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MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS
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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

2020 has found H.F.R.I. and its people, as well as the whole world, amid the pandemic. Despite all unfavorable circumstances, the Foundation proved equal to the occasion and continued its actions to fund main research. A strong point of H.F.R.I. is the constant periodicity of its actions. In 2020, new actions were also announced to fund projects by Faculty Members and Researchers as well as scholarships for PhD Candidates.

However, the necessity of the pandemic prompted H.F.R.I. to announce an action to address the economic and social consequences of the pandemic with a particular focus on production and medical technology. With this action, H.F.R.I. proves that it can meet the needs of society and that curiosity-driven research is a key pillar for the development of science serving humans and society.

2020 was the year when society's hope and doubt surrounded science. H.F.R.I. with its actions supported the research community because it is part of it. It is managed by scientists participating in the Scientific Council and the General Assembly of the Foundation and aiming to support high-quality scientific research. Again this year, its highly qualified staff tirelessly supported the researchers who submitted proposals, the evaluators and the members of the evaluation committees. With different roles, the entire research community participates in H.F.R.I.'s actions. Our strength is the support of the research community.

Unrestricted research, the research generated by scientific curiosity in the country's Universities and Research Centers, supports the development and progress of society. It lays the foundations for understanding and addressing both current and future challenges. H.F.R.I. is proud to contribute to the support of research and the people who serve it, which enables research work to continue to be generated throughout the country without any thematic restrictions.

Professor Xenia Chrysochoou

**The Chair of the Scientific Council
and acting Director of H.F.R.I.**

A. ACTIVITY REPORT

1. GENERAL

The Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.) continued in 2020 to support the academic and research community of Greece in terms of consistency and continuity, while developing its staff and equipment, with the ultimate goal of achieving its objectives and purposes in accordance with the following:

a. Its mission

H.F.R.I. was established in 2016 (Law 4429/2016) with the aim to promote Research and Innovation under the national strategy for Research and Innovation in order to support:

- **unrestricted research**, that is to say, research activities and technological applications resulting from the systematic research generated by scientific curiosity,
- the **country's scientific potential** (PhD candidates, Postdoctoral researchers and Faculty Members/Researchers) with a view to preventing the outflow of Greek scientists abroad,

having scientific quality and excellence as a unique criterion, without any thematic or geographical limitations.

b. Its strategic goals

Through its actions, H.F.R.I. aims to contribute to:

- Prevent phenomena of one-sided outflow of scientific potential abroad and employment mismatch in the country.
- Shape the conditions that will lead to the Knowledge Economy, the development and productive reconstruction of the country.

In order to achieve its goals, the Foundation shall use the following funding tools:

- Scholarships for PhD Candidates
- Research projects for Postdoctoral Researchers
- Research projects for Faculty Members and Researchers
- Procurement of high-value research equipment
- Actions for interconnecting Science and Society and Emblematic actions

The **main beneficiaries** of the Foundation's funding are:

- Universities located in Greece,
- Research and technological institutions of article 13a of Law 4310/2014 (OGG A' 258)
- University Research Institutes
- The Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)

Co-beneficiaries of funding may be companies, educational and research institutes as well as other public or private institutions in Greece.

c. Its values

- Excellence
- Scientific quality
- Meritocracy
- Transparency
- Consistency

d. Its administration scheme

H.F.R.I.’s administration scheme is a profound reform in public administration and in particular in the field of Research and Innovation in the country. For the first time, the research and academic community itself participates in the administration of a research funding institution, through its General Assembly, elects the members of the Scientific Council and can be a key factor in shaping the country’s research policy.

It should be noted that this administration model, apart from being innovative, first ensures the independence of the Institution.

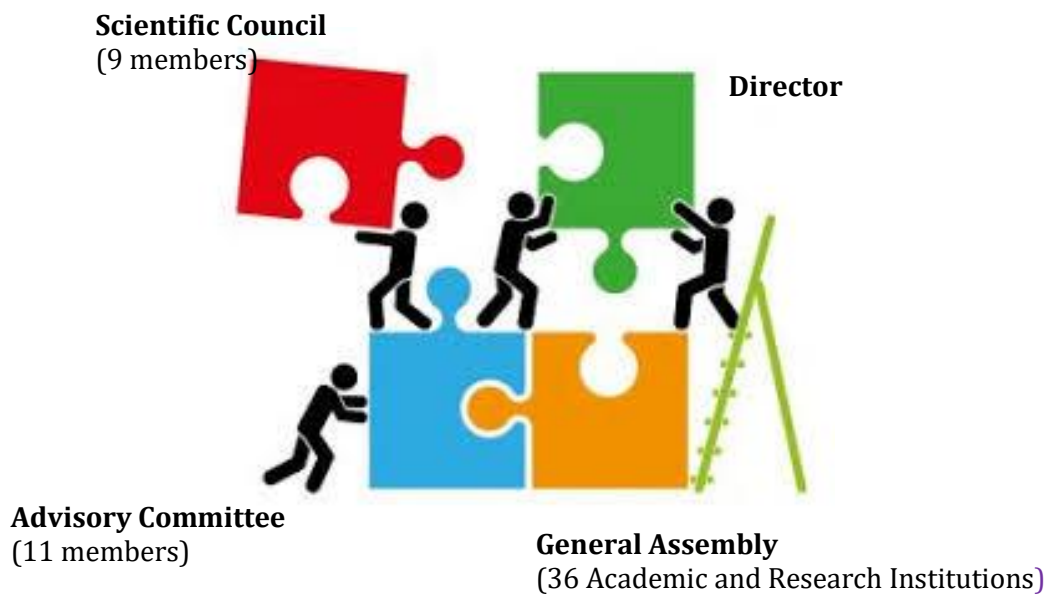


Figure 1. H.F.R.I.’s administrative bodies

e. Its institutional framework

H.F.R.I. is governed by:

1. The founding Law 4429/2016 (OGG A’ 199/21.10.2016) on the “Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation and other provisions”, as amended and in force.
2. The Internal Rules of Procedure: Joint decision No. 195245/2018 (OGG B’ 5252) issued by the Ministers of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, as well as Finance and Administrative Reconstruction on the “Internal Rules of Procedure of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.)”, as amended and in force.

3. The Ministerial Decisions of article 5 par. 1 of Law 4429/2016 on the allocation of the Foundation's resources by category of action and by scientific field, upon a suggestion from the Scientific Council.
4. The Agreement as of 15.07.2016 between the Hellenic Republic and the European Investment Bank.
5. The Technical Bulletin of the project 2016SAE01320007 titled "Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation", as amended and in force.
6. The Decisions of the Scientific Council regarding the Annual Operational Planning of H.F.R.I.'s actions.
(https://www.elidek.gr/new_epix_sxed/).

All the aforementioned (under items 1-5) is available on H.F.R.I.'s website.
<https://www.elidek.gr/thesmiko-plesio/>.

2. H.F.R.I.'s ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES

2.1. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly (GA) guarantees the Foundation's independence. The Higher Educational Institutions (AEI) and the Research Institutions (R.C.-I.) of the country are represented in the General Assembly based on criteria set by the National Council for Research and Innovation (NCRI). Renowned scientists with extensive research work and experience are elected as members of the GA.

The provisional General Assembly of H.F.R.I., in which representatives of a total of 36 institutions participated, was established by Decision No. 83/2017 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 39) of the Alternate Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, as amended by his Decision No. 169420/2017 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 512). The 1st General Assembly of H.F.R.I., in which representatives of a total of 37 institutions participated, was established by Decision No. 146206/2018 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 526) of the Alternate Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs and its composition was amended by Decisions No. 46497/2019 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 189) and 74464/2019 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 308) of the Alternate Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, increasing the number of its members to 39 and 40, respectively. Then, the composition of the 1st General Assembly was amended by Decisions No. 11989/2020 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 130), 84657/2020 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 624), 102543/2020 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 837) and 35626/2021 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 273) of the Deputy Minister for Development and Investments.

In the current 2nd General Assembly, which was established by Decision No. 101855/2021 (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Entities No. 801) of the Deputy Minister for Development and Investments, a total of 34 institutions are represented (<https://www.elidek.gr/organa-diikisis/geniki-synelefsi/>).

The term of office of the GA members shall be three years and may be renewed only once (1). The composition of the General Assembly shall be renewed in such a way as to ensure the continuity of its operation. In particular, at the time of the first establishment of the General Assembly, half of its members are appointed for a two-year term as a result of a draw held during the first meeting of the body.

Responsibilities of the General Assembly:

- Elects the members of the Scientific Council
- Approves partnerships and collaborations with other Bodies of the public and private sector in Greece or abroad for the achievement of H.F.R.I.'s objectives
- Submits proposals to the Scientific Council on issues related to the research activities of H.F.R.I.
- Approves the annual report (financial report and report on activities).

Within 2020, the General Assembly held **5 meetings** (3 ordinary and 2 extraordinary) and made 7 decisions on:

- The election of the Vice-Chairman of the General Assembly.
- The approval of 2019 annual report:
 - a) 2019 activity report.
 - b) H.F.R.I. project/program liquidity facility.
- The ratification of the election of a new full member of the Scientific Council for the field of "Medicine and Health Sciences".
- The creation of a "Distinguished Researcher Award" in memory of the late member of the Foundation's Advisory Committee, Dr. Theodore Papazoglou.
- The preparation and publication of a call for expression of interest to fill posts of nine (9) members of the Scientific Council of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation.
- The extension of the deadline for submission of applications in the framework of the call for expression of interest under Ref. No. 28817/12.10.2020 to fill posts of nine members of the Scientific Council of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation.
- The designation of a nine-member Appointments Committee for the evaluation of the candidates of the Scientific Council and the preparation of a list of candidates by sector and in order of evaluation, in the context of the call for expression of interest under Ref. No. 28817/12.10.2020 regarding the selection of nine full members of H.F.R.I.'s Scientific Council.

2.2. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Advisory Committee, which is independent of the other bodies of the Foundation, consists of eleven (11) members, who are distinguished internationally acclaimed scientists or come from

business and/or production agencies, domestic or foreign. The term of office of the members of the Advisory Committee shall be four years (<https://www.elidek.gr/organa-diikisis/symvouleftiki-epitropi/>). The Advisory Committee did not hold any meeting in 2020.

Responsibilities:

The Advisory Committee has a consultative role and is responsible for evaluating the action of the Foundation as well as formulating opinions and recommendations in order to optimize its operation. It examines issues of particular importance or issues of special interest in terms of the Foundation's operation and the funding of research and innovation. Issues shall be examined either at the request of the Minister or the Scientific Council or on a proposal by members of the Advisory Committee.

The meetings of the Foundation's Scientific Council may be attended by up to three (3) members of the Advisory Committee. These members are specified in the establishment decision of the Advisory Committee.

2.3. SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

The Scientific Council (SC) of the Foundation consists of nine (9) full members, internationally acclaimed scientists, coming from the following fields:

a) Physical Sciences, b) Engineering Sciences and Technology, c) Medicine and Health Sciences, d) Agricultural Sciences, e) Mathematics and Information Sciences, f) Social Sciences, g) Humanities, h) Environment and Energy and i) Innovative Entrepreneurship.

Individuals who have been distinguished for their international work and experience in the respective field above shall be elected as members of the SC. The term of office of the SC members shall be four years (<https://www.elidek.gr/organa-diikisis/epistimoniko-symvoulio/>).

Responsibilities of the Scientific Council:

- Ensures the achievement of the Foundation's goals, based on the national policy for research and innovation.
- Accepts donations and all types of funding.
- Establishes the judging committees and the objection committees for the evaluation of the proposals and the selection of the final beneficiaries and monitors their proper functioning in line with the principles of meritocracy and transparency. The members of the Scientific Council may not participate in these committees.
- Approves the Foundation's budget, upon the recommendation of the Director.
- Recommends to the General Assembly any collaborations and partnerships of the Foundation with public and private sector bodies, in Greece or abroad.
- Recommends the amendment of the Internal Rules of Procedure to the Minister.
- Approves the operation of the Foundation's services and offices in other cities of Greece, following recommendation given by the Director.
- The SC shall be responsible for any issue concerning the administration of the Foundation, which is not assigned to the General Assembly or to the Director.

Up to three (3) members of the Advisory Committee who are appointed by the decision establishing the Advisory Committee, as well as a representative of the General Secretariat for Research and Innovation, appointed by the supervising Minister, shall be eligible to attend the meetings of the Foundation's SC.

The Council held **24 meetings (11 ordinary and 13 extraordinary) in 2020** and adopted **195 decisions**, the most important of which pertain to issues such as:

Administrative Bodies:

- Selection of new temporary members of the Scientific Council ("Environment and Energy", "Life Sciences").
- Selection of Deputy Director of H.F.R.I. for Research issues.

Staff:

- Renewal of staff fixed-term private law employment contracts.
- Recognition of postgraduate and doctoral degrees of H.F.R.I.'s employees.
- Recognition of concurrent employment of H.F.R.I.'s employees under a fixed-term private law employment contract.
- Approval of change in salary brackets of staff under a fixed-term private law employment contract/open-term private law employment contract for the year 2020.
- Approval of publication of calls for expression of interest for temporary staff under a fixed-term private law dependent employment contract.
- Approval of five (5) selection practices for filling posts of temporary staff (7 recruitments) out of 86 applications submitted in total.
- Appointment of Heads of H.F.R.I.'s Departments.

Financial Department:

- Approval of the 2019 Financial Statements
- Approval of the 2020 budget and related amendments
- Approval of a detailed budget for 2021
- Approval of multi-annual commitments
- Approval to cover expenditure incurred by H.F.R.I. for the year 2020 by transferring the balance of the 2019 cash to 2020
- Reform of H.F.R.I.'s detailed budget for 2020
- Approval of the 2020 budget and related amendments
- Approval of the 2021 concise budget and related amendments
- Approval of a detailed budget for 2021
- Approval of multi-annual commitments and related amendments

- Audit Report of Certified Public Accountants (Financial Year 2019) and its communication to the General Assembly
- Approval of overtime employment for staff under a fixed-term private law employment contract
- H.F.R.I.'s Financial Management and related amendment
- Approval of the minutes of the Committee for the Conduct and Evaluation of the Summary Tender (Ref. No. 21957/13.02.2020), in particular minutes No2| Verification of award supporting documents - Appointment of final contractors
- Amendment of a decision by H.F.R.I.'s Scientific Council concerning the conduct of a tender for the procurement of software programs and licenses
- Extension of the contract No. 17/2019 for travel and accommodation services
- 2020 objectives in accordance with the Operational Plan and Financial Management
- Approval of remuneration for natural persons who do not belong to H.F.R.I.'s staff and who will conclude a contract for the provision of audit and certification/verification services of the physical and financial scope of the funded projects/scholarships, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Law 4412/2016, by virtue of the relevant decision by the Scientific Council
- Approval of the minutes as of 23.06.2020 of the Committee for the Conduct and Evaluation of the Summary Tender (Ref. No. 23278/09.03.2020), in particular minutes No3| Verification of award supporting documents - Appointment of final contractors
- Amendment of the Joint Ministerial Decision for the remuneration of H.F.R.I.'s evaluators and certifiers
- Notifying those who are liable to submit a declaration of assets
- Obligation to declare assets for independent experts who submit a non-binding preparatory evaluation to H.F.R.I.'s evaluation committees
- Appointment of persons responsible for communication and online registration of the situation of persons liable in the Integrated Information System "POTHEN"
- H.F.R.I. project/program liquidity facility
- 2nd budget reform for the financial year 2020
- Extension of the contract No. 20/2020 for the provision of services for the extension of the existing IT system of H.F.R.I. with two distinct subsystems
- H.F.R.I.'s accession to the special web application of the Bank of Greece via "DIAS Portal"
- Notifying evaluators and certifiers who are not Greek tax residents, nor have a Greek TIN, on the payment of compensation or remuneration to them
- Payment of remuneration to foreign evaluators and approval of relevant standard documents

- Conduct of a summary tender for the selection of a contractor for the preparation of technical studies and the provision of architectural design services regarding the development and upgrading of the ground floor/floor facilities and the surroundings of H.F.R.I.'s seat at 185 Syggrou and 2 Sardeon Street.

Department of Research Projects:

I. Approval of calls

- Approval of the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers”
- Approval of the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”-Emblematic Action-“Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic”
- Approval of the “3rd Call for H.F.R.I. Scholarships for PhD Candidates” and its amendment
- Approval of the 5th Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Always strive for excellence-Theodore Papazoglou”, co-funded by SNF and H.F.R.I.
- Approval of the “3rd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers”
- Approval of the Rules of Procedure of H.F.R.I.'s Thematic Evaluation Committees

- Amendment of the Action titled “Field research for data collection in Greece under the “9th wave“ of the European Social Survey” and renamed “Field research for data collection in Greece under the “10th wave“ of the European Social Survey and its inclusion in the database of this survey”.

II. Evaluation of proposals under H.F.R.I.'s calls

2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers

- Establishment and setting up of Thematic Committees to evaluate the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers” (Ref. No. 20741/08.01.2020) in the Scientific Areas: SA1. “Physical Sciences”, SA2. “Engineering Sciences and Technology”, SA3. “Life Sciences (Medicine and Health Sciences)”, SA4. “Agricultural Sciences – Food Science and Technology”, SA5. “Mathematics and Information Sciences”, SA6. “Social Sciences”, SA7. “Humanities and Arts”, SA8. “Environment and Energy”, SA9. “Management and Economics of Innovation”
- Appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers” in the Scientific Areas: SA1. “Physical Sciences”, SA2. “Engineering Sciences and Technology”, SA3. “Life Sciences (Medicine and Health Sciences)”, SA6. “Social Sciences”, SA7. “Humanities and Arts”, SA8. “Environment and Energy”
- Two (2) amendments of the decision under Ref. No. 25993/29.06.2020 of the 79th meeting of H.F.R.I.'s SC titled “Establishment and setting up of the Thematic Committee of Evaluators to evaluate the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers” (Ref. No. 20741/08.01.2020) in the Scientific Area SA2. “Engineering Sciences and Technology”

- Three (3) amendments of the decision under Ref. No. 27231/28.07.2020 of the 82nd meeting of H.F.R.I.'s SC titled "Establishment and setting up of the Thematic Committee of Evaluators to evaluate the proposals submitted under the "2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers" (Ref. No. 20741/08.01.2020) in the Scientific Area SA1. "Physical Sciences"
- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 27233/28.07.2020 of the 82nd meeting of H.F.R.I.'s SC, as in force, on the amendment of the setting up of the Thematic Committee of Experts in the Scientific Area SA5. "Mathematics and Information Sciences" under the "2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers" (Ref. No. 20741/08.01.2020)
- Three (3) amendments of the decision under Ref. No. 28354/25.09.2020 of the SC's 85th meeting concerning the appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the "2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers" in the Scientific Area "Engineering Sciences and Technology"
- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 25994/29.06.2020 of the 79th meeting of H.F.R.I.'s SC, as in force, titled "Establishment and setting up of the Thematic Committee of Evaluators to evaluate the proposals submitted under the "2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers" (Ref. No. 20741/08.01.2020) in the Scientific Area SA6. "Social Sciences"
- Five (5) amendments of the decision under Ref. No. 28965/15.10.2020 of the SC's 87th meeting concerning the appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the "2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers" in the Scientific Area "Social Sciences"
- Two (2) amendments of the decision under Ref. No. 27238/28.07.2020 of the SC's 82nd meeting concerning the appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the "2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers" in the Scientific Area "Humanities and Arts"
- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 31036/04.12.2020 of the SC's 91st meeting titled "Appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the "2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers" in the Scientific Area SA3. "Life Sciences (Medicine and Health Sciences)"
- Two (2) amendments of the decision under Ref. No. 28357/25.09.2020 of the 85th meeting of H.F.R.I.'s SC titled "Establishment and setting up of a Thematic Committee to evaluate the proposals submitted under the "2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers" in the Scientific Area SA8. "Environment and Energy"
- Setting up of an Objection Committee to submit and review objections to the results of the evaluation of the proposals submitted under the "2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers", Ref. No. 20741/08.01.2020, in the Scientific Areas: SA6. "Social Sciences", SA7. "Humanities and Arts" and SA9. "Management and Economics of Innovation"

- Setting up of an Objection Committee to submit and review objections related to the results of the evaluation of the proposals submitted in the Scientific Areas B. Engineering Sciences and Technology, E. Mathematics and Information Sciences and H. Environment and Energy under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers” (Ref. No. 20741/08.01.2020)

1st Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members & Researchers and Procure High-Value Research Equipment

- Appointment of a committee to review objections to the evaluation results of the Category III proposals submitted under the 2nd phase of the “1st Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members & Researchers and Procure High-Value Research Equipment”

4th Call for Action “Science and Society”-Emblematic Action-“Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic”

- Establishment and setting up of a Thematic Committee to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”-Emblematic Action-“Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” in the Research Sector “Medical Technology”
- Establishment and setting up of a Thematic Committee to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”- Emblematic Action – “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” (IUN: P5ΩT46M77Γ-5B9) for the Research Sectors “Society” and “Production”
- Appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”- Emblematic Action – “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” (IUN: P5ΩT46M77Γ-5B9) for the Research Sector “Medical Technology”
- Establishment and setting up of a Thematic Committee to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”- Emblematic Action – “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” (IUN: P5ΩT46M77Γ-5B9) for the Research Sector “Economy”
- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 27714/08.09.2020 of the 84th meeting of H.F.R.I.’s SC, as in force, titled “Establishment and setting up of a Thematic Committee to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”- Emblematic Action – “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” (IUN: P5ΩT46M77Γ-5B9) for the Research Sector “Society”
- Setting up of an Objection Committee to submit and review objections related to evaluation results of the proposals submitted under the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”- Emblematic Action – “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” (IUN: P5ΩT46M77Γ-5B9)
- Appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”- Emblematic Action – “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” in the Research Sector “Society”
- Two (2) amendments of the SC’s decision under Ref. No. 31037/04.12.2020 on the appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 4th

Call for Action “Science and Society”- Emblematic Action – “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” in the Research Sector “Society”

“2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” (2nd Phase)

- Setting up of an Objection Committee in the Scientific Areas “Social Sciences”, “Humanities and Arts” and “Management and Economics of Innovation” to review objections to the results of the 2nd evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” (Ref. No. 7121/20.11.2018, as in force)
- Appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Areas: SA1. “Physical Sciences”, SA2. “Engineering Sciences and Technology”, SA3. “Life Sciences (Medicine & Health Sciences)”, SA5. “Agricultural Sciences – Food Science & Technology” and SA8. “Environment and Energy” (2nd evaluation phase)
- Three (3) amendments of the decision under Ref. No. 14466/25.06.2019 of the SC’s 56th meeting titled “Establishment and setting up of a Thematic Committee to evaluate the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Area SA5. “Mathematics and Information Sciences”
- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 23641/18.03.2020 of the SC’s 75th meeting titled “Appointment of Independent Experts for the 2nd evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Area SA1. “Physical Sciences”
- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 23649/18.03.2020 of the SC’s 75th meeting titled “Appointment of Independent Experts for the 2nd evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Area “Agricultural Sciences – Food Science and Technology”
- Setting up of an Objection Committee to review objections to the decisions by the Thematic Committees for the 2nd evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers”, as in force, in the Scientific Areas: SA1. “Physical Sciences”, SA3. “Life Sciences (Medicine and Health Sciences)” and SA4. “Agricultural Sciences”
- 5th amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 14469/25.06.2019 of the 56th meeting of H.F.R.I.’s SC titled “Establishment and setting up of a Thematic Committee to evaluate the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Area SA8. “Environment and Energy”
- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 25122/25.05.2020 of the SC’s 78th meeting titled “Appointment of Independent Experts for the 2nd evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Area “Life Sciences (Medicine and Health Sciences)”
- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 26003/29.06.2020 of the SC’s 79th meeting titled “Appointment of Independent Experts for the 2nd evaluation phase of the

proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Area SA8. “Environment and Energy”

3rd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs”

- Appointment of committees to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 3rd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs”
- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 25121/25.05.2020 by H.F.R.I.’s SC on the: Establishment and setting up of a Committee to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 3rd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs” in the Thematic area 1 “Research & Innovation Hubs in Education”
- Appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 3rd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs” in the Thematic area 1 “Research & Innovation Hubs in Education”
- Two (2) amendments of the decision under Ref. No. 28961/15.10.2020 of the SC’s 87th meeting on the Appointment of Independent Experts to evaluate the proposals submitted under the 3rd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs” in the Thematic area 1 “Research & Innovation Hubs in Education”
- Setting up of an Objection Committee to submit and review objections to the evaluation results of the proposals submitted under the 3rd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs” (IUN: ΩΕΡΖ46Μ77Γ-21Π)

2nd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Bridging fund for notable Research Projects which were evaluated positively but were not funded by ERC”

- Amendment of the decision under Ref. No. 20375/19.12.2019 of the SC’s 70th meeting on the “Appointment of an Evaluation Committee for the 2nd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Bridging fund for notable Research Projects which were evaluated positively but were not funded by ERC”
- Appointment of an Objection Committee for objections submitted under the 2nd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Bridging fund for notable Research Projects which were evaluated positively but were not funded by ERC”

III. Issuance of Evaluation Results

“1st Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members & Researchers and Procure High-Value Research Equipment” (2nd phase)

- Approval of the announcement of final evaluation results and final ranking tables of the Category I and II proposals submitted under the 2nd phase of the “1st Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members & Researchers and Procure High-Value Research Equipment” in the Scientific Area “Environment and Energy”
- Approval of temporary results and ranking tables of the 2nd evaluation phase of the Category III proposals submitted under the “1st Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members & Researchers and Procure High-Value Research Equipment”
- Approval of the announcement of final evaluation results and ranking tables of the 2nd evaluation phase of the Category III proposals submitted under the “1st Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members & Researchers and Procure High-Value Research Equipment” (Ref. No. 452/01.12.2017)

“2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers”

1st phase

- Approval of temporary results and ranking tables of the 1st evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Areas: “Physical Sciences”, “Life Sciences”, “Agricultural Sciences - Food Science and Technology”, “Mathematics and Information Sciences” and “Environment and Energy”
- Approval of final results and ranking tables of the 1st evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Areas SA1. “Physical Sciences”, SA2. “Engineering Sciences and Technology”, SA3. “Life Sciences (Medicine and Health Sciences)”, SA4. “Agricultural Sciences - Food Science and Technology”, SA5. “Mathematics and Information Sciences” and SA8. “Environment and Energy”

2nd phase

- Approval of temporary results and ranking tables of the 2nd evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Areas: SA1. “Physical Sciences”, SA2. “Engineering Sciences and Technology”, SA3. “Life Sciences (Medicine and Health Sciences)”, SA4. “Agricultural Sciences – Food Science & Technology”, SA5. “Mathematics and Information Sciences”, SA6. “Social Sciences”, SA7. “Humanities and Arts”, SA8. “Environment and Energy” and SA9. “Management and Economics of Innovation”
- Approval of final results and ranking tables of the 2nd evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” in the Scientific Areas: SA1. “Physical Sciences”, SA2. “Engineering Sciences and Technology”, SA3. “Life Sciences (Medicine & Health Sciences)”, SA4. “Agricultural Sciences – Food Science & Technology”, SA5. “Mathematics and Information Sciences”, SA6. “Social Sciences”, SA7. “Humanities and Arts”, SA8. “Environment and Energy” and SA9. “Management and Economics of Innovation”

2nd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Bridging fund for notable Research Projects which were evaluated positively but were not funded by ERC”

- Approval of temporary results of the proposals submitted under the 2nd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Bridging fund for notable Research Projects which were evaluated positively but were not funded by ERC”
- Approval of final evaluation results and final ranking tables of the proposals submitted under the 2nd Call for Action “Science and Society” - “Always strive for excellence-Theodore Papazoglou”

3rd Call for Action “Science and Society”-“Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs”

- Approval of temporary results and temporary ranking tables of the proposals submitted under the 3rd Call for Action “Science and Society”-“Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs” (IUN: ΩΕΡΖ46Μ77Γ-21Π) in the Thematic areas 2 and 3

4th Call for Action “Science and Society”-Emblematic Action-“Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic”

- Approval of temporary results and temporary ranking tables of the proposals submitted under the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”- Emblematic Action – “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” (IUN: P5ΩT46M77Γ-5B9) in the Research Sectors “Production” and “Medical Technology”.

2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers (1st phase)

- Approval of the announcement of temporary results and temporary ranking table of the 1st evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers” in the Scientific Areas: SA2. “Engineering Sciences and Technology” and SA7. “Humanities and Arts”
- Approval of the announcement of updated temporary results and temporary ranking tables of the 1st evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers” in the Scientific Area: SA7. “Humanities and Arts”
- Approval of the announcement of final results and final ranking tables of the 1st evaluation phase of the proposals submitted under the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers” in the Scientific Area SA7. “Humanities and Arts”

IV. Allocation of budgets

- Allocation of budget of the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members and Researchers”
- Allocation of budget of the 4th Call for Action “Science and Society”-“Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic”
- Allocation of available budget of the “3rd Call for H.F.R.I. Scholarships for PhD Candidates”
- Allocation of budget of the 3rd Call for Action “Science and Society”-“Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs”

Other:

- 2020 Operational Planning of H.F.R.I.’s actions
- Change of seat of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation
- Amendment of H.F.R.I.’s Internal Rules of Procedure
- Annual planning of actions and resource allocation of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation for 2021 - Presentation of a proposal to the competent Deputy Minister of Development and Investments - 2019 Annual Report
- Acceptance of H.F.R.I.’s participation in the implementation team of the project “IntelComp”, under the European Framework Program for Research and Innovation “Horizon 2020”
- Recommendation to draw up a list of evaluators to whom a personalized invitation for participation/registration in H.F.R.I.’s register of certified evaluators-experts will be sent
- 2019 Annual Report.

2.4. DIRECTOR

The Director of the Foundation is an internationally acclaimed scientist with expertise, administrative experience and remarkable research activity. The Director shall be appointed by a decision of the competent Minister, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, for a four-year term, renewable only once.

If for any reason the Director is absent or is prevented from performing his/her duties, following a reasoned decision of the Scientific Council, his/her duties shall be performed by the Chairman of the SC or by one of its members.

The Director of the Foundation shall perform his/her duties under a full-time and exclusive employment (<https://www.elidek.gr/organa-diikisis/diefthyntis/>).

Responsibilities of the Director:

The Director implements the strategy of the Foundation that has been decided by the SC and has the following responsibilities:

1. Heads the services of the Foundation, is responsible for its smooth operation and is the authorizing officer of all its expenses.
2. Prepares and publishes the calls for actions funded by the Foundation, according to the annual action plan and the decisions of the SC.
3. Ensures that the Foundation's budget targets are achieved.
4. May request the convening of the GA and the SC in an extraordinary meeting, always through the Chairman of the respective collegiate body and participate without the right to vote in their meetings.
5. Prepares the annual report, which shall be submitted to the SC and then, for approval, to the GA.
6. Seeks funding sources for the Foundation.
7. Represents the Foundation in and out of court.
8. Issues the funding decisions, after the evaluation by the relevant committees.
9. Decides any extraordinary administrative and on-the-spot inspections of the actions funded by the Foundation and sets up the administrative and on-the-spot inspection bodies for the performance of these acts.
10. Recommends to the General Assembly and the Scientific Council any collaborations and partnerships of H.F.R.I. with public and private sector bodies, in Greece or abroad.

The Director may transfer the exercise of specific responsibilities in each case to an employee of the Foundation, as well as the right to sign by his/her order.

In 2020, the Director of H.F.R.I. signed 1268 documents, which include, but are not limited to, issues such as:

Staff:

- Renewal of staff fixed-term private law employment contracts.
- Certificate of employment of staff.
- Approval of publication of calls for expression of interest for temporary staff under a fixed-term private law dependent employment contract.

Financial Department:

- Travel request.
- Decisions on the award of expenditure.
- Decisions on the assumption of obligations.
- Decisions on travel.
- Revoking decisions on the assumption of obligations.
- Payment orders.
- Official notes.
- Primary requests.
- Information letters on the assumption decision.

Department of Research Projects:

- Calls under H.F.R.I.'s actions.
- Evaluation results of proposals/applications.
- Communication of results.
- Communication of decisions on objections.
- Funding decisions.
- Decisions on the grant of funding.
- Recommendations to the Scientific Council.

2.5. DEPUTY DIRECTORS

A. The Deputy Director for Administrative Affairs shall be responsible for H.F.R.I.'s administrative affairs and shall replace the Director in case he/she is absent or prevented from his/her duties.

In the decision under Ref. No. 9236/07.02.2019 by the Director of H.F.R.I. provision is made for the transfer of the right to sign "by Director's order" to the Deputy Director for H.F.R.I.'s administrative affairs any decisions, acts and documents relating to the following matters:

1. Communication with any type of public or private body, legal or natural person on administrative matters of the Foundation (written and oral questions, requests, answers, updates, clarifications, announcements, etc.).
2. Documents and oral questions to a Legal Adviser/Lawyer on administrative matters of the Foundation.

3. Transmission of documents by the Foundation to the Government Gazette.
4. Conclusion of project lease or dependent employment contracts with staff employed by the Foundation, any contracts, including renewals/amendments thereof, in accordance with the decisions of the SC and the Director.
5. Certificates of previous employment, professional status and employment of employees under any employment relationship within the Foundation and those collaborating with them.
6. Approval of all types of leaves, with the exception of those for educational reasons for all employees of the Foundation.
7. Signing certificates of overemployment, overtime employment of all employees of the Foundation.
8. Decisions to award expenditure of any kind (procurement, provision of services, etc.), signing contracts and amending them with any supplier up to EUR 5,000.00. 10344 GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, 2nd Issue 894/15.03.2019.
9. Drawing up and transmitting recommendations to the Scientific Council on administrative matters of the Foundation, by Director's order.
10. Transmission of decisions by the General Assembly, the Scientific Council and the Director concerning administrative affairs and documents of any kind to any public or private body, natural or legal person.
11. Approval of process guides and standard forms.
12. Findings on staff grading within the Foundation in accordance with the relevant decisions of the SC and the Director.

In 2020, the Deputy Director for research affairs managed and implemented the decisions taken by the Director, the SC and the GA and recommended to the Director and/or to the Scientific Council on:

- Institutional matters related to the general and specific legislative framework and the internal rules governing the Foundation.
- Matters relating to the implementation of the Agreement as of 15/07/2016 between the Hellenic Republic and EIB and the Foundation's funding.
- Matters of Financial Management (EIB-PIP) and implementation of its actions.
- The staffing, operation and organization of the Foundation.
- Administrative procedures, procedures for digitization and development of the Foundation's technological resources.

Finally, by decision under Ref. No. 1410/20.04.2018 of the SC's 18th meeting, the Deputy Director assumed the duties of the Administrative Director, which he/she carried out until 21.12.2020, when by decision under Ref. No. 31792/21.12.2020 of the SC's 94th meeting a new Administrative Director was appointed.

B. By decision under Ref. No. 19312/21.11.2019 of the SC's 68th meeting the publication of a call for expression of interest to fill the post of H.F.R.I.'s Deputy Director, responsible for Research Affairs, has been approved, as provided for in articles 9 par. 4 of Law 4429/2016 and 13 par. 4 of H.F.R.I.'s Internal Rules of Procedure, which was published on 20.01.2020. As the procedure proved unfruitful, by decision under Ref. No. 24628/27.04.2020 of the SC's 77th meeting it was decided to relaunch a call for expression of interest, which was published on 13.10.2020. This new procedure for selecting a Deputy Director has not been completed, because the posts of H.F.R.I.'s Deputy Directors were abolished by article 228 of Law 4782/2021 (A' 36).

3. H.F.R.I.'s SEAT



H.F.R.I. was hosted from 2017 to May 2020 in a building of the Hellenic Pasteur Institute. Since then, H.F.R.I.'s seat has been at Nea Smyrni in a building leased from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (EKPA) following an open process in accordance with the applicable provisions. Please note that the building has been adapted to the needs of the Foundation while the rent paid by H.F.R.I. is used by EKPA for the award of scholarships.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES

The existing human resources of H.F.R.I. amount to twenty five (25) employees under a fixed-term private law employment contract and two (2) employees on a posting.

Their recruitment was performed in accordance with the provisions of article 10 of Law 4429/2016, after an open process and evaluation.

H.F.R.I.'s personnel has high qualifications as well as vision and faith in the values and objectives of the Foundation and their remuneration is based on Law 4354/2015 (unified wage).

**H.F.R.I.'s FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT, DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH PROJECTS AND DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SUPPORT
(Updated on 31/12/2020)**

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR (1 PERSON UNDER A FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT)

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES			DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH PROJECTS			DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS			INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT			INDEPENDENT LEGAL OFFICE		
HEAD	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT	HEAD	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT	HEAD	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT	HEAD	1 PERSON	OPEN-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT	DPO / ADMINISTRATIVE & LEGAL SUPPORT	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT
PROTOCOL AND SECRETARIAL SUPPORT OF THE GA	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT	SECRETARIAL SUPPORT OF THE SC & THE DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH PROJECTS	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT	TECHNICAL SUPPORT OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT	PROCUREMENT	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT			

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT	CALL EVALUATION OF ACTIONS	5 PERSONS	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT				MANAGEMENT OF FINANCIAL PROJECTS	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT			
			MANAGEMENT PROJECTS	7 PERSONS	5 FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT 1 OPEN-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT 1 PERMANENT				PAYROLL TRAVEL	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT			
			LEGAL SUPPORT	1 PERSON	FIXED-TERM PRIVATE LAW EMPLOYMENT									

					CONTR ACT									
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Table 1: Breakdown of staff until 31.12.2020

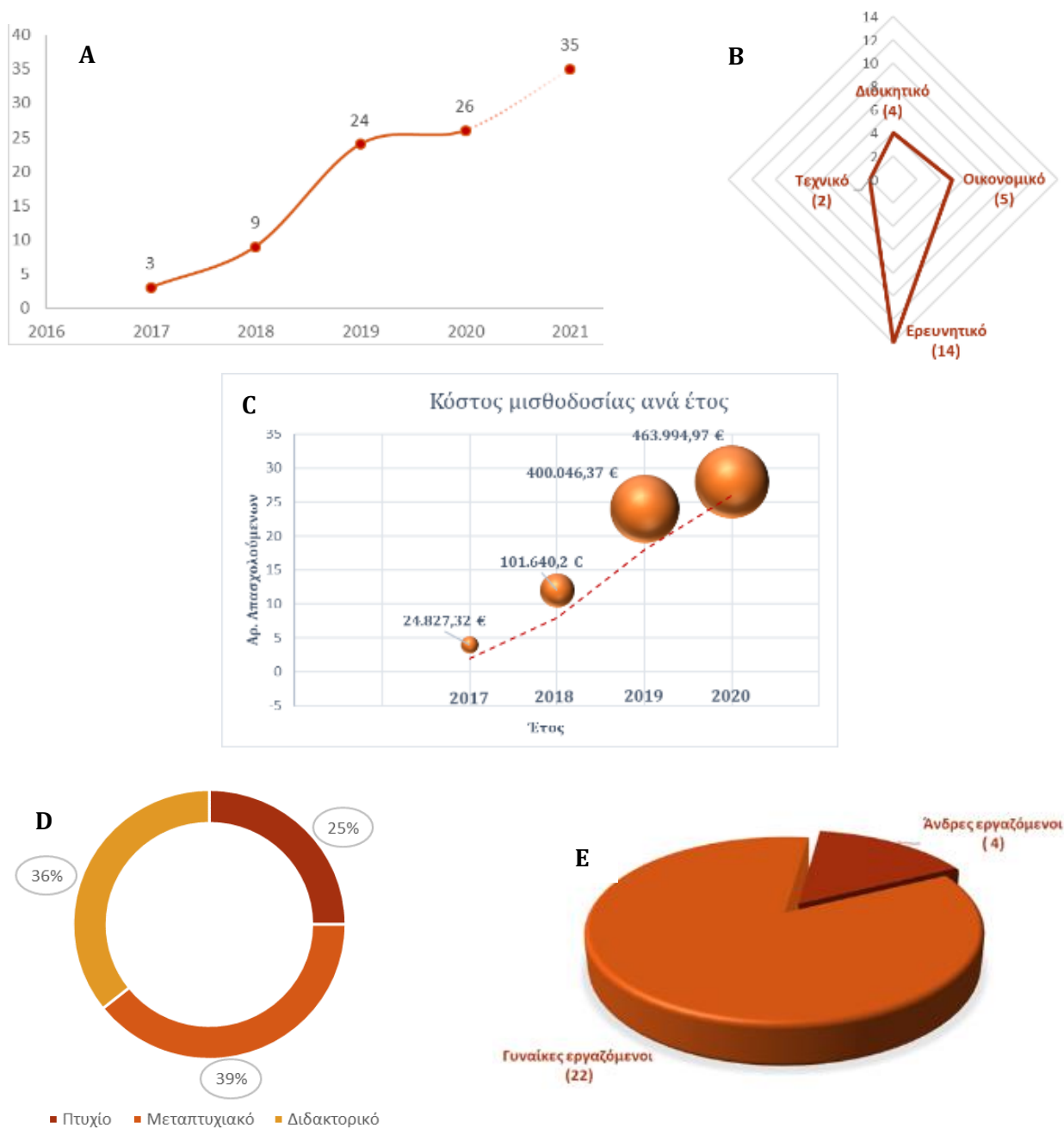


Figure 2. A. Number of persons employed by H.F.R.I., B. Staffing of the operating departments of H.F.R.I. (number of employees per Department), C. Payroll costs per year according to the number of employees, D. Level of education of employees, E. Ratio of male/female employees in H.F.R.I.

5. TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES - H.F.R.I.'S WEB PORTAL

In order to achieve the H.F.R.I. operational objectives for speed, reliability and transparency both during the submission of Proposals/Applications and the evaluation as well as the management of funded Projects/Scholarships, a specialized system has been developed and is constantly evolving, perfectly adapted to the needs of the Foundation.

Via <https://hfri.grnet.gr>, each user creates a single and unique code that accompanies them from the submission of the Proposal/Application to the management of the implementation of the Project/Doctoral Thesis, as well as for participation in the evaluation process.

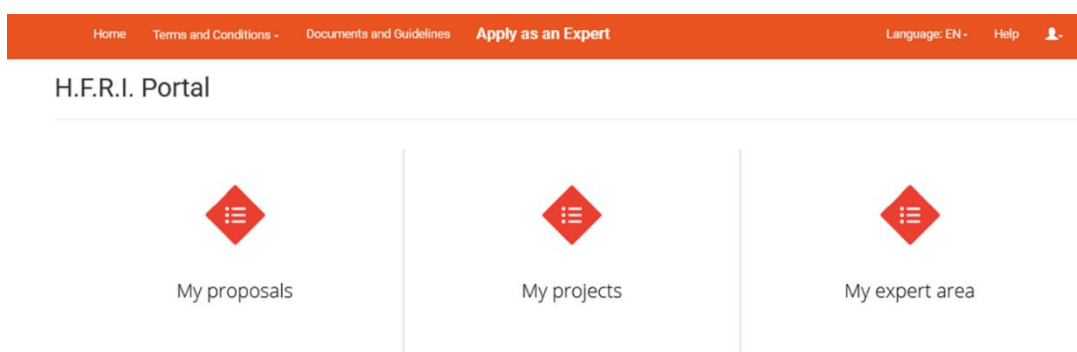


Figure 3. Main screen of processes available on H.F.R.I.'s Web Portal

The system provides the possibility of adapting to the terms and conditions of each Call by facilitating and at the same time guiding participants towards a full and eligible submission of a Proposal/Application (“**My proposals**”).

The funded projects and scholarships are managed through “**My Projects**” (Figure 4), where the Principal Investigators (will) have the opportunity to monitor their entire project and submit any requests for modifications, as well as the progress reports of their project/doctoral thesis. The system provides access also to the Special Accounts for Research Funds and the financial services of the Host Institutions, in order to facilitate the submission of the necessary supporting documents for the certification of expenditure.

Project ID	Acronym	Call	Scientific Area	Status	RefNo.
1		2nd Call - H.F.R.I. Research Projects for the support of Postdoctoral Researchers	ΕΠ2	Submitted	
		2nd Call - H.F.R.I. Research Projects for the support of Postdoctoral Researchers	ΕΠ7	Active	1/21.7.2020
		2nd Call - H.F.R.I. Research Projects for the support of Postdoctoral Researchers	ΕΠ3	Active	2/30.9.2020
		2nd Call - H.F.R.I. Research Projects for the support of Postdoctoral Researchers	ΕΠ7	Active	3-1/14.10.2020
		2nd Call - H.F.R.I. Research Projects for the support of Postdoctoral Researchers	ΕΠ7	Active	4-1/14.10.2020
		3η Προκήρυξη δράσης: Έρευνα και Καινοτομία - “Κύβια Έρευνας, Καινοτομίας και Διδρασης”	ΟΕ1	Evaluated	
		3η Προκήρυξη δράσης: Έρευνα και Καινοτομία - “Κύβια Έρευνας, Καινοτομίας και Διδρασης”	ΕΠ1	Funding Pending	
		3η Προκήρυξη δράσης: Έρευνα και Καινοτομία - “Κύβια Έρευνας, Καινοτομίας και Διδρασης”	ΟΕ3	Evaluated	
		3η Προκήρυξη δράσης: Έρευνα και Καινοτομία - “Κύβια Έρευνας, Καινοτομίας και Διδρασης”	ΟΕ1	Evaluated	
		3η Προκήρυξη δράσης: Έρευνα και Καινοτομία - “Κύβια Έρευνας, Καινοτομίας και Διδρασης”	ΟΕ1	Evaluated	

Figure 4. Management environment of projects/scholarships

At the same time, through “**My Expert Area**” each user can submit their data to enrol in the Register of Certified Evaluators/Experts of the H.F.R.I., as well as to participate as a member of the Evaluation Committee or Independent Expert. This evaluation subsystem provides significant possibilities in order to facilitate the work of evaluators, while at the same time it ensures the reliability of the process through restrictions and rights adapted to the role of each participant. Finally, it provides detailed guidance to ensure the quality of the evaluation.

The H.F.R.I.’s Web Portal is a constantly evolving system that acquires new possibilities to cover the needs arising through the evolution of the Foundation’s processes.

Within 2021, it is expected to expand the management subsystem of research projects and to design the system’s upgrade by adding new possibilities (possibility to identify users through taxisnet, addition of the “rapporteur” role in the evaluation system, control with regard to plagiarism issues, export of template documents, interconnection with the ORCID platform, addition of a strategy and administration system, user-friendliness for people with disabilities etc.).

Furthermore, within the first quarter of 2021, a System for Electronic Protocol, Electronic Document Management and Digital Signatures is expected to operate. The system, whose software has already been centrally installed in H.F.R.I.’s computers and networks, will cover the requirements of the Foundation holistically and universally in relation to all acts and actions concerning the receipt, management, creation, circulation, approval/signing and archiving of documents, as defined in the Public Agency Communication Code (PACC) and in the broader institutional and regulatory framework for the management and circulation of all types of documents by public bodies in Greece and the EU.

6. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The resources of the Foundation may be:

- All types of funding/grants from the Government Budget (regular and Public Investments Programme).
- Funding and all types of aid or grants coming from European Union bodies and institutions as well as other European or international organisations.
- Funding in line with the Agreement dated 15.07.2016 between the Hellenic Republic and the European Investment Bank; said funding is managed by the Foundation as a beneficiary, on behalf of the Hellenic Republic.
- Donations, aid, inheritances, legacies, grants, sponsorships and all types of contributions coming from natural or legal persons of the public or private sector in Greece or abroad.

The Foundation manages its resources through a special treasury management account kept in Bank of Greece, according to the provisions in force, the Agreement dated 15.07.2016 between the Hellenic Republic and the European Investment Bank and the H.F.R.I.’s Internal Rules of Operation. The funding that was granted based on the Agreement dated 15.07.2016 between the Hellenic Republic and the European Investment Bank is a loan income of the State Budget and an equal amount thereof has been registered in a Foundation-specific budget code of the Ministry of

Development and Investments, amounting to €180,000,000. The total amount of €180,000,000 has already been disbursed by the European Investment Bank, while the last €56,000,000 are expected to be provided to the H.F.R.I. within 2021.

Additionally, the H.F.R.I. has received funding amounting to €120,000,000 from the co-funded component of the Public Investments Program.

A donation from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation to the amount of €5,000,000 was approved within 2019 to be jointly used with the H.F.R.I. as a bridge-funding for researchers who have submitted research proposals to Calls made by the European Research Council (ERC), have been evaluated and rated A or B during the second phase, but have not been funded. The total budget for the action amounts to €10,000,000.



Figure 5: Amount and source of H.F.R.I.'s financial resources

7. DATA PROTECTION

The H.F.R.I. has started the compliance procedure with the Regulation (EU) No. 679/2016 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR), Law 4624/2019 on the “Personal Data Protection Authority, measures implementing the Regulation (EU) 2016/67” (OGG A'137) and Law 2472/1997 on the “Protection of an individual from the processing of Personal Data” (OGG A' 50), as applicable.

In the context of this compliance, the following activities have been conducted:

1. By Decision No. 20996/17.01.2020 of the H.F.R.I.'s Director, a Data Protection Officer (DPO) was appointed and her personal details were then communicated to the competent Data Protection Authority through notice, which was registered in the Authority's records under Ref. No. 430/20.01.2020, in accordance with the provisions of Law 4624/2019 and the Regulation (GDPR).
2. By Decision No. 23598/17.03.2020 of the H.F.R.I.'s Director, the Foundation's personal data protection policy was approved and the responsibilities described

therein were assigned to the Foundation's Data Protection Officer. Furthermore, by the same (above mentioned) decision, the information security policy was approved, while an officer responsible for H.F.R.I.'s Information Systems Management and Development as well as Information Security was appointed and assigned responsibilities, as described in the above-mentioned policy. This decision was communicated to the Foundation's employees and external partners and the above policies have been adopted by them.

3. The details (name and surname, telephone and e-mail address) of the H.F.R.I.'s Data Protection Officer were published in the official website of the Foundation.
4. A Personal Data Protection Policy was drafted with regard to personal data of Web Portal users and was published in the H.F.R.I.'s Web Portal to inform the users. Furthermore, the users' statement that they have read and accept the Data Protection Policy has been introduced as a necessary step for every user entering the Web Portal.
5. Terms and conditions for the use of H.F.R.I.'s Web Portal have been drafted and published in the web portal in order to be available to users. The users' statement that they have read and accept the terms and conditions for the use of H.F.R.I.'s Web Portal has been introduced as a necessary step for every user entering the web portal.
6. Template documents have been created for the exercise of the rights of data subjects. These documents are published in the official website of the Foundation.
7. A record for requests pertaining to the exercise of rights of data subjects was created and is kept by the Foundation's Data Protection Officer in a locked file accessed only by the DPO, which records: the data subject's name and surname, their capacity with regard to the Foundation, the receipt date of the request, the communication channel, through which the request was submitted, the Reference No. assigned to the request as incoming document, the identification date of the data subject, the deadline for the evaluation of the data subject's request by the H.F.R.I.'s Data Protection Officer, the request details, the date, on which the data subject was informed about the receipt of their request, the date, on which the H.F.R.I. issued a response to the request, the communication channel, through which the data subject prefers to be informed, the communication channel, through which the response was sent, remarks about the submitted request and justification, in case the request has been found to be exaggerated or unfounded.
8. Within 2020, the Data Protection Officer managed twenty-one (21) requests pertaining to the exercise of rights by data subjects, in accordance with the H.F.R.I.'s Data Protection Policy, which was approved by the Administration of the Foundation, and more specifically in accordance with the Procedure for the Fulfilment of Data Subject Rights. Fifteen (15) of the above requests referred to the erasure of data, while six (6) of them referred to personal data rectification. All fifteen (15) requests referring to personal data erasure were satisfied, some of them partially and some of them in full, depending on the capacity of the data subject and the Foundation's needs. All six (6) data rectification requests were satisfied in full.

9. The Data Protection Officer has created and keeps a record of data processing activities, according to the templates provided by the Greek Supervisory Authority (Hellenic Data Protection Authority).
10. A process has been developed to ensure that any data processed by the Foundation involves indeed the minimum amount of information required for processing purposes.
11. In order to collect consents from data subjects, relevant forms are prepared where applicable, through which the data subjects are informed about the purpose of personal data processing by the H.F.R.I., provide the requested data and consent to the processing. Before obtaining their consent, the H.F.R.I. informs the data subjects about all essential elements related to processing, namely about the identity and contact details of the Controller, the identity and contact details of the Data Protection Officer, the identity and contact details of third parties possibly involved in the processing, the purpose and the legal basis of the processing, the period for which the data will be stored, the intention of cross-border data transfer and their rights. Within 2020, four (4) consent forms were prepared and sent with regard to personal data processing, in the context of events and other promotion actions of the Foundation. Furthermore, a locked file, accessed by the Data Protection Officer, has been created. All consents that have been collected by data subjects are kept therein as a legal basis for various processing purposes.
12. A visitors record file has been created in H.F.R.I.'s headquarters. The file is kept by employees of the Administrative Services Department in electronic format and records the serial number for each visitor, the date of visit to the Foundation's main premises, the visitor's name and surname, the time of entrance and exit as well as the visitor card code, if provided during the visit.
13. A user's access policy to the Institution's information systems has been adopted according to the role-based access model. This applies to the H.F.R.I. Web Portal, the Institution's Information System for the electronic transmission of documents as well as H.F.R.I.'s Accounting-Financial and Management System and it means that users acquire access rights only when they are assigned a role within the systems by the administrators and their rights level depend on said role. H.F.R.I.'s staff and external partners use only those resources and applications, which are necessary for the execution of the works related to their role, depending on their duties and responsibilities, while the rights of use assigned to each user category are checked every 6 months, so as to ensure that only absolutely essential access rights (need to know) are granted to each role. Furthermore, it is possible to assign roles only for a limited period of time, while information systems are designed to allow the activation of multiple roles for a single user, if deemed necessary, as well as the modification of the rights and active roles a user may hold for the duration they are connected to the information system. In every information system of the Foundation there is an "Administrator of New Roles", who creates and manages access rights for each role.
14. The remote connection of users (governing bodies, employees and external partners) to information systems is accomplished in accordance with H.F.R.I.'s Policies for Data Protection and Information Security. More specifically, a VPN (virtual private

network) system is implemented, through which users can connect to the Foundation's information systems using proper access credentials, depending on the role assigned to them.

15. Following relevant instructions, the employees - users of the Foundation's electronic equipment and applications have adopted suitably composed passwords of adequate length, as a protective measure to strengthen information security.
16. Actions and data are recorded, so as to detect cases of violation or attempted violation of the security of information systems. The detailed control of every suspicious incident is recorded as well. A record of control data is kept for all systems supporting access of many users. The analysis files of the control data, actions and incident logs are protected and further analysed to be utilised in order to detect any possible violation attempt. The H.F.R.I.'s software and equipment are properly maintained and all failures and possible problems are recorded.
17. With regard to H.F.R.I.'s staff, prior to their appointment, the employees are informed about the responsibilities of their position in relation to personal data, as well as about the data protection policy and the security of the Foundation's information systems and networks. Furthermore, they are properly trained. Staff employment contracts include a confidentiality clause. When the employment relation is terminated, all access rights are removed and any physical or digital record, keys, entrance cards or any other equipment provided by the H.F.R.I. are returned by the exiting staff, while the access accounts are deactivated.
18. Attention is paid to control the entrance to workplaces of H.F.R.I. employees by applying a system that records the employees' entrance and exit through the use of cards, including a time stamp. Furthermore, there is a video surveillance system available in the entrance points of the building, namely in the main entrance of the ground floor, as well as the main entrances of the floors and the external parking spaces of the ground floor that belong to the Foundation. The system records persons entering and exiting the premises, using a time stamp. Lastly, an alarm system has been installed in the foundation in order to protect its premises. Labels bearing the H.F.R.I. logo have been placed on material equipment and a written permission is required to transfer equipment from the Foundation. A list with all information resources is kept and its accuracy is checked every 6 months. The inventory of recorded resources is taken annually.
19. A clause has been added to the Foundation's contracts with external partners, though which the latter ones commit themselves to the obligation of complying with H.F.R.I.'s Data Protection Policy, which they have been made aware of, as well as the obligation of reporting every incident of violation or attempted violation of personal data that comes to their attention to the Data Protection Officer and the duty to cooperate with the DPO in order to investigate the incident. The contracts include also a clause stipulating that any information transmitted to external partners or other persons or subcontractors performing tasks on behalf of external partners, during the implementation of the project or in relation to it, remains confidential. Lastly, the contracts with external partners include a clause concerning the physical access and the access rights of external partners to H.F.R.I.'s data and systems. After

the collaboration is terminated, any access and passwords provided to the external partner are deactivated.

20. The H.F.R.I. uses processors providing sufficient guarantees to implement appropriate technical and organisational measures.
21. With regard to the prevention, detection and elimination of fire, all necessary technical and organisational measures have been taken, namely fire detectors have been installed in every floor of the Foundation's headquarters and a firefighting system suitable for computers is available. The control panel has been installed in an easily accessible place and the use of devices, potentially able to cause a fire, has been limited to totally controlled spaces. Important Foundation equipment is supported by an Uninterruptible Power Supply device (UPS) and a sound alert function is activated in case of electricity supply interruptions.

Based on the policies approved, the Data Protection Officer ensures together with the Information Security Manager that appropriate technical and organizational measures are implemented and that all necessary actions are performed to achieve full compliance of the Foundation with applicable European and national legislation on data protection and information security. In this context, controls are carried out to ensure that staff, external partners and processors of the H.F.R.I. comply with the GDPR, the national legislation as well as the policies approved by the Foundation. Furthermore, the Foundation's compliance is monitored by applying a compliance plan and thoroughly recording any completed or pending actions in it.

8. H.F.R.I.'s ACTIONS: CALL - EVALUATION - FUNDING

8.1 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF ACTIONS

H.F.R.I.'s actions are implemented according to the general and special national institutional framework, the terms and conditions of the loan agreement dated 15.07.2016, the ministerial decisions, the Foundation's internal rules of operation as well as the decisions of the Scientific Council and the Director as follows:

1. According to article 47 of Law 4415/2016, EUR 18,000,000.00 were granted through a loan agreement, before the H.F.R.I. was established. The grant was managed by the General Secretariat for Research and Technology, based on the Decision No. 196096/I2/2016 of the Alternate Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs.
2. The decision No. 245/2017 (OGG B' 1066) of the Alternate Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs was issued on the "Annual planning of H.F.R.I. actions and resource allocation for 2017", as amended by the subsequent Decisions No. 223400/2017 and 77320/2018.
3. The decision No. 69615/2018 (OGG B' 1907) of the Alternate Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs was issued on the "Annual planning of H.F.R.I. actions and resource allocation for 2018".
4. The decision No. 2351/03.07.2018 of the SC was issued on the "2018 Operational Plan".

5. The decision No. 29898/2019 (OGG B' 809) of the Alternate Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs was issued on the "Annual planning of H.F.R.I. actions and resource allocation for 2019".
6. The decision No. 133182/2019 of the Deputy Minister of Development and Investments was issued on the "Annual planning of H.F.R.I. actions and resource allocation for 2020".

8.2 DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS

H.F.R.I.'s funding schemes are the following:

1. **Scholarships for PhD Candidates:** The action aims to support PhD Candidates in order to conduct high-level research in Greece. This action aims at funding PhD Candidates for the preparation of their doctoral thesis in Higher Educational Institutions (AEI) and Higher Military Educational Institutions (ASEI) in Greece and contributes to preventing the outflow of young scientists abroad. It is an action of excellence without any thematic and geographical limitations and is differentiated from the respective action of the State Scholarships Foundation (SSF), as it does not set any income criteria for their eligibility/funding.
2. **Research projects for Postdoctoral Researchers** The action is designed to support Postdoctoral Researchers in order to guide the implementation of a Research Project as Principal Investigators (PI) and to create their own Research Team. The ultimate goal of the action is to form new perspectives in the scientific and professional course of both the PR/PI and the members of the Research Team of the project, as well as to create appropriate conditions for utilizing the existing scientific potential of the country and attracting young scientists working abroad. While the other available financial tools (NSRF) either grant scholarships to postdoctoral researchers or support postdoctoral researchers as members of research teams, the H.F.R.I. funds research projects, in which the Postdoctoral Researcher is the PI of the project.
3. **Research projects for Faculty Members and Researchers** The aim of the action is to support Blue Sky Research and to fund selected research projects of high scientific quality in two categories, depending on the academic/research level of the PI. This action follows and complements the actions of H.F.R.I. to support PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers within the framework of providing support to newly appointed Faculty Members and Researchers in the early stages of their career. Furthermore, this action is part of the utilization of the country's scientific potential, aiming at keeping young scientists and attracting those working abroad. Moreover, the H.F.R.I. is differentiated from other National Funding Institutions (GSRI, MIA-RTDI) in terms of the type of research funded, as it supports the **Blue Sky Research** without geographical limitations (without regionality criteria) and in all research fields, including important scientific areas, such as Social Sciences and Humanities, which have been on the margins for years without the possibility of funding.
4. **Procurement of high-value research equipment:** This action aims to procure research equipment of high value and strategic importance, in the context of the effort to support research activity in the country. The action is implemented in Higher Educational Institutions (AEI), University Research Institutes (URI) and Research Centres-Institutes of the country called Host Institutions (HI), by

strengthening or expanding their existing research structures. It should be noted that the main condition of funding is to ensure the provision of open access to the use of equipment, thereby strengthening the wider academic and research community, in addition to the beneficiaries. In *Annex I*, the infrastructure funded under the 1st relevant call shall be indicated.

5. **Science and Society Action – Emblematic Actions:** The aim of the action is to implement emblematic actions, through which the interconnection of science and society is sought, namely the dissemination of scientific knowledge in the wider society as well as the development of a broader research culture. More specifically, the following calls have been made under this Action:

“200 years from the Greek Revolution”

The cycle of H.F.R.I. actions on “Science and Society” was inaugurated with the Call “200 Years from the Greek Revolution”, aimed at funding the public promotion of research projects or actions of high scientific and/or artistic quality, which highlight various aspects of the Greek Revolution of 1821 with innovative approaches, such as the impact it had on the formation and evolution of the economy, society, culture and politics in the Greek state and/or the European dimension of the event. The completion of the 10 funded projects covering a wide range of issues related to the Greek Revolution of 1821 is expected to be achieved within 2021, a landmark year for our country, as it is the 200th anniversary of the Greek Revolution, whose importance has been crucial for Greek and European history.

“ALWAYS STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE – THEODORE PAPAZOGLU”

The action aims at supporting the research effort of Greek Researchers, who were positively evaluated by the ERC but did not receive funding due to budget exhaustion, in order to be able to continue their research work and resubmit their research proposal (or a newer version thereof) in a subsequent ERC call. The action is co-funded by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. Under this Action, **five (5) projects** have been funded so far and the evaluation process of **two (2) more projects**, which have been graded with A during the 2nd evaluation Phase in ERC Actions, is underway. Proposals for the Action are submitted twice a year until the budget is exhausted. It should be noted that a request has been forwarded by the SC of the H.F.R.I. to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, regarding the possibility of funding the overall research proposal, as it was submitted to the ERC and graded with A.

Field research for data collection in Greece under the “10th wave” of the European Social Survey

The main aim of the Call was to fund research projects, whose purpose was to conduct the 10th wave of the European Social Survey-ESS, to make available and disseminate the scientific findings that will arise in the scientific community for secondary analysis, as well as to implement all preparatory actions required for the launch and completion of this European Social Survey. The research project selected for funding mainly concerns the depiction of attitudes, perceptions and behaviours of Greek male and female citizens towards a series of critical social, political and cultural issues and is expected to be completed this year (2021), bringing significant benefits both to the academic community and to non-academic institutions, governmental and non-governmental. **It is the first**

time since 2008 that Greece has participated in the collection of these very important data for the Social Survey.

“Research, Innovation and Dissemination Hubs”

The aim of the action was to interconnect scientific research and society and to widely disseminate scientific knowledge to society in three thematic areas: Thematic area 1 “Research and Innovation Hubs in Education”, Thematic area 2 “Research Dissemination Hubs” and Thematic area 3 “Circular and Social Economy Hubs”. The funding of selected projects by the H.F.R.I. is expected to have a strong social impact, since through the implementation of projects, the immediate beneficiaries as well as the wider society will participate in scientific knowledge and at the same time form a broader research culture.

More specifically, the projects to be funded will benefit in particular pupils of Primary and Secondary education in schools that extend across a wide geographical range and/or concern remote areas of Greece with limited access to/participation in educational activities related to the dissemination of science in the wider society (see border areas). Also, for the first time, funding is provided to projects which involve the dissemination/promotion of research projects/actions related to either the circular or social economy in the wider society, to specific social groups (e.g. to pupils of Primary and Secondary Education, young scientists, socially vulnerable groups) and/or to remote geographical areas through innovative, original approaches.

“Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic”

The aim of the emblematic action “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” was to contribute to addressing the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and to developing economically viable technologies that will help address these problems.

The funding of proposals in four (4) Research Sectors (Economy, Society, Production and Medical Technology) is a practical and substantial contribution of the H.F.R.I. to address the economic and social effects of the unprecedented conditions caused by the pandemic. Therefore, the impact of funded projects is expected to be rather positive.

It is worth noting that the Agreement of 15.07.2016 between the Hellenic Republic and the European Investment Bank describes in detail the eligible actions/expenditures, which can be funded by the Foundation. These actions refer exclusively to research projects and programs and therefore it is not possible to fund actions aimed at the promotion of innovation at a practical level or at the Foundation’s financial contribution to entrepreneurship-related activities.

Within this framework, the H.F.R.I. included Innovation in the fields of research funded, as a scientific area in the scope of analysis, organisation, management and promotion of Innovation.

In various Calls, and particularly those for Faculty Members and Researchers, several proposals were submitted in this field. Moreover, the Emblematic Actions “Research, Innovation & Dissemination Hubs” and “Interventions to address the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic” relate largely to innovation.

8.3 BUDGET ALLOCATION BY ACTION/CALL AND BY SCIENTIFIC/THEMATIC AREA – RESEARCH SECTOR

The allocation of H.F.R.I.'s total budget by Action/Call is carried out in accordance with the terms of the loan agreement with the European Investment Bank, the Technical Bulletin, the Ministerial Decisions and the decisions of the Scientific Council, as presented in *Figure 6* below:

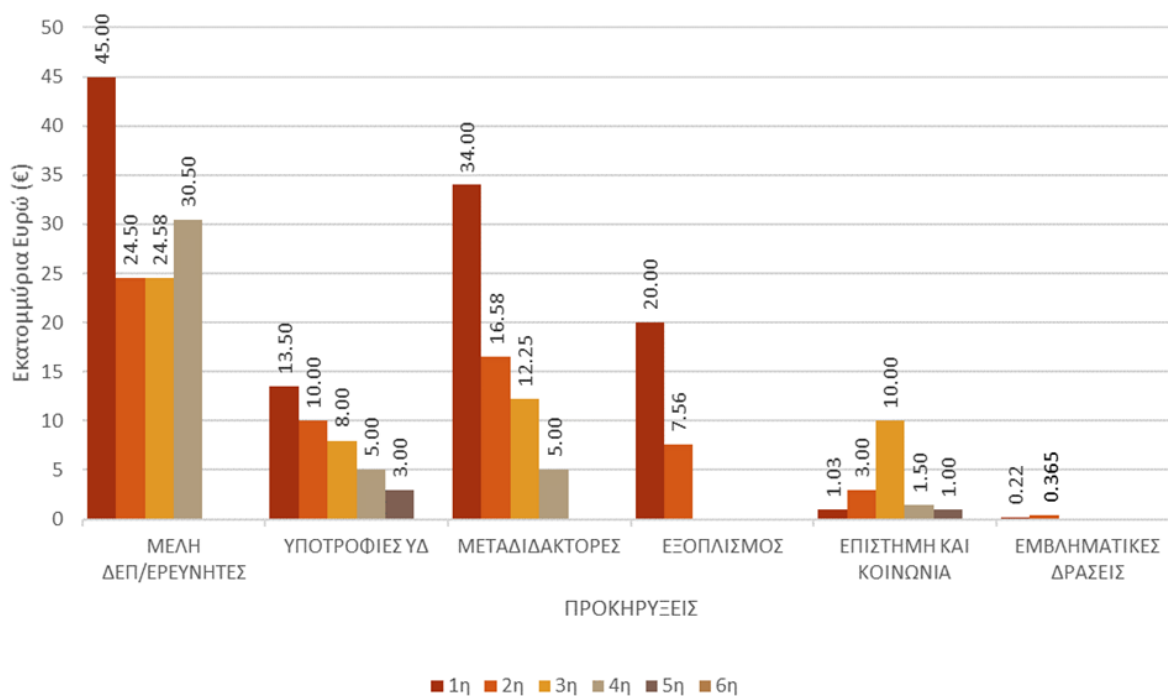


Figure 6: Budget allocation to the different Calls for H.F.R.I.'s Actions

The allocation of the budget of each Call by Scientific/Thematic Area or Research Sector and/or category of proposal is made by decision of the Scientific Council, after the submission end-date, according to the ratio of the number of proposals/applications submitted in the respective Area/Sector to the number of the overall proposals/applications submitted.

8.4 RANGE OF CALLS

According to Annex A.1 of the loan agreement, the Foundation's total budget is divided into four (4) main categories as follows:

1. funding of basic research for Faculty Members and Researchers (minimum 38% of the total budget);
2. scholarships for PhD candidates and support for postdoctoral researchers (minimum 38% of the total budget);
3. procurement of high-value research equipment (up to 16% of the total budget) and
4. Special Program "Science and Society" for the dissemination of research (up to 8% of the total budget).

The above allocation shall be specifically implemented by annual decisions of the supervising Minister upon suggestion of the H.F.R.I.'s Scientific Council.

In this sense and as defined in the agreement with the European Investment Bank, the H.F.R.I. follows a bottom-up approach, however combined with a top-down strategy. Its actions cover the entire range of basic research without thematic, geographical or other limitations, but are specialized and adapted to the needs of the Greek research ecosystem through Emblematic Actions.

In the context of this strategy, the preservation and extension of the “Science and Society” Action and of the Emblematic Actions is important, as they have a broad impact.

8.5 PERIODICITY OF CALLS

The Calls for Actions to support basic research follow a periodicity of **18 months per Action** on average, while Emblematic Actions and the “Science and Society” Action are announced more frequently, as detailed in *Table 2* below:

ACTION	1st	2nd	3rd	4th*	5th*	6th*
Faculty Members & Researchers	Dec. 2017	Jan. 2020	Feb. 2022	Feb. 2024		
Scholarships for PhD candidates	Oct. 2016	Apr. 2018	Sept. 2020	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2022	
Postdoctoral researchers	Jan. 2017	Nov. 2018	Dec. 2020	Dec. 2022		
Procurement of equipment	Dec. 2017	May 2022				
Science and Society – Emblematic Actions	Nov. 2019	Jul. 2019	Oct. 2019	May 2020	Mar. 2021	Oct. 2023
Emblematic Actions (funded by returns on capitals)	Jun. 2019	Apr. 2021				

Table 2: Periodicity of H.F.R.I. calls

**Future Actions as pre-published in the Foundation's Operational Planning.*

8.6 H.F.R.I.'S REGISTER OF CERTIFIED EVALUATORS/EXPERTS

According to par. 11 a, b of article 5 of Law 4429/2016, in order to evaluate proposals, examine objections and certify funded actions of the Foundation, a Register of Certified Evaluators – Experts shall be established, consisting of acclaimed scientists. The independent experts and the

members of the committees of experts and objections as well as the certifiers are drawn from this Register.

The determination of formal and essential qualifications and the certification of Register members of paragraph 6 is carried out by a five-member committee, formed by decision of the Minister, which consists of three (3) Advisory Committee members and two (2) Scientific Council members of the Foundation.

With the aim of expanding H.F.R.I.'s Register of Certified Evaluators – Experts and its composition from distinguished scientists in Greece and abroad, an open call is underway, which has been communicated to all Academic and Research institutions in Greece, as well as to Universities and Research Institutes abroad, through the Foundation's website and social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, YouTube, twitter) and by sending e-mails to members of previous H.F.R.I. evaluation committees and independent experts.

Registration is made through H.F.R.I.'s Web Portal (<https://hfri.grnet.gr>). All necessary information regarding the registration is provided on the Web Portal (<https://hfri.grnet.gr/RegistrationArea/ArticleCategories>). Figure 7 below shows the main screen of the application submission platform for participation in the Register.

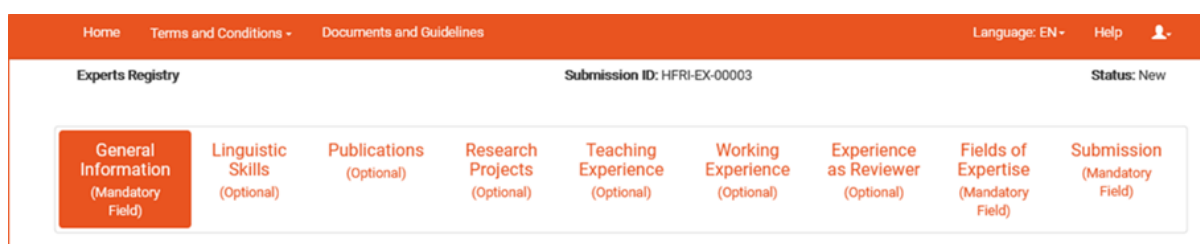


Figure 7: Illustration of the submission platform to H.F.R.I.'s Register of Evaluators/Experts.

8.7 EVALUATION: PROCESS-CRITERIA

8.7.1 APPOINTMENT OF EVALUATION COMMITTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXPERTS

According to par. 6 of article 5 of Law 4429/2016, as amended and in force, the Proposals/Applications submitted under H.F.R.I. Calls are evaluated by evaluation committees, which are appointed by the Scientific Council and consist of five (5) to twenty (20) members who are renowned scientists in Greece or abroad, in the respective Scientific Field and who come from either H.F.R.I.'s Register of Certified Evaluators/Experts or the register of par. 11 a, b of article 5 of Law 4429/2016.

The members of the Evaluation Committees are appointed by the Scientific Council of the Foundation based on their scientific expertise and in particular its relevance to the scientific field of the proposals/applications under evaluation. Particular importance is paid to the selection of Chairs of the Evaluation Committees, who are also responsible for the coordination of work, the organization of committee meetings and the validation of the minutes of meetings.

The Evaluation Committees may be assisted in their work by independent experts, who also come from the two registers mentioned above, are appointed by the Scientific Council and are selected

based on their scientific expertise and relevance to the scientific field of the proposals/applications to be evaluated (upon the recommendation of the Thematic Advisory Committee of article 8, if applicable¹). If expert scientists required for a specific evaluation are not available or the existing ones do not meet the needs of the evaluation in question, expert scientists, not included in the Register of Certified Evaluators, who are foreign tax residents, may be designated as members, pursuant to a decision by the Scientific Council.

The Evaluation Committees and Independent Experts are assisted in their work by employees of the Department of Research Projects. It should be noted that the Scientific Council oversees the proper functioning of the Evaluation Committees and in general the entire evaluation process ensuring reliability and transparency.

In order to ensure the transparency and reliability of the process, all evaluators (members of the committees and independent experts) sign a solemn declaration of confidentiality and non-conflict of interest, so as to avoid any case/situation that may affect the impartiality of the evaluators and/or the quality of the evaluation.

The members of the Evaluation Committees are briefed by the Department of Research Projects on the [Rules of Operation of the Evaluation Committees](#), their responsibilities and liabilities, the evaluation process as well as the evaluation criteria and how to grade them. For this reason, in addition to the documents available on the website and the web portal of H.F.R.I., the evaluation process for each Evaluation Committee begins with an informative meeting, where all the above issues are analysed in detail by the personnel of the Department of Research Projects. Furthermore, throughout the evaluation, the employees of the Department of Research Projects in charge are in constant touch with the evaluators and they brief them continuously, so that the latter ones are adequately assisted in their work and avoid cases that may harm the quality and reliability of the evaluation.

Similarly, independent experts are informed in private by the competent personnel and have at their disposal first of all the documents of the Call and the Rules of Operation and, secondly, an information document on the procedure and criteria, as well as guidance on the evaluation of proposals/applications under the Call, for which they have been appointed.

8.7.2 EVALUATION COMMITTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXPERTS IN ACTIONS

Under the eight (8) Calls mentioned in *Table 3* below, which were published and evaluated by the H.F.R.I., a total of 6,554 proposals/applications were submitted. In the context of the evaluation process of these proposals/applications, a total of 289 committee meetings (Evaluation and Objections) took place and 1,489 renowned scientists from Greece and abroad participated either as members of the committees or as independent experts.

Table 4 below sets out, in detail for each action, data concerning the number of committee members and experts, as well as their sex and academic *affiliation*.

¹The Thematic Advisory Committees (THACs) are consultative, assist the SC and contribute to the formation of scientific priorities especially during the evaluation process (par. 13, article 8, Law 4429/2016, as in force). Following the appointment of Sectorial Scientific Councils (SSCs), the establishment of the new THACs is pending.

For example, it is noted that among the members of the Committees, 24% were women and 11% were foreign scientists, while among the external experts involved in the evaluation process, 22% were women and 30% were renowned foreign scientists. It is underlined that due to their targeting at some actions (e.g. scholarships for PhD candidates, 1821, Hubs and 10th wave) the proposals/applications are submitted in Greek only; so, the ones who spoke Greek could only become evaluators.

The appointment decisions for H.F.R.I. Committees are published on the website Diavgeia upon the completion of the evaluation process and are also available in the H.F.R.I. website: <https://www.elidek.gr/diadikasia-axiologisis/>

COMMITTEE MEMBERS						
S/N	CALL	No. OF PROPOSALS/ APPLICATIONS	MEN	WOMEN	FROM ABROAD	TOTAL
1	1st FM	3,179	319	86	87	405
2	1821	79	11	4	0	15
3	2nd PhDc	1,327	131	42	4	173
4	2nd PDR	1,162	107	41	7	148
5	10th Wave	1	2	3	0	5
6	1st ERC	8	10	2	0	12
7	Hubs	582	39	13	0	52
8	COVID	216	29	11	7	40
Totals		6,554	648	202	105	850

Table 3: Number of Evaluators (Committee members) in various Calls.

INDEPENDENT EXPERTS						
S/N	CALL	No. OF PROPOSALS/ APPLICATIONS	MEN	WOMEN	FOREIGNERS	TOTAL
1	1st FM	3,179	354	72	166	426
2	1821	79	14	8	0	22
3	2nd PhDc	1,327	26	20	0	46
4	2nd PDR	1,162	91	25	28	116
5	10th Wave	1	0	0	0	0
6	1st ERC	8	0	0	0	0

7	Hubs	582	8	5	0	13
8	COVID	216	5	11	0	16
Totals		6,554	498	141	194	639

Table 4: Evaluators (Independent Experts) per Call.

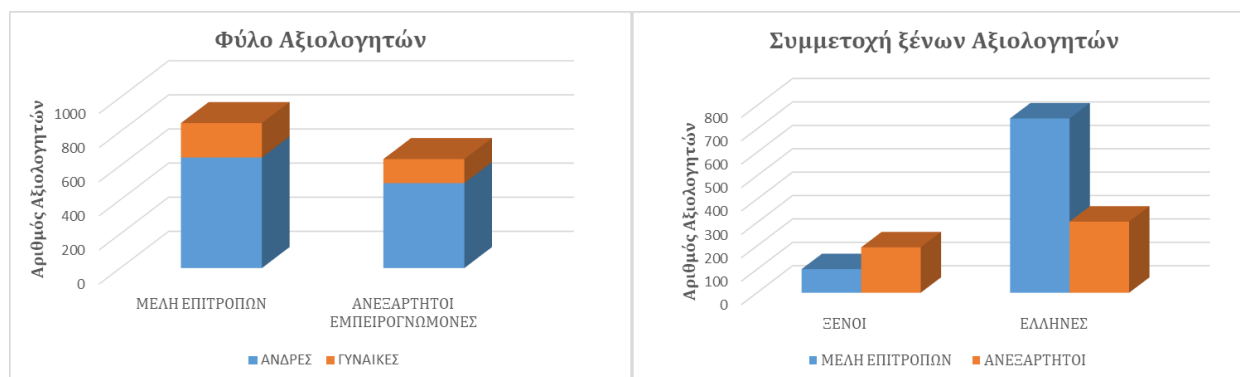


Figure 8: Number of evaluators (Committee Members and Independent Experts) **A.** Number of female and male evaluators who participated in the eight (8) Calls, for which the evaluation process has been completed. **B.** Number of Greek and foreign evaluators who participated in the evaluation (data do not concern Calls, in which applications/proposals were submitted exclusively in Greek).

8.8 MONITORING OF FUNDED PROJECTS

The process of monitoring/management of funded projects involves implementing measures to facilitate research work and at the same time ensuring the qualitative implementation of Projects through effective tools and procedures.

The H.F.R.I. publishes Management – Implementation Guides of the funded Projects/Scholarships, which describe in detail the terms and conditions for the payment of funding, audit and certification of expenditure and in general the monitoring of the implementation of the funded research projects and scholarships under each Call. In addition, the H.F.R.I. plans and organizes workshops informing the beneficiary PIs as well as the financial services of Host Institutions. More specifically, in the context of managing the “1st Call of H.F.R.I. Research Projects for Faculty Members and Researchers”, a workshop took place on 5th March 2020, where a significant number of PIs, as well as representatives of the Special Accounts for Research Funds and financial services of Host Institutions participated with their physical presence, while at the same time there was the possibility for remote attendance and submission of queries.

The progress and results of the projects are monitored and evaluated by the H.F.R.I. through the submission of progress reports, the implementation of a scientific evaluation (verification) process regarding the progress of projects and the conduct of check visits to areas where the research is carried out (onsite checks). For the submission of progress reports on both the physical and financial scope of the project, standard documents appropriately adapted to each action are available to the beneficiaries. Correspondingly, certification reporting standards are available for both the physical and financial scope of the projects/scholarships.

The quality of the implementation and results of a project is judged by experts specializing in its scope.

The experts who carry out project certifications are selected from the Register of Certified Evaluators-Experts and are different from the ones used for the purpose of evaluation at the stage of the Proposals' selection. These experts (shall be) are informed accordingly along with the evaluators for the certification process and the evaluation of the results of the projects/deliverables based on the initial targeting of each Call and submit a relevant certification report (Annex III) to the H.F.R.I..

For the monitoring of Funded Projects/Scholarships by the H.F.R.I., a hybrid system, including the preservation of both physical and electronic files, is being followed for the time being and until all subsystems of the H.F.R.I. Web Portal are completed. The aim is to achieve full exemption from the need to use and preserve physical copies and documents and the Foundation's Web Portal is designed towards this direction.

Table 5 below includes data for the eight (8) actions, which were at the funding/implementation stage within 2020:

S/N	CALL	No. of PROJECTS	STAGE	START OF THE 1ST PROJECT	AVERAGE DURATION OF PROJECTS (MONTHS)
1	1st FM	278	Implementation/ Monitoring	16.11.2019	33
2	1821	10	Implementation/ Monitoring	13.12.2019	30
3	2nd PhDc	356	Implementation/ Monitoring	26.09.2019	30
4	2nd PDR	100*	Implementation/ Monitoring	27.10.2020	34
5	10th Wave	1	Implementation/ Monitoring	02.12.2019	27
6	1st ERC	5	Implementation/ Monitoring	18.11.2020	24

Table 5: Stage and number of funded projects per Call.

9. FUNDING OF H.F.R.I. ACTIONS

9.1. FINANCIAL DATA OF ACTIONS

A. INFLOWS

INFLOW REPORT FOR THE YEARS 2016-2020				
YEARS	EIB PAYMENTS	PIP PAYMENTS	PAYMENTS UNDER SNF DONATION	TOTAL INFLOWS
2016	-	60,000,000.	-	60,000,000.
2017	18,000,000.	-	-	18,000,000.
2018	36,000,000.	60,000,000.	-	96,000,000.
2019	36,000,000.	-	-	36,000,000.
2020	36,000,000.	-	-	36,000,000.

B. OUTFLOWS

OUTFLOWS OF FUNDED PROJECTS PER FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE YEARS 2016-2020			
YEARS	EIB PROJECT PAYMENTS	PIP PROJECT PAYMENTS	SNF PROJECT PAYMENTS
2016	17,500,000.00	-	-
2017	-	20,000,000.00.	-
2018	-	-	-
2019	-	23,245,066.92.	-
2020	-	24,786,083.58	359,532.00

Table 6 below presents the percentages of absorptions/fundings over the respective budget funds of the Foundation for the year 2020:

Call	Payments of the year 2020	Percentage of absorption (%)
1st Call of "Research projects for Faculty Members and Researchers"	17,944,335.29 €	99.69
1st Science and Society Call - "200 Years from the Greek Revolution"	433,511.29 €	72.25
2nd Science and Society Call - "Always strive for excellence - Theodore Papazoglou"	719,064.00 €	99.87
2nd Call to "Support Postdoctoral Researchers"	6,048,705.00 €	60.80
TOTAL PAYMENTS	25,145,615.58 €	

The budget of approved projects/scholarships is allocated to the different types of action as shown in *Figure 9* below:

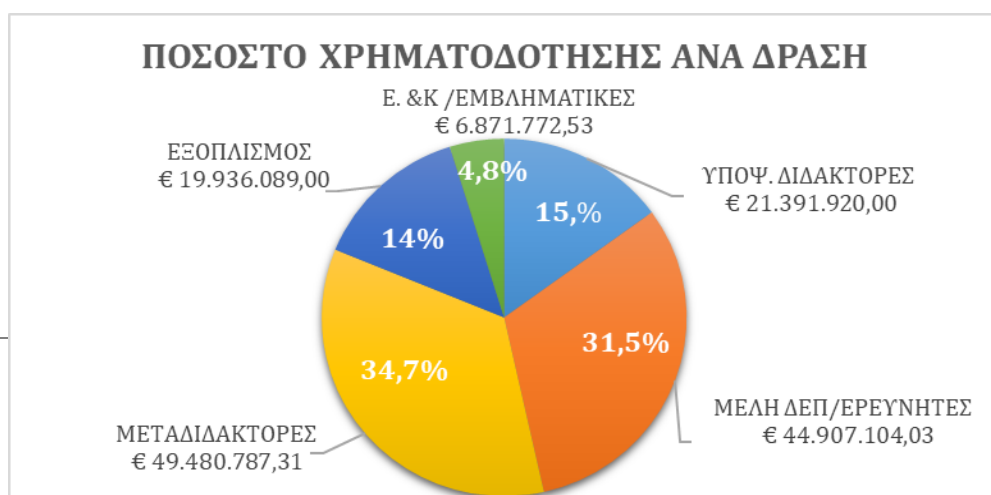
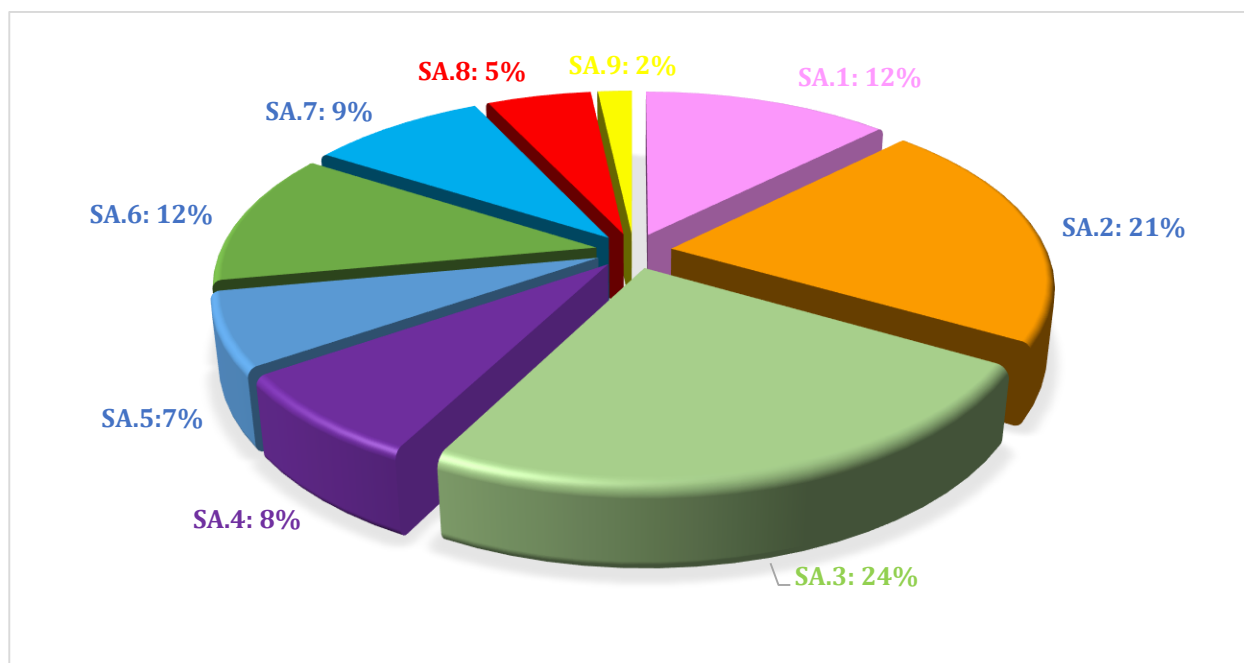


Figure 9: Allocation of approved projects/budget in different H.F.R.I. actions.

The corresponding allocation of the budget of approved projects/scholarships in the nine (9) Scientific Areas (in the Calls where applicable) is shown in *Figure 10* below.

It is noted that in line with the high number of submissions in the field of Social Sciences (SA.6) and Humanities (SA.7), the amount of funding (sum) in these Scientific Areas is at the same level as in Engineering Sciences and Technology (SA.2) and Life Sciences (SA.3).

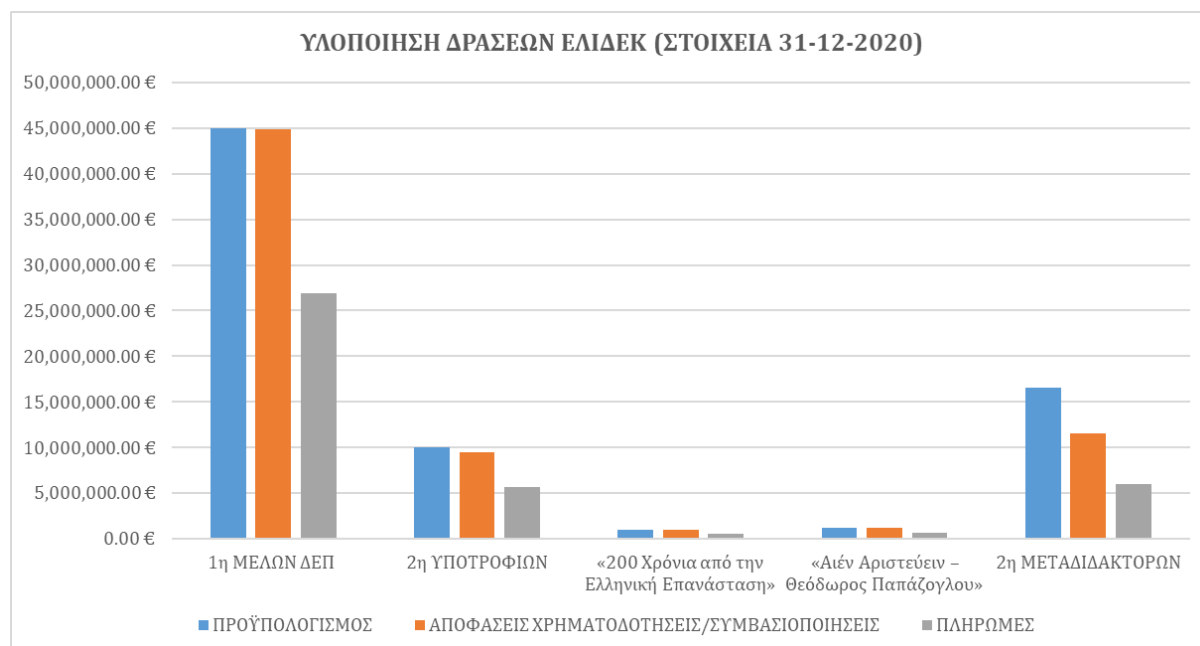
Figure 10: Allocation of the budget of approved projects/scholarships in the 9 Scientific Areas (Data refer to



the 1st FM, the 2nd PhDc, the 2nd PDR and the 1st ERC where the 9 Scientific Areas apply).

9.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIONS

Figure 11 below presents data with regard to the implementation of H.F.R.I. actions until 31.12.2021.



10. EFFECTS-IMPACT

10.1 H.F.R.I. DISSEMINATION AND PUBLICITY ACTIONS

In the context of publicity for its actions, the H.F.R.I. carries out activities to inform the Beneficiaries with visits to the Academic and Research Institutions of the country and attends information events at the invitation of other institutions.

More specifically, within 2020, the H.F.R.I. attended an online information workshop held by the National Documentation Centre, titled “Funding and career opportunities for young researchers”, and organised information meetings in the following Institutions/Beneficiaries:

- University of Western Macedonia, 29 January 2020, Kozani
- Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, 10 February 2020, Thessaloniki
- CERTH, 11 February 2020, Thessaloniki
- University of Patras, 26 February 2020, Patras
- Academy of Athens, 27 February 2020, Athens

At the same time, the H.F.R.I. provides continuous information for its actions on the Foundation’s website and social media, as well as the H.F.R.I. Web Portal.

The Foundation’s official social media accounts are:

- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/12989688>
- **Twitter:** https://twitter.com/ELIDEK_HFRI
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/ELIDEKgr/>
- **YOUTUBE:** https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRXAl0pOnBmx7bZO4a5O0Q/featured?disable_polymer=1

Furthermore, for the promotion of the projects selected for funding under the 1st Call for Action “Science and Society” “200 Years from the Greek Revolution”, the H.F.R.I. held on 5th February

2020, at the National Historical Museum, an event titled: “*200 years from the Greek Revolution: Conversing with History Today*”, in the presence of the then President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Prokopios Pavlopoulos, as well as representatives of the political leadership and the research and academic community.

Finally, on 5th March 2020, at the premises of the Hellenic Pasteur Institute, the H.F.R.I. held an info workshop regarding the management of research projects of the Action titled “1st Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members & Researchers and Procure High-Value Research Equipment”.

A similar event is planned in 2021 for the dissemination of the results of the funded projects under the aforementioned action.

All H.F.R.I. events are accessible through the following link <https://www.elidek.gr/category/ekdiloseis/>, while the videos thereof are available on the Foundation’s YouTube channel.

10.2 IMPACT OF H.F.R.I.’S ACTIONS ON THE PREVENTION OF THE OUTFLOW OF YOUNG SCIENTISTS ABROAD

Through its actions, the H.F.R.I. has contributed to the prevention of the outflow of young scientists abroad (brain drain), as well as the possibility of Greek scientists to return from abroad (brain gain).

More specifically, according to data collected through (a) questionnaires filled in by beneficiaries of H.F.R.I.’s actions and/or (b) their CVs, the following results arise:

1st Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers

- 21% of Postdoctoral Researchers returned back home as they lived and worked abroad before H.F.R.I.’s funding.
- 83% of Postdoctoral Researchers consider their stay in the country very important.
- 92% consider H.F.R.I.’s funding to be very important.
- 49% of Postdoctoral Researchers living in Greece would leave the country, if they did not receive funding from the H.F.R.I.
- 72% of those who returned from abroad WOULD NOT have returned to Greece, if they did not receive funding from the H.F.R.I.
- 80% of Postdoctoral Researchers already engaged in research are now able to continue their research work.
- 17% engaged in a non-research activity before being funded by the H.F.R.I. have now returned back to research.

1st Call for H.F.R.I. Scholarships to PhD Candidates

- 96% of PhD Candidates who lived in Greece before H.F.R.I.’s funding remained in the country to continue their doctoral thesis.
- 95% of PhD Candidates consider H.F.R.I.’s scholarship very important.
- 45% of PhD Candidates would leave the country if they did not receive H.F.R.I.’s scholarship.

- 74% of the beneficiaries believe that the scholarship allows them to devote themselves to their doctoral thesis without engaging in other activities (employment mismatch).

2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers

- 20% of Postdoctoral Researchers returned back home as they lived and worked abroad.

Data for the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” and the “2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Scholarships to PhD Candidates” will be updated on the basis of a questionnaire sent to the Beneficiaries.

B. FINANCIAL REPORT

1. According to par. 5 of article 4 of Law 4429/2016, as in force, the following are attached:

a) Balance Sheet Statement of 31st December 2020

	2020			2019		
- Non-current assets						
- <u>Tangible fixed assets</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Immovable property			0.03 €			- €
Mechanical equipment			- €			- €
Other equipment			63,178.10 €			17,296.96 €
Property investments						
Biological assets						
Other tangible assets			- €			- €
Tangible fixed assets			63,178.13 €			17,296.96 €
- <u>Intangible fixed assets</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Development costs						
Goodwill						
Other intangible assets			122,673.69 €			81,221.17 €
Intangible fixed assets			122,673.69 €			81,221.17 €
Advance payments and non-current assets under construction			- €			- €
- <u>Financial assets</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loans and accounts receivable						
Debt securities						
Participations to subsidiary or affiliated companies and consortiums						
Other participating securities						
Other			10,113.06 €			9,000.00 €
Financial assets			10,113.06 €			9,000.00 €
Deferred taxes						
Non-current assets			195,964.88 €			107,518.13 €
- Current assets						
- <u>Inventories</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finished and semi-finished products						
Commodities						
Raw materials and various materials						
Biological assets						
Advance payments for inventories						
Other inventories						
Inventories			- €			- €

-	Financial data and advance payments	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Commercial receivables			- €			- €
	Accrued income for the tax period			1,275,910.79 €			1,977,111.44 €
	Other receivables			943,484.78 €			192,573.96 €
	Other financial data						
	Prepaid expenses			26,693,461.46 €			9,940,686.68 €
	Cash and Cash Equivalents			161,689,635.82 €			149,857,272.10 €
	Financial data and advance payments			190,602,492.85 €			161,967,644.18 €
	Current assets			190,602,492.85 €			161,967,644.18 €
Total				190,798,457.73 €			162,075,162.31 €

				2020			2019
-	Net worth						
-	Paid-up capitals	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Capital						
	Share premium						
	Owners' deposits						
	Own securities						
	Paid-up capitals			- €			- €
-	Fair value differences	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value differences of tangible fixed assets						
	Value differences of available-for-sale securities						
	Difference in the value of cash flow hedges						
	Fair value differences			- €			- €
-	Retained reserves and results	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Legal or statutory reserves			- €			- €
	Untaxed reserves						
	Retained results			162,997,229.54 €			151,137,615.24 €
	Retained reserves and results			162,997,229.54 €			151,137,615.24 €
	Exchange differences						

Net worth			162,997,229.54 €			151,137,615.24 €
- Provisions						
Provisions for employee benefits						
Other provisions						
Provisions			- €			- €
- Liabilities						
- <u>Long-term liabilities</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loans			- €			- €
<u>Other long-term liabilities</u>			- €			- €
State grants						
Deferred taxes						
Long-term liabilities			- €			- €
- <u>Short-term liabilities</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank loans			- €			- €
Short-term part of long-term loans						
Trade payables			7,812.05 €			38,157.88 €
Income tax			667,572.53 €			945,514.30 €
Other taxes and duties			426,352.06 €			- €
Social security organisations			1,237.94 €			3,316.20 €
Other liabilities			26,698,253.61 €			9,950,558.69 €
Accrued expenses for the accounting year						
Income of next accounting years						
Short-term liabilities			27,801,228.19 €			10,937,547.07 €
Liabilities			27,801,228.19 €			10,937,547.07 €
Total			190,798,457.73 €			162,075,162.31 €

b) Income statement of 31st December 2020

	2020	2019
- Earnings for the period after tax		
- Earnings before tax		
- Earnings before interest and taxes		
- Gross earnings		
Turnover (net)	- €	- €
Cost of sales	- €	- €
Gross earnings	- €	- €
Other ordinary income		
Administrative expenses	1,108,065.17 €	929,311.83 €
Distribution expenses		
Other expenses and losses	25,145,823.56 €	23,798,915.77 €
Impairment of assets (net)		
Profits and losses on disposal of non-current assets		
Fair value through profit or loss		
Income from participations and investments		
Gains from a bargain purchase of an entity or part thereof		
Other income and profit	36,001,616.51 €	36,000,000.00 €
Earnings before interest and taxes	9,747,727.78 €	11,271,772.40 €
Credit interests and relevant revenues	2,781,552.20 €	3,930,824.51 €
Debit interests and relevant expenses	2,093.15 €	1,087.70 €
Earnings before tax	12,527,186.83 €	15,201,509.21 €
Income tax	667,572.53 €	943,397.88 €
Earnings for the period after tax	11,859,614.30 €	14,258,111.33 €
Total	11,859,614.30 €	14,258,111.33 €

2. The financial statements of 2020 were approved by decision No. 37965/07.07.2021 issued by the Scientific Council at its 108th meeting, in accordance with the provisions of Laws 4308/2014 and 4485/2017, as in force (ANNEX 1).

ANNEX 1