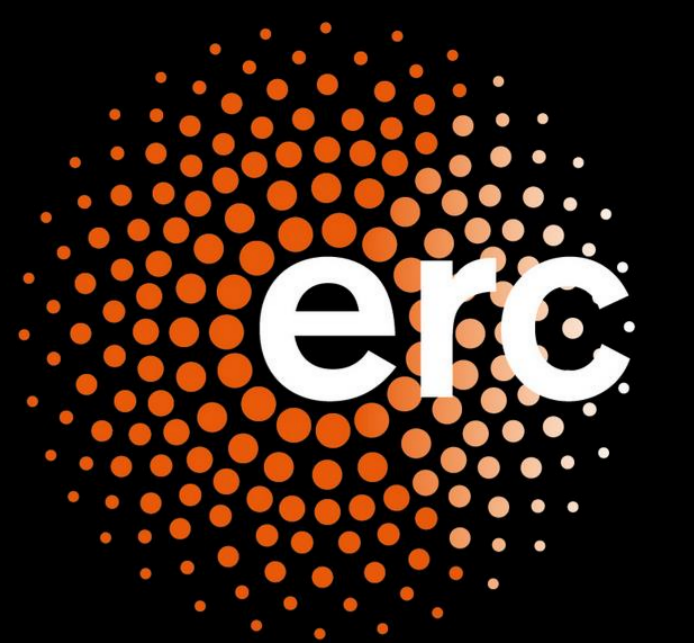




Demographics of the geosciences* at the European Research Council (ERC)



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

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The story starts...

In 2007, when the European Research Council (ERC) was set up by the EU to fund excellent scientists and their most creative frontier ideas.

Designed and governed for scientists by scientists (ERC Scientific Council), the ERC is unique.

The ERC's mission is to **encourage the highest quality research in Europe** through competitive funding and to **support investigator-driven frontier research across all fields**, only on the basis of scientific excellence.

There are seven ERC Working Groups dedicated to the topics of particular concern to the ERC, such as the **Gender Balance** and **Widening European Participation**.



2007-2018



€ 668 million



341 grants



29 nationalities



21 countries

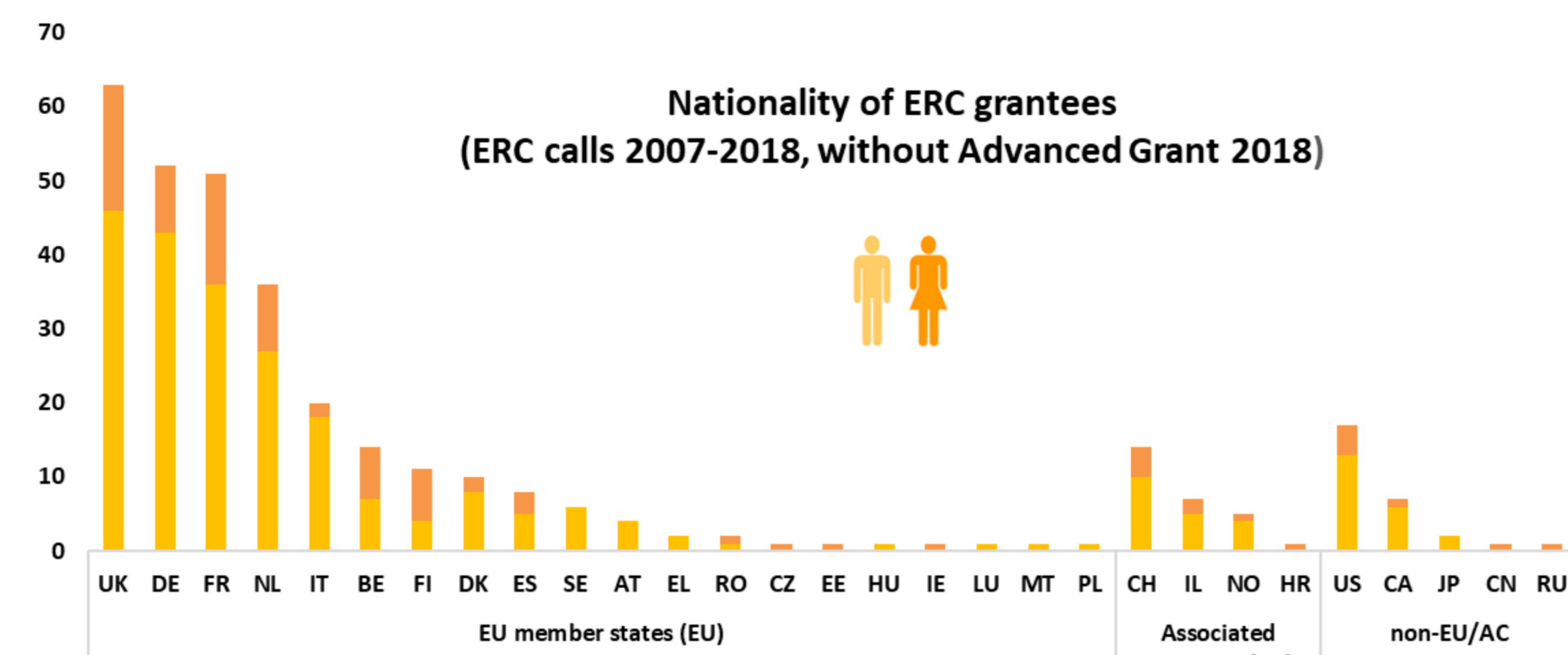
Funding top talent across Europe

In the ERC competitions there are no quotas of any sort. Excellence is the sole selection criterion.

A meritocratic system that is continuously **attentive to the diversity of career paths and scientific contexts**, and **vigilant to the risk of biases**.

Open to the world

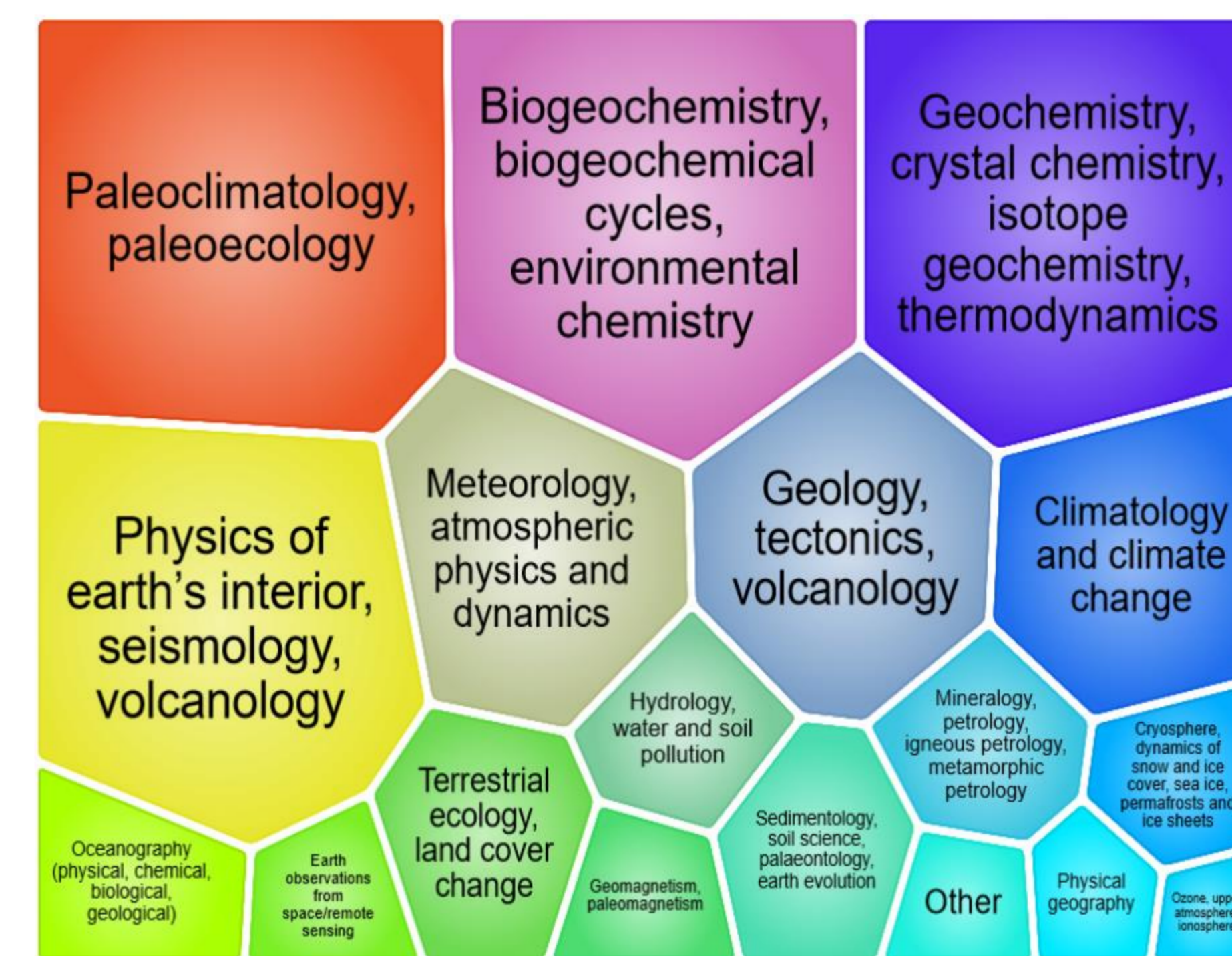
Open to top researchers of **any nationality, age and gender**, from **anywhere in the world**, to perform frontier research in Europe.



Topics and disciplines funded

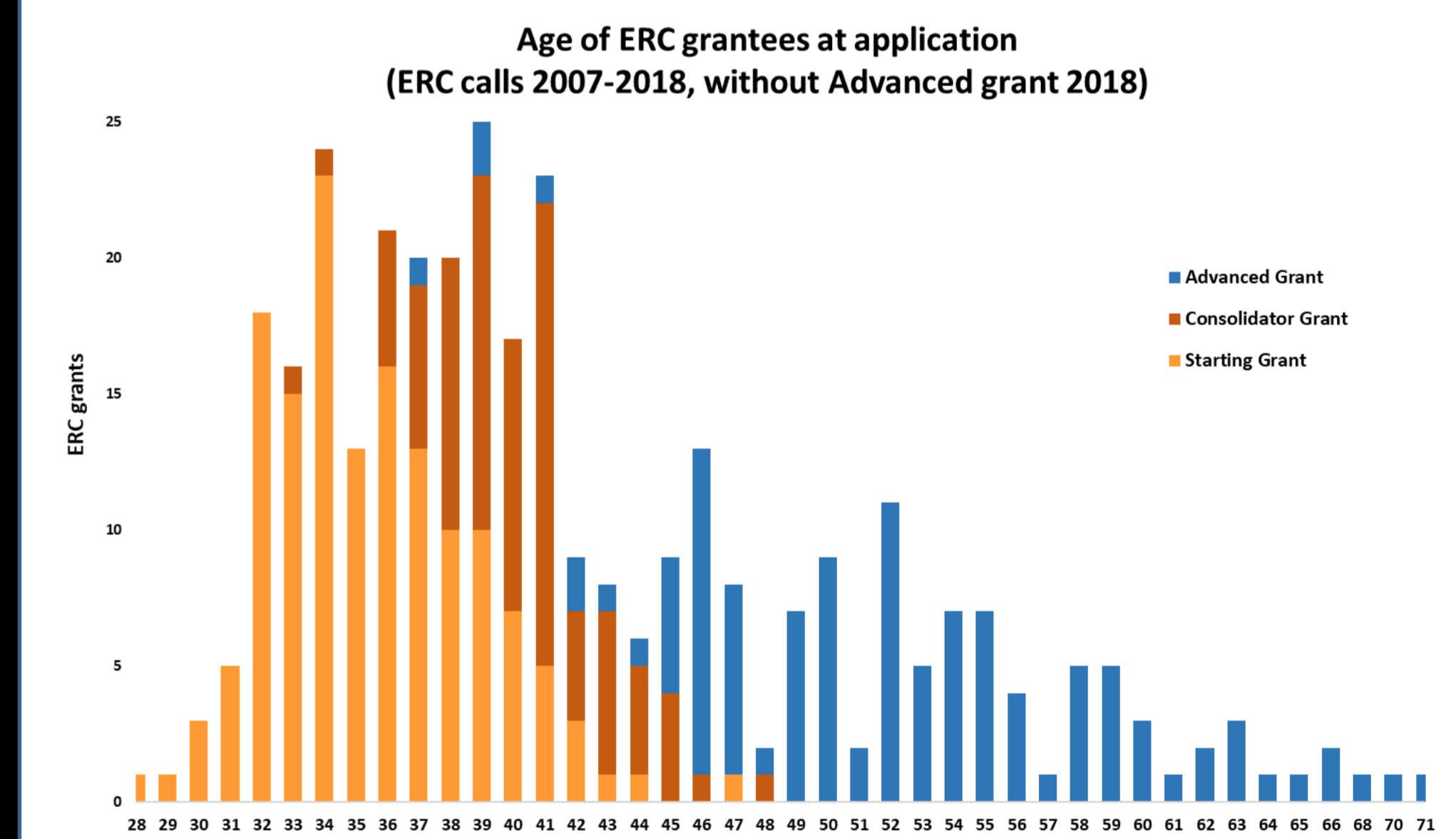
No thematic priorities or quotas. Fully bottom-up and curiosity-driven approach.

The mosaic shows the proportion and variety of research topics funded within the geoscience fields.



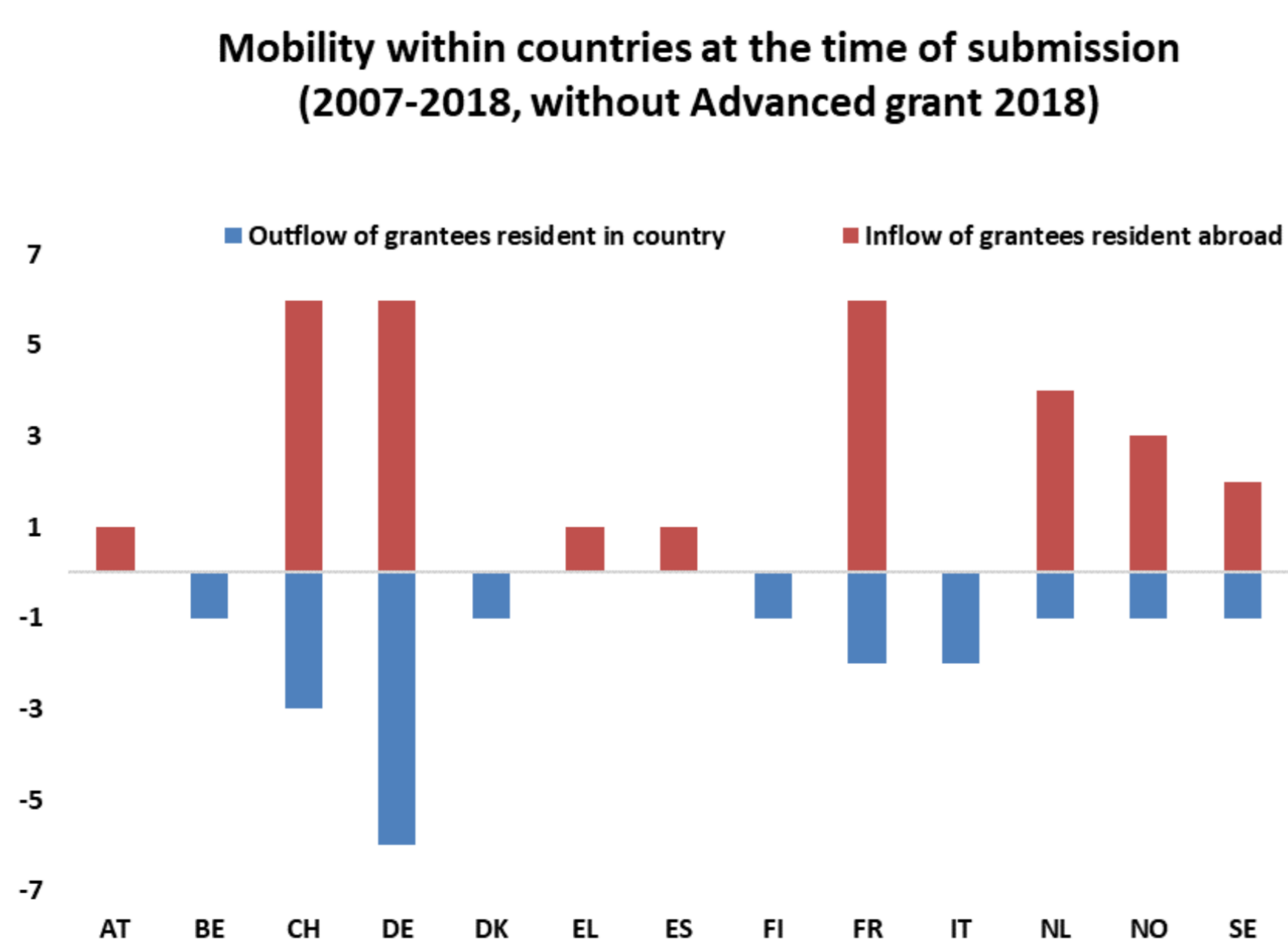
Focus on younger generation

The ERC funding is filling a gap for the young: 2/3 of ERC grants go to early-/mid-career researchers (2 to 12 years of post-PhD experience). **The majority of grantees are less than 40 years old.**



Geographical distribution

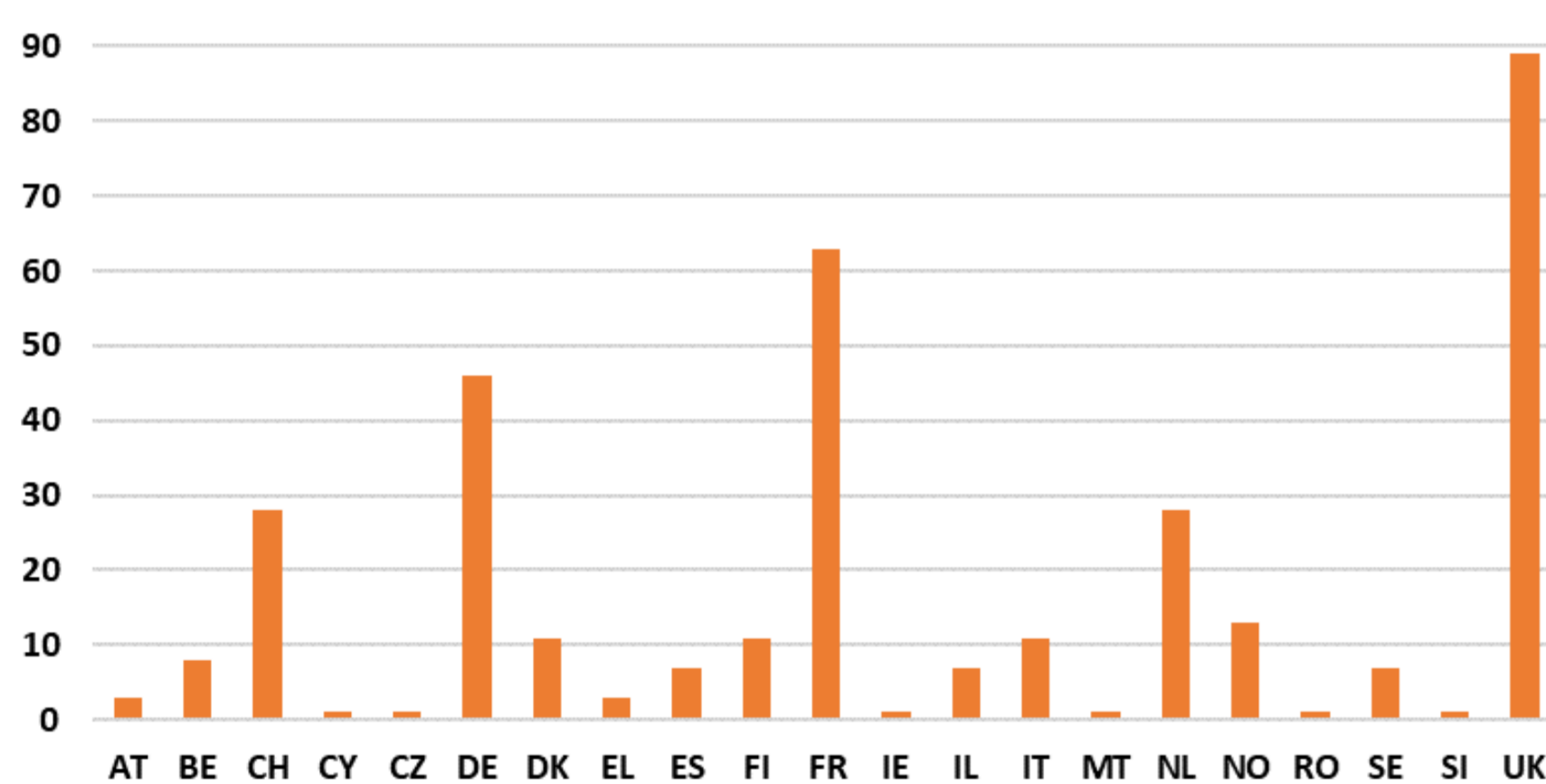
The ERC has the very specific mission to fund individual researchers and their cutting-edge ideas, wherever they decide to be located across Europe – this includes portability of the grant during the life-time of the project.



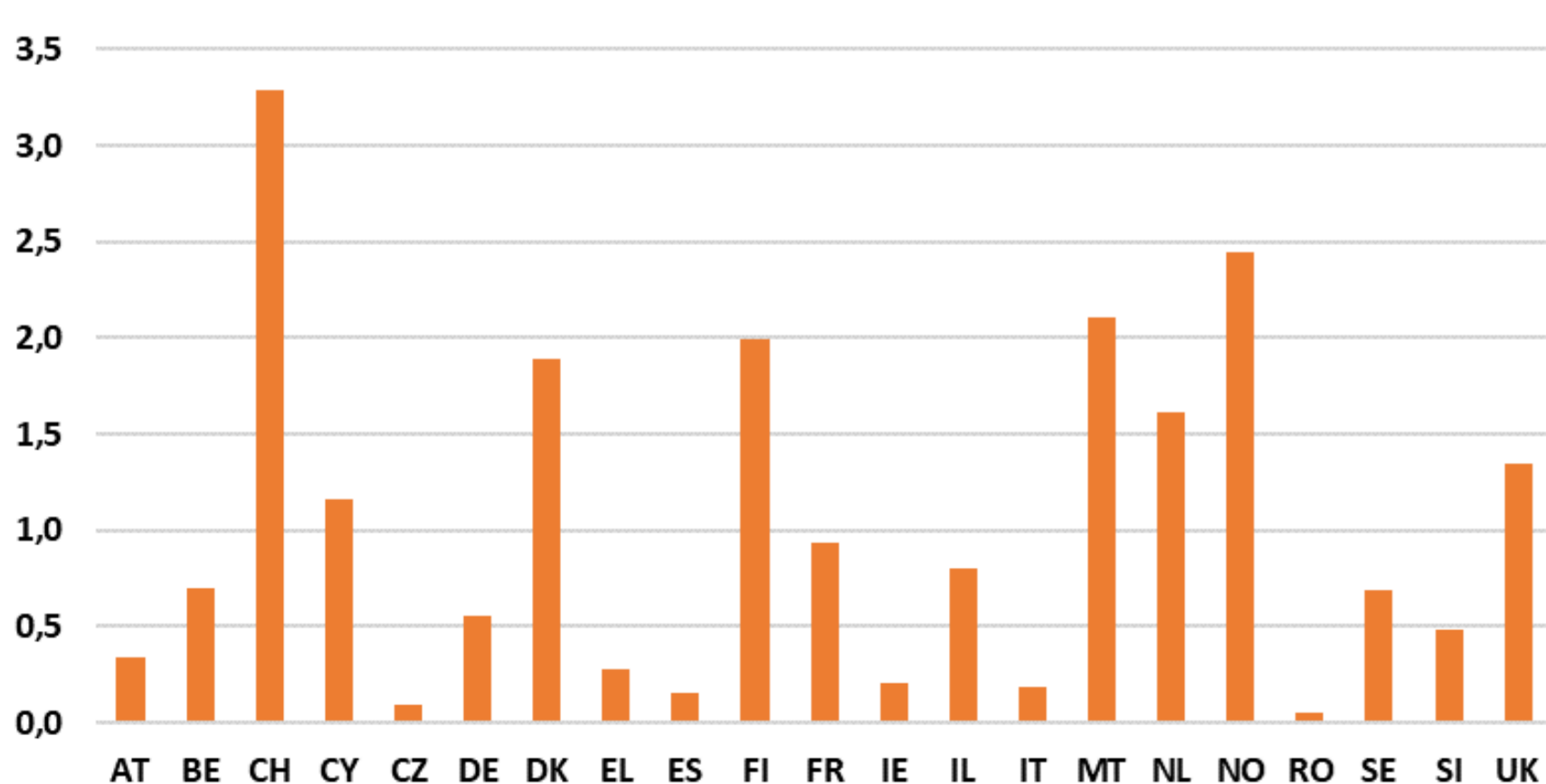
Mobility

Mobility refers to applicants that apply to a host institution different from their country of residence at the time of submission.

ERC grants by country (ERC calls 2007-2018, without Advanced grant 2018)

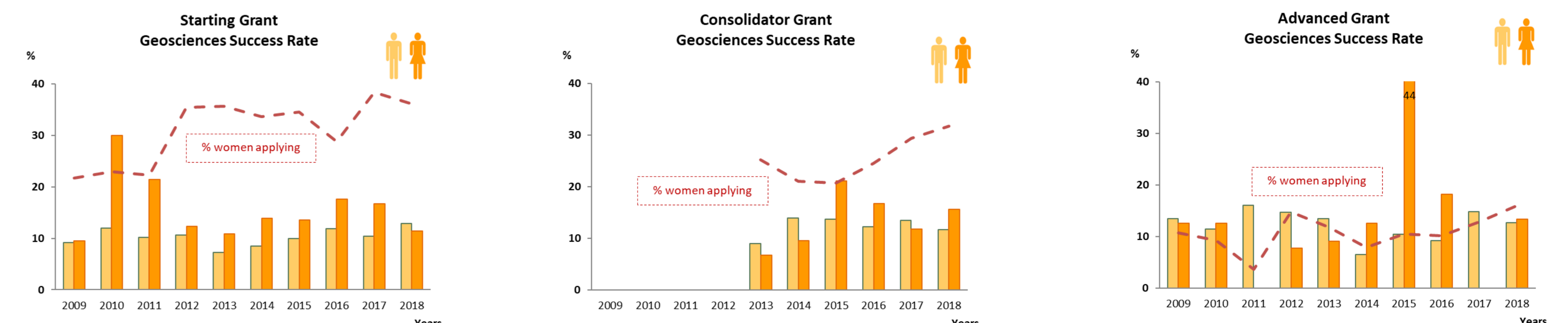


ERC grants by country per million inhabitants (ERC call 2007-2018, without Advanced grant 2018)

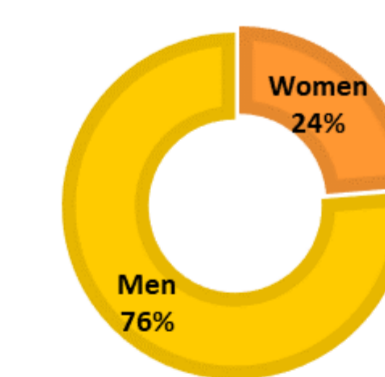


Gender

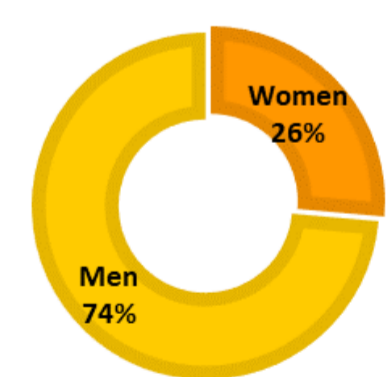
Excellent frontier research is independent of the gender. **Success rates of women and men are sustainably comparable.** In the earlier career stages, women's success rates in the geosciences is overall higher than men.



APPLICATIONS (2007-2018)



GRANTS (2007-2018)



(*) The data presented in this study reflects the ERC panel 'PE10 - Earth system science' only