



UNIVERSIDADE DA CORUÑA



b^{erc}e

Programa de apoio
á ciencia excelente

University of A Coruña Support Programme for Excellent Science

berce: the UDC Programme for Excellent Science

The Strategic Plan for the University of A Coruña (UDC) for the period 2013-2020 defines among its objectives the continuing development of **UDC** as an international centre of high-quality learning and research. As part of this internationalisation plan, **UDC** proposes to expand its relations with other universities, and improve access to international research funding opportunities.

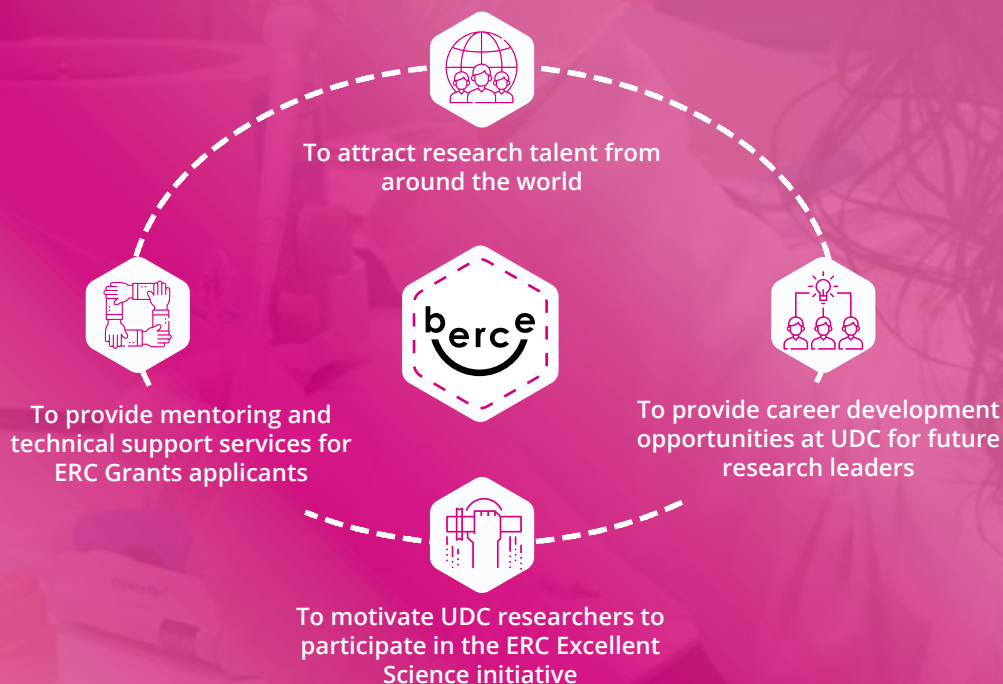
This commitment has been developed into a dedicated

support programme for Scientific Excellence, **berce**, designed to improve the **quality** and **success rate** of **funding proposals** submitted to the European Research Council (ERC).

Berce offers a series of specific support measures aimed at both home-grown ERC candidates and researchers from around the world interested in basing their Excellent Science project here at **UDC**.

Objectives

The aim of the **berce support programme** is to create and sustain a culture of research excellence and innovation at UDC. The specific programme objectives reflect this commitment to Scientific Excellence as part of the University's development strategy for the future.



Action areas

berce is an ambitious programme aimed at **encouraging potential** ERC researchers to consider **UDC** as their host institution, regardless of their nationality.

berce's core action area objectives reflect this focus on international projection and the principles represented by the programme name (benvida, estabilización, retorno de ciencia excelente)

b

Benvida
(Welcome)

To welcome and support international ERC candidates in all funding strands wishing to base their research at UDC

e

Estabilización
(Stability)

To promote professional stability for ERC researchers in collaboration with the Oportunius programme promoted by the Regional Government of Galicia through the Galician Agency for Innovation (GAIN)

rce

Retorno de Ciencia Excelente
(Bringing back scientific talent)

To provide professional opportunities at home to help bring back native research talent from abroad.

Specific Support Measures

UDC's commitment to the ERC Excellent Science initiative is reflected in a series of specific support measures developed and implemented by the **berce** programme to improve the **quality** and **success rate** of grant proposals by UDC applicants and researchers who choose this University as their host institution.

Grant advice and support are available from the moment a researcher decides to answer an ERC call for proposals, and remain in place throughout the process of selection and during the project execution period.



TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Technical support for ERC project proposals in all specializations, including advice in relation to key aspects of the evaluation process, expert review of applications, assistance with financial proposal, proofreading and language editing, etc.



ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Additional financial support during the lifetime of the ERC project to ensure researchers receive a competitive salary consistent with the status and prestige of their role.



SPECIFIC TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AND A PROFESSIONAL STABILITY

Access to Oportunius programme promoted by the Regional Government of Galicia through the Galician Agency for Innovation (GAIN). The special agreement between GAIN and UDC allows researchers to avail of specific training opportunities and a professional stability scheme involving a renewable five-year Distinguished Researcher contract



TO MEET THE NEEDS OF EACH RESEARCHER

Flexibility to meet the needs of each researcher: suggestions and proposals from researchers will be taken into consideration and, where possible, incorporated into the programme conditions.



OFFICE SPACE AND PRIVATE RESEARCH AREAS

Dedicated office space and private research areas to give researchers the freedom to work on their own. Facilities may also include access to technology research centre laboratories (depending on the project area).



FULL ACCESS TO UDC SERVICES

Full access to UDC services, including project management, intellectual and industrial property rights protection, publications service, creation of spin-off companies, etc.

Why UDC?



QUALITY SCIENCE

Though a relatively new institution, our academic community already includes research leaders in their fields. The UDC is home to a range of quality research institutes and centres, covering a broad spectrum of scientific and technical disciplines.



CAMPUS AND CITY LIFE

UDC is divided into two campuses, located in A Coruña and Ferrol. The small size, mild climate, seaside location and friendly atmosphere in both cities make it easy for new colleagues to find their way round and settle in well.



SUSTAINABILITY

UDC is a financially sound institution, with a proved track record in responsible financial and environmental resource management.

Areas and Disciplines

berce offers support to **all scientific disciplines** and **areas of specialization**, following the panel distribution of ERC Grants: Social Sciences and Humanities, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences and Engineering.

UDC is a multidisciplinary institution with a cross-curricular approach to learning and research. Just like any other university, however, **UDC** has cultivated a

particularly strong reputation in certain specializations, broadly reflected in the profile of its research centres and the degree programmes on offer.

UDC has developed the following areas into key research priorities, based on the emergent nature and academic projection of the work, and their strategic importance in relation to the current development plan for the University:

1 | Areas related to UDC Research Centres



CITIC

Centre for Information and Communications Technology Research

 citic-research.org



CITEEC

Centre for Building and Civil Engineering Technology

 www.udc.gal/citeec



CICA

Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (chemical and biological)

 cica.udc.es



CIT

Centre for Technological Research (industrial technology)

 udc.gal/cit

2 | Areas related to UDC Specialisation Campuses



CAMPUSINDUSTRIAL
Industrial Campus



CAMPUSINNOVA
Innova Campus



CAMPUSDASUSTENTABILIDADE
Sustainability Campus

3 | Areas related to University research institutes

The University has eight dedicated research institutes, covering areas in Health Sciences, Environmental Studies, Industrial and Applied Mathematics, among others. Get more information about the **research institutes here**.

4 | Areas related to Humanities and Social Sciences

ERC Grants

Within the Excellent Science Pillar of the Horizon 2020 programme, **ERC Grants** are specific funding schemes for proposals made by leading researchers from across the world, aimed at encouraging **innovation, creativity** and **excellence** in European research.

The growing international prestige of the **ERC Grants** system extends not only to researchers, but also to their host institutions. For **UDC**, the support and development of prospective **ERC** applications has become a key research priority.

The main goal of the **ERC** is to promote high-quality research in Europe through long-term competitive funding. **ERC Grants** support individual researchers of any nationality and age wishing to pursue frontier research in their field.



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission



Starting Grants (StG)

ERC Starting Grants aim to support up-and coming research leaders who are about to establish their own research team and start conducting independent research. The scheme is open to researchers with 2-7 years' experience since completion of their PhD.



Consolidator Grants (CoG)

ERC Consolidator Grants are designed to support research leaders who are consolidating their own independent research team or programme. The scheme is open to researchers of with 7-12 years' experience since completion of their PhD.



Advanced Grants (AdG)

ERC Advanced Grants are designed to support established independent research leaders with at least 10 years' experience and a proved track record of scientific achievement in their field. Research proposals should be ambitious, pioneering and unconventional.

Excellent Science +

While **ERC Grants** are an excellent way to promote pioneering new research in Europe, additional funding opportunities for researchers to take their projects to institutions like **UDC** are also available at a national and European level. **UDC** is committed to extending our support programme for the **ERC initiatives** to all funding schemes aimed at **promoting quality research** and **enhancing career opportunities** for research professionals.

UDC grant support services will also extend to applicants and grant holders on these alternative Excellent Science funding schemes, such as:

◆ Individual Fellowships (IF) awarded under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions scheme

◆ EURIAS Fellowship Programme

◆ Ramón y Cajal grant scheme

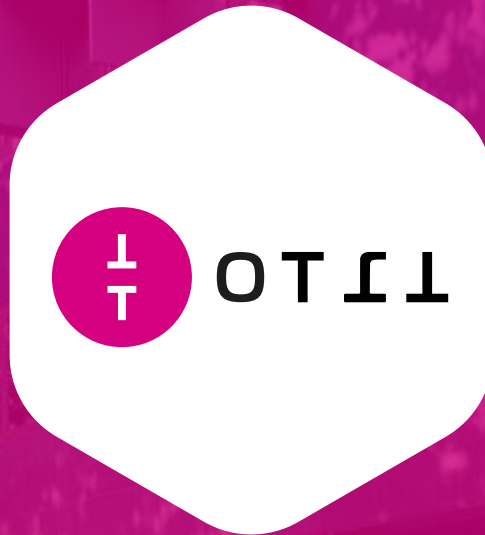
◆ Juan de la Cierva grant scheme

◆ Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competition grants for individual R&D projects:

▶ Explore Science and Explore Technology Projects

▶ Fully and part-funded R&D grants for young researchers

◆ Any other competitive funding scheme for which researchers interested in carrying out their projects at the UDC may be eligible



UDC Excellent Science Area & Technnology Transfer Office

Contact



WEBSITE

otri.udc.es



EMAIL

otri.cienciaexcelente@udc.es



PHONE

+34 981 167 173
+34 881 015 783



ADDRESS

Edificio dos Servizos Centrais de Investigación
Campus de Elviña s/n
15071 A Coruña (Spain)