only the abstract) are eligible.

- **Letter of recommendation**
  - No file selected.
  - If you wish, you can upload one document with letters of recommendation (not mandatory)

  Link to a video presenting yourself:

You have the opportunity to present yourself and your research with a short (one minute) video. A simply recorded video with your webcam and uploaded to YouTube, for example, would be just fine. This is not mandatory but we would appreciate to see who you are and what you would like to do during your fellowship.

### Referees

Referent 1

- **Name**
- **Last name**
- **Organization**
- **Email**
- **Phone**

Referent 2

- **Name**
- **Last name**
- **Organization**
- **Email**
- **Phone**
Your Application

- Round: 2016 (2)
- Application deadline: 2016-09-30 the application form will be closed at midnight CEST (Paris time zone)
- Your last update: no

Fields with (*) are mandatory

7. Remarks

Other remarks

Please enter here anything you would like to tell us that has not been addressed by this form. Remarks are not mandatory and you can leave the field empty.

Your Application

- Round: 2016 (2)
- Application deadline: 2016-09-30 the application form will be closed at midnight CEST (Paris time zone)
- Your last update: no

Fields with (*) are mandatory

How did you know about the ERCIM Fellowship Programme?

- I don't remember
- I found it on the web
- A colleague told me about it
- Announcement in ERCIM News
- Other:

For additional information, please contact info@ercim.eu. If you encounter a problem while submitting this form, please contact webmaster@ercim.eu

Send Submit