Four Questions on Submitting an ERC Application

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About me

• PhD in Social Sciences
• FRS-FNRS Research Associate (*chercheur qualifié*)
• Faculty of Social Sciences, Université de Liège
• Area of expertise: human migration
• ERC Starting Grant: *Migration and Transnational Social Protection in a (Post-)crisis Europe (MiTSoPro)*
Do I have a good question?

- Interpret the “high risk – high gain” mantra
- Trade-off between expertise and innovation
- Coherence between question & funding scheme
- Test your question
Is this a good moment in my career?

- Desire to build a team
- Accept that a CV can never be perfect
- Define career priorities
Can I find the time to write?

• 5 weeks full-time in my case
• Time management is key:
  o Avoid keeping administrative parts of the application for the last minute
  o Plan to submit the day before the deadline
Do I have the support needed?

• Focus on what I like: research!
• Externalize annoying tasks if you can
• Peer-review and feedback at all stages of the evaluation process
• Involve colleagues with different thematic interests or disciplinary approaches
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