



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: **€21.4M up to 2025**

The Oportunus 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)**.



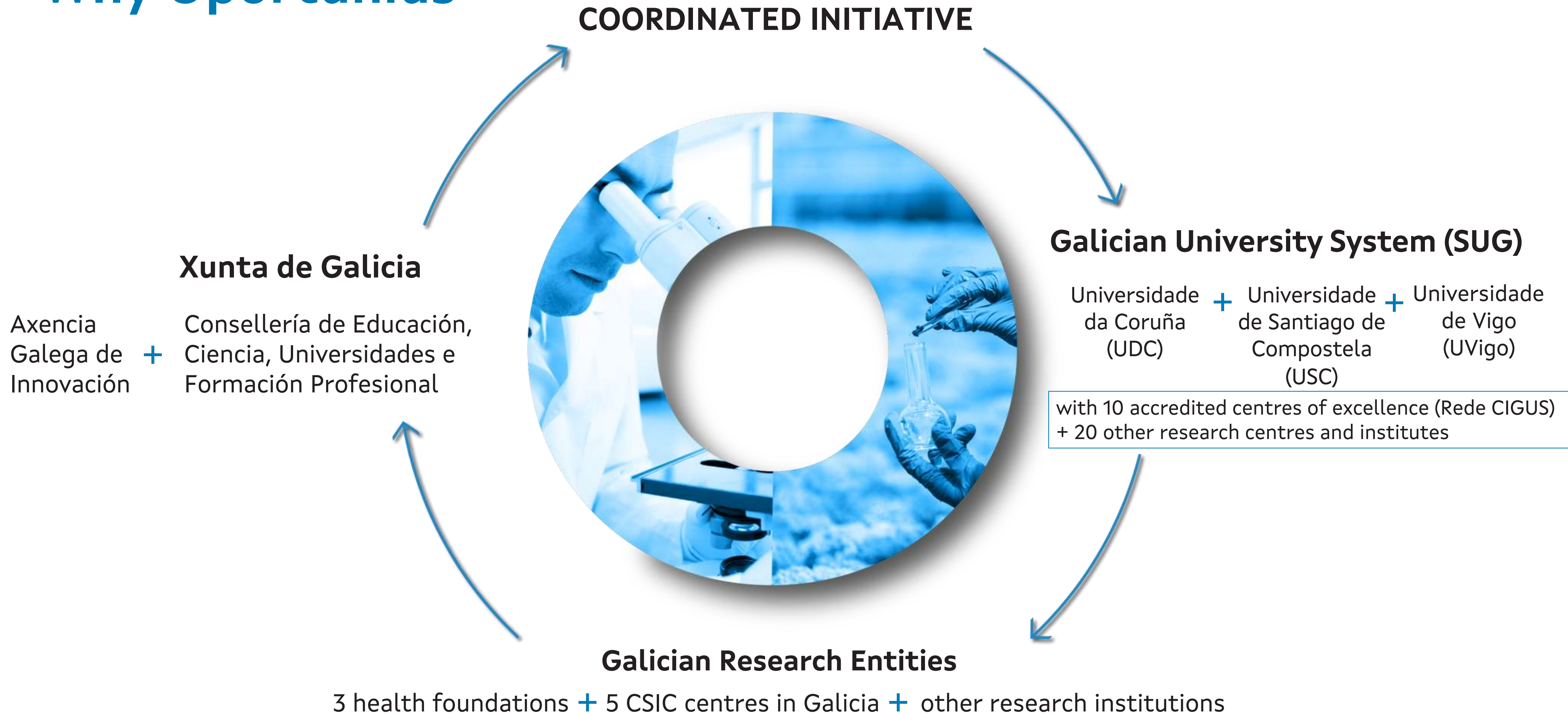
Choosing Galicia to consolidate an excellent scientific trajectory

The right decision for the professional environment and quality of life

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

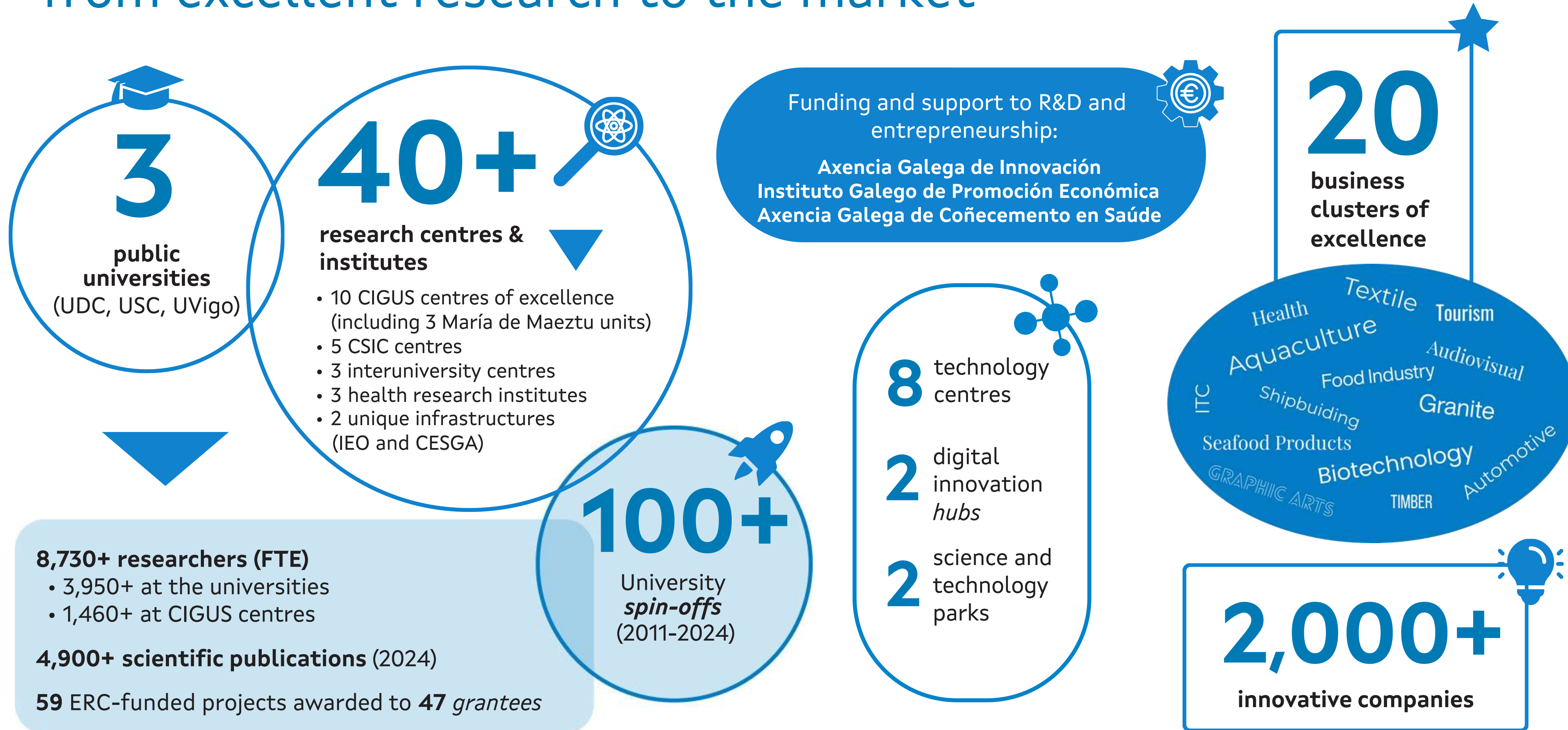


Why Oportunius



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

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



Results

28



Oportunius contracts
for ERC grantees

47



ERC grantees supported

59



ERC grants

31



ERC finalists supported

331



ERC proposals evaluated

32



x 800

training workshops with
800 participants



47 ERC GRANTEES



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

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

★ Marco Armiero (USC, CISPAC) – AdG 2024

Antón Baleato (USC, IGFAE) – StG 2026

Julián Bergueiro (USC, CiQUS) – CoG 2025

Saray Busto (USC, CITMAga) – StG 2025

★ César Cabrera (USC, IGFAE) – StG 2025

★ Jacob Copeman (USC, IDEGA) – CoG 2018 AdG 2025

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

★ Cristóbal Pérez (USC, CiQUS) – 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, iTERRA) – StG 2022

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

María Ximena Senatore (CSIC, INCIPIT) – AdG 2025

Itziar Sobrino-García (UDC, ECOBAS) – StG 2026

★ 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

59 PROJECTS

- 5 Advanced Grants
- 15 Consolidator Grants
- 26 Starting Grants
- 6 Synergy Grants
- 7 Proof of Concept

Total funds raised =
€76M+

PROJECTS BY ERC PANELS

33

+

13

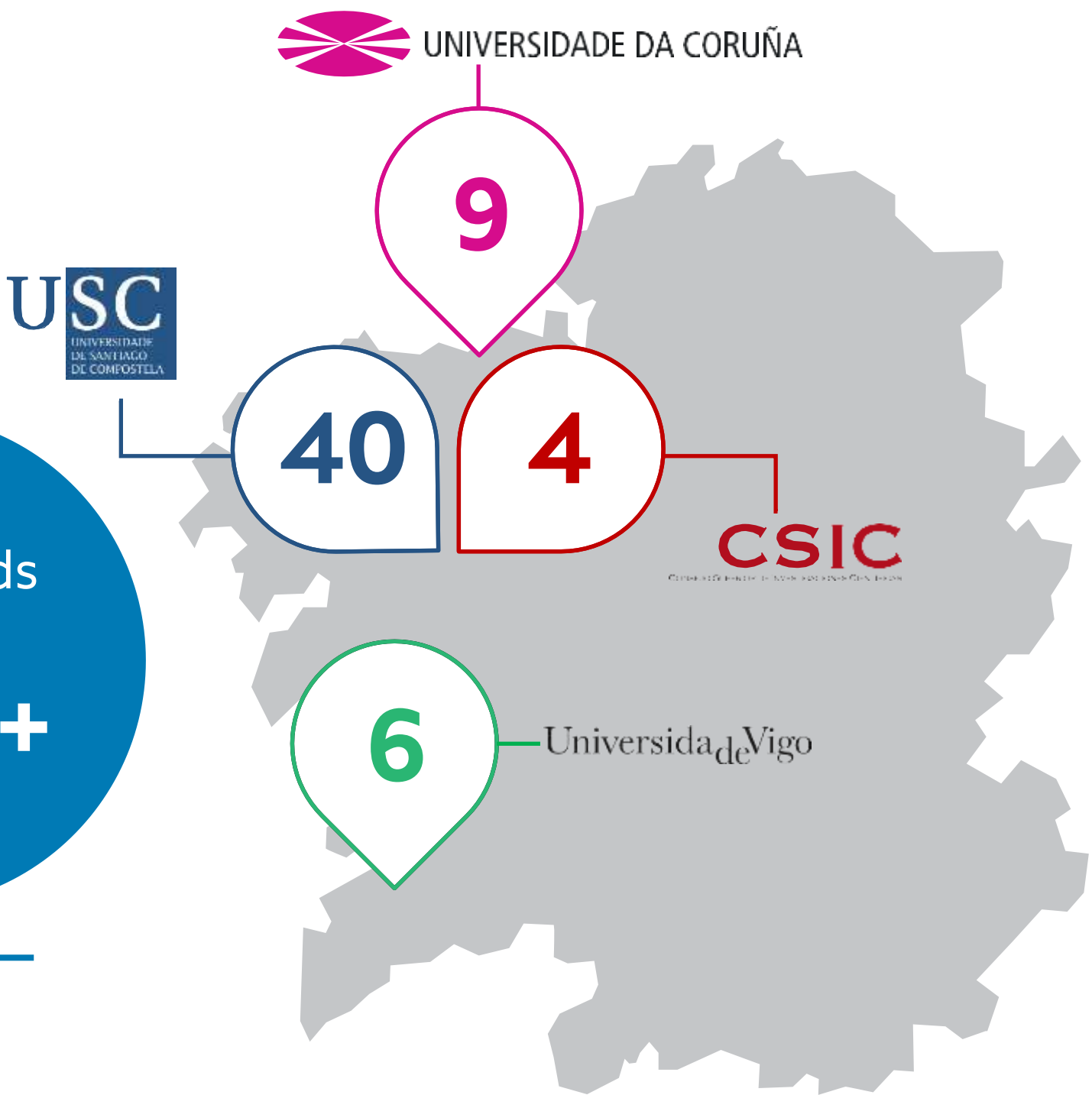
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13

Physical Sciences
and Engineering

Life Sciences

Social Sciences &
Humanities



Impact of ERC grant recipients

FUNDING SECURED*

€45.8M

R&D projects in competitive funding calls

€37.3M • 182 projects

Public funding programmes: **57,3%**

Horizon projects: **19,4%**

Public or private programmes: **19,4%**

Other international funding calls: **4%**

KnowledgeTransfer activity

€7.7M

Knowledge Valorisation Projects: **79%**

**Other
(infrastructure,
outreach, etc.)**

€0.8M

* Addictional to the funds awarded by the ERC

Fonte: *Axudas do ERC en Galicia: Informe sobre participación e impacto 2007-2025*. Axencia Galega de Innovación, July 2026.

Impact of ERC grant recipients

SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT (SCOPUS)

2.474 publications

Q1: **77,6%**

Highly cited:

- Top 10% most cited: **30%**
- Top 1% most cited: **5%**

TRAINING

171 PhD Theses Defended

JOB CREATION 2025 (FTE)*

Total staff: **320,8**

Postdoctoral research staff: **123,6**

Predoctoral research staff: **151,5**

Technical staff: **33,7**

Management/administrative staff: **12**

*Number of personnel in Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)

ERC in Galicia | 2025 call results

11



ERC Grants

- ✓ 2 Advanced Grants
- ✓ 2 Consolidator Grants
- ✓ 3 Starting Grants
- ✓ 2 Synergy Grants
- ✓ 2 Proof of Concept

6



Finalists 2025

vs 5 in 2024

54



Applications
submitted in 2025

vs 43 in 2024

20%



Success rate 2025

vs 4,6% in 2024

Galicia: 3rd Spanish region in ERC project funding secured in 2025

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



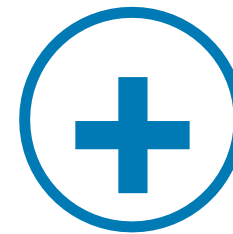
ERC CANDIDATES

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 &
SYNERGY GRANTS

€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 &
SYNERGY GRANTS

€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

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

Reinforcement grants for excellence projects

UP TO

€50,000
/year
UP TO
4 YEARS

ADVANCED &
SYNERGY GRANTS

€8,000
/year

CONSOLIDATOR
GRANT

€6,500
/year

STARTING
GRANT

€5,000
/year

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.

50.000€
/ 2 annual
instalments



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.

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships Service



Proposal review and advisory support

- ✓ Targeted at entities within the Galician research ecosystem
- ✓ Limited number of places allocated according to the total number of proposals to the submitted
- ✓ Fellows nominated by the institutions

2025

Pilot service for proposal review and provider assessment

2026

Consolidation of the support programme, 23 services underway

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
ECOBAS



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