



OPORTUNUS

Opportunities for an excellent scientific career in Galicia by strengthening access options and benefits associated with ERC grants

Galicia, a commitment to the future

Oportunius Programme

Foundation year: **2014**

Xunta de Galicia investment: **€17.5 M up to 2024**

The Oportunius Programme

generates opportunities for excellent researchers who wish to develop their scientific careers in Galicia, strengthening **access pathways** and the **benefits associated** with funding from the **European Research Council (ERC)**.

Choosing Galicia to consolidate an excellent scientific trajectory

The right decision for the professional environment and quality of life

OPORTUNIUS

Galicia: **6th Spanish region** by number of ERCs



Galicia's R&D&I ecosystem: from excellent research to the market

3
public universities
(UDC, USC, UVigo)

40+
research centres & institutes

- 10 CIGUS centres of excellence
- 5 CSIC centres
- 3 interuniversity centres
- 3 health research institutes
- 2 unique infrastructures (IEO and CESGA)

Funding and support to R&D and entrepreneurship:

Axencia Galega de Innovación
Instituto Galego de Promoción Económica
Axencia Galega de Coñecemento en Saúde

20
business clusters of excellence

Health Textile Tourism
Aquaculture Food Industry Audiovisual
Shipbuiding Granite
Seafood Products Biotechnology
GRAPHIC ARTS TIMBER Automotive

8,750+ researchers (FTE)

- 3,800 at the universities
- 1,466 at CIGUS centres

5,900+ scientific publications (2023)

52 ERC-funded projects awarded to 41 grantees

80
University spin-offs
(2011-2020)

9 technology centres

2 digital innovation hubs

1 science and technology park

1,700+
innovative companies

ERC in Galicia

Results

24 

Oportunius contracts
for ERC grantees

41 

ERC grantees supported

52 

ERC grants

31 

ERC finalists supported

331 

ERC proposals evaluated

30  x 730

training workshops with
730 participants

[Data from February 2026]



41 ERC GRANTEES



Sara Abalde-Cela (USC, CiQUS) – CoG 2025

Jaime Álvarez-Muñiz (USC, IGFAE) – SyG 2025

Julián Bergueiro (USC, CiQUS) – CoG 2025

Saray Busto (USC, CITMAga) – StG 2025

★ Jacob Copeman (USC, IDEGA) – CoG 2018

Felipe Criado-Boado (CSIC, INCIPIT) – SyG 2020

★ Martín Fañanás-Mastral (USC, CiQUS) – CoG 2019

★ María Giménez (USC, CiQUS) – StG 2015 PoC 2020 PoC 2025

★ David Ryan Glowacki (USC, CiTIUS) – CoG 2019

Carlos Gómez (UDC, CITIC) – StG 2016 PoC 2022

Héctor Gómez (UDC) – StG 2012

Ismael González (USC, CiMUS) – StG 2025

★ Ignacio Insua (USC, CiQUS) – StG 2024

Luis Manuel Liz-Marzán (UVigo, CINBIO) – SyG 2024

Miguel López (USC, CiMUS) – StG 2011

Olalla López-Costas (USC, CRETUS) – CoG 2022

Guillermo Lorenzo (UDC, CITEEC) – StG 2025

★ Jaime Martín (UDC, CITENI) – CoG 2022

★ Diego Martínez (UDC, CITENI) – StG 2014

José Luis Mascareñas (USC, CiQUS) – AdG 2013 PoC 2019

★ Javier Montenegro (USC, CiQUS) – StG 2015 PoC 2018 SyG 2025

★ Daniel Nieto (UDC, CICA) – CoG 2023

★ Rubén Nogueiras (USC, CiMUS) – StG 2011 SyG 2018

★ Elena Ojea (UVigo, CIM) – StG 2015

★ Beatriz Orosa (USC, CiQUS) – CoG 2023

★ Mario Pansera (UVigo, CISPAC) – StG 2020

★ Elena Pazos (UDC, CICA) – StG 2019 PoC 2025

★ Beatriz Pelaz (USC, CiQUS) – StG 2020

★ Diego Peña (USC, CiQUS) – SyG 2020

Carlos Pérez Carmona (CSIC, MBG) – CoG 2023

David Posada (UVigo, CINBIO) – StG 2007 CoG 2013

★ Yolanda Prezado (USC, CiMUS) – CoG 2018

José Francisco Rivadulla (USC, CiQUS) – StG 2010 PoC 2016

★ Diego Robledo (USC) – StG 2022

★ Carlos Salgado (USC, IGFAE) – StG 2011 AdG 2018

★ Manuel Souto (USC, CiQUS) – StG 2021

★ Jose Tubío (USC, CiMUS) – StG 2016

Jorge de Torres (CSIC, INCIPIT) – StG 2019

★ Sara Varela (UVigo, CIM) – StG 2020

★ Carlos Sebastián Villasante (USC, CRETUS) – CoG 2020

★ Ashwin Woodhoo (USC, CiMUS) – CoG 2019

ERC in Galicia

52 PROJECTS

- 2 Advanced Grants
- 14 Consolidator Grants
- 23 Starting Grants
- 6 Synergy Grants
- 7 Proof of Concept

Total funds raised =
€70M+

PROJECTS BY ERC PANELS

30

+

13

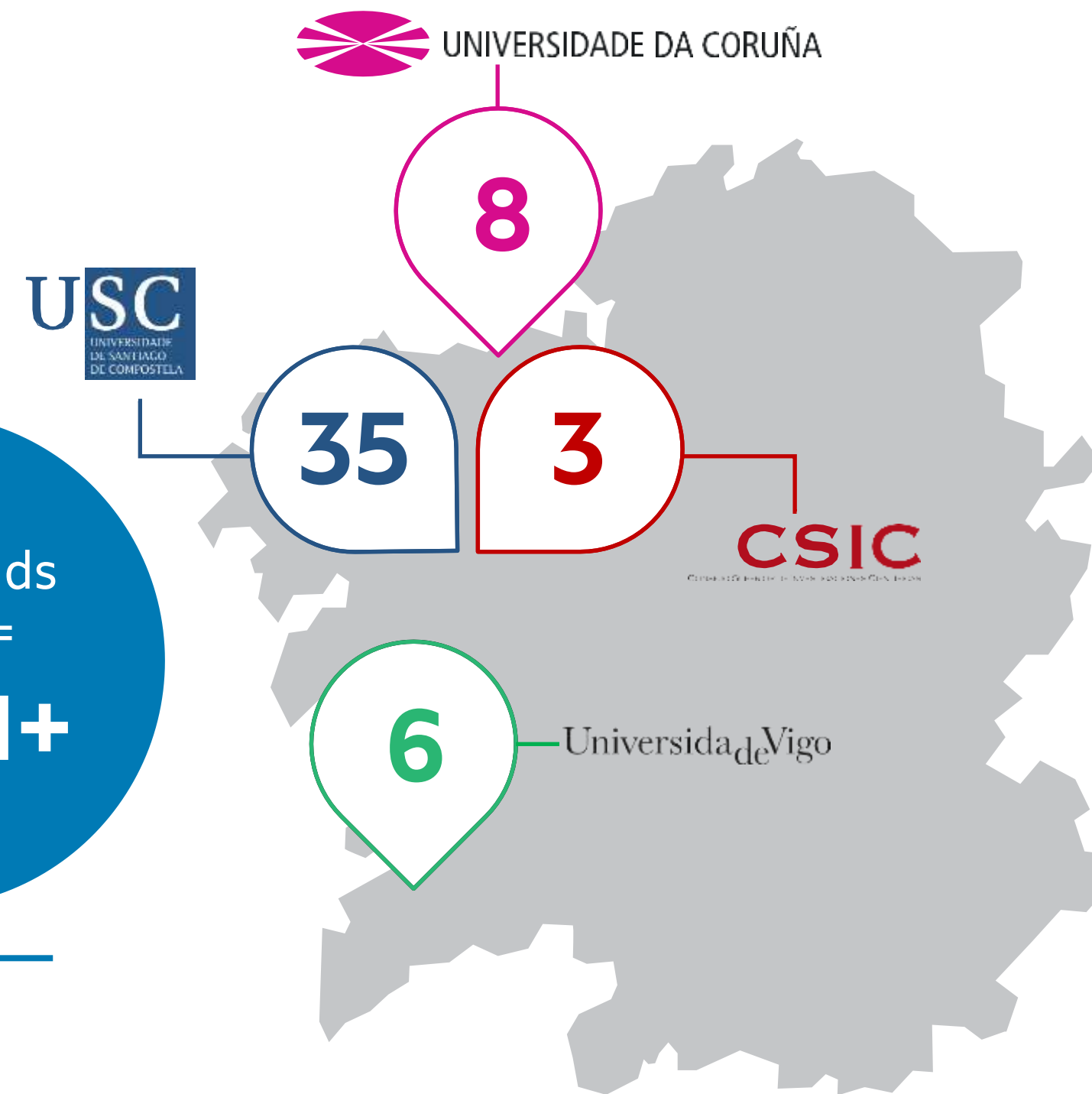
Physical Sciences
and Engineering

Life Sciences

+

9

Social Sciences &
Humanities



Why Oportunius

COORDINATED INITIATIVE

Xunta de Galicia

Axencia
Galega de
Innovación

+

Consellería de Educación,
Ciencia, Universidades e
Formación Profesional



Galician University System (SUG)

Universidade
da Coruña
(UDC)

+

Universidade
de Santiago de
Compostela
(USC)

+

Universidade
de Vigo
(UVigo)

with 10 accredited centres of excellence (Rede CIGUS)
+ 20 other research centres and institutes

Galician Research Entities

3 health foundations + 5 CSIC centres in Galicia + other research institutions

Objective ► Creating opportunities for excellent researchers who wish to develop their careers in Galicia

An Oportunius pathway for every ERC profile

You already hold an ERC grant in a Galician entity or in another region or country

You want to obtain an ERC grant with an entity in Galicia

You were very close to being selected

You are applying for the first time



ERC GRANTEES

ERC supplementary funding package + distinguished researcher contract option



ERC FINALISTS

Support to increase your chances of success in upcoming ERC calls



ERC CANDIDATES

Support to assess and shape your ERC application

ERC GRANTEES

ERC supplementary funding package (during and after)

Option of a distinguished researcher contract or Oportunius Programme remuneration



Financial resources to support research activities

TO WHOM

Researchers of any nationality who are beneficiaries of an ERC grant and wish to carry out their project at a host institution in Galicia

WHAT

Incentive package to foster the development of your scientific project and research career

ERC GRANTEES

Option of a **distinguished researcher contract** with the Axencia Galega de Innovación

Salary according to the type of grant

ADVANCED GRANT

€108,000
/year

CONSOLIDATOR GRANT

€88,000
/year

STARTING GRANT

€71,000
/year

HOW

PRO-ERC support:

Financial resources complementary to the ERC funding provided by the *Consellería de Educación, Ciencia, Universidades e Formación Profesional* and by the *Axencia Galega de Innovación* during the project's duration.

ADVANCED GRANT

€80,000
/year

CONSOLIDATOR GRANT

€65,000
/year

STARTING GRANT

€50,000
/year

POST-ERC support:

Continued financial support after the end of the ERC funding period

Reinforcement grants for excellence projects

UP TO

€50,000
/year
UP TO
4 YEARS

ADVANCED GRANT

€8,000
/year

CONSOLIDATOR GRANT

€6,500
/year

STARTING GRANT

€5,000
/year

Oportunius Programme remuneration for researchers contracted by the *SUG* or by the *CSIC*

Support services for excellent science and for hosting new research staff, offered on an individual basis by the host institutions.

ERC FINALISTS

Support to increase the chances of success in future ERC calls

Financial support (€50,000 in two years) to reinforce the scientific project and researcher's CV, subject to a commitment to reapply.



Training and expert advice to prepare an improved proposal, incorporating the recommendations from the previous application assessment.

TO WHOM

Researchers who submit an ERC application with a Galician host institution and reach the final stage of evaluation but are not awarded funding

ERC CANDIDATES

Advice and support for applying to ERC calls

Assessment of the chances of success



Training and expert advice to prepare the ERC application

TO WHOM

Researchers from any background with the potential to apply for ERC calls with any of the host institutions in Galicia.

Host institutions

The Oportunius Programme is open to research entities from across the Galician Science and Innovation System

Currently, the following Galician institutions host ERC grantees:



CICA
CITIC
CITEEC
CITENI



CIMUS
CIQUS
CITIUS
CRETUS
IDEGA
IGFAE

Universidade de Vigo

CIM
CINBIO



INCIPIT
MBG



CISPAC
CITMAGA



CONTACT INFORMATION

oportunius.gain@xunta.gal

+34 981 957 000

Axencia Galega de Innovación

Calle Airas Nunes s/n

15702 Santiago de Compostela

gain.xunta.gal