



ikerbasque

Basque Foundation for Science

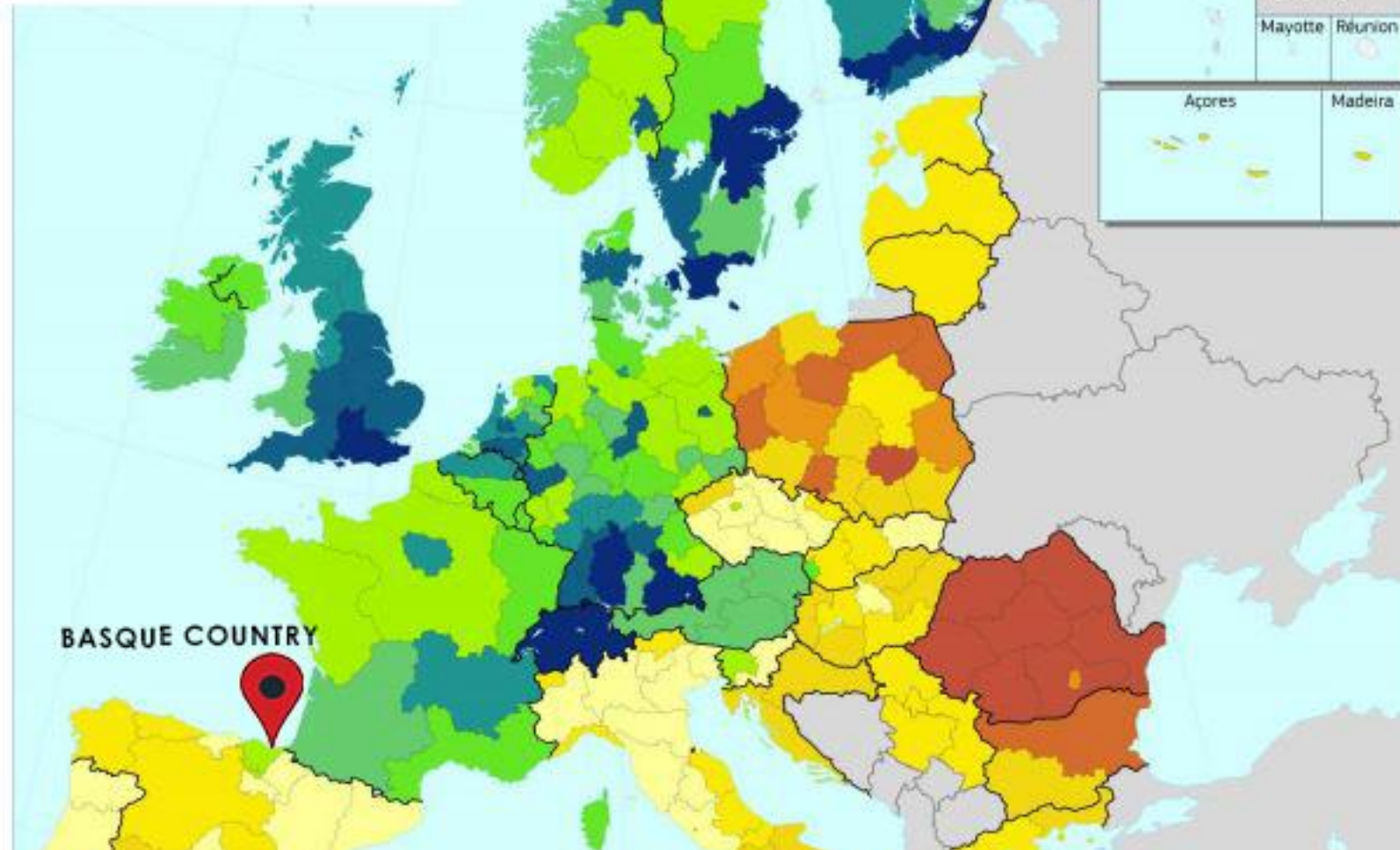
Fernando Cossío
Scientific Director

Basque Country

Area: 7,234 km² (1.4 % of Spain)
Population: 2,227,684 (4.9 % of Spain)
GDP (total): €87,857 billion
GDP (per capita): €39,547
HDI: 0-939 (very high, 2nd)



Regional performance groups



Ikerbasque Foundation

- Ikerbasque is the regional research funding foundation in the Basque Country.
- Created and funded by the Basque Government in 2007.
- Our goal is to foster science by:
 - **Attracting top researchers** to our science system.
 - Creating and supporting **new world-class research centers**.
- We **invest in people, in research talent**.
- Ikerbasque is an **accelerator**. By efficiently managing scientific talent attraction, we add experienced researchers to our centers and universities, that create successful research teams, attract funding and additional top scientists.

400 ikerbasque researchers



Ikerbasque Research outcome in 2024



107

**PHD THESES
MENTORED
IN 2023**



1,553

ARTICLES

Published by Ikerbasque researchers in indexed publications.



1,643

PEOPLE

Working in research groups led by Ikerbasque.



1,321

PROJECTS

With external funding in which Ikerbasque researchers participate.



402

RESEARCHERS



47 M€

**RETURN ON
INVESTMENT**

Total funds that Ikerbasque researchers obtained from competitive calls in 2023.

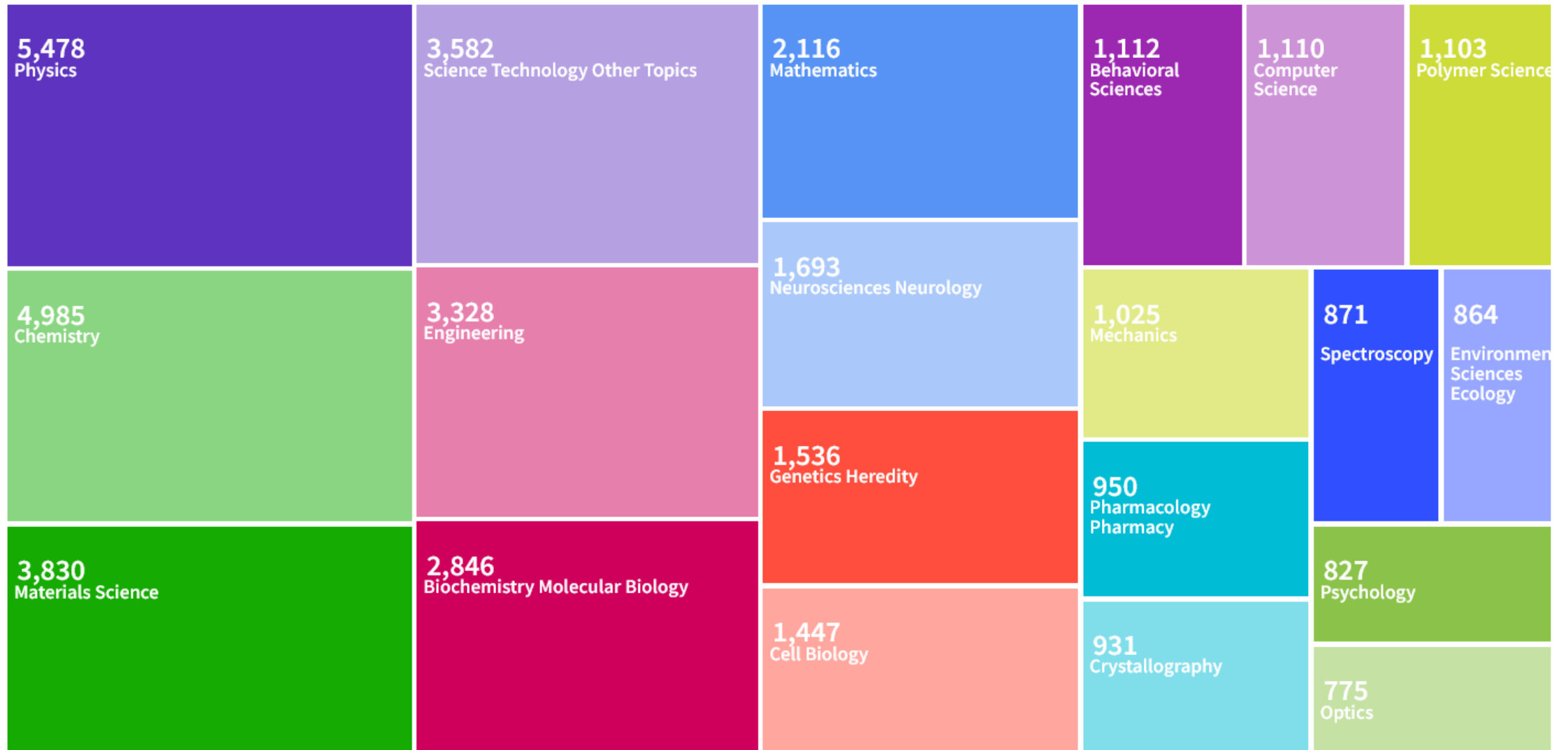


30 ERC

Led by Ikerbasque researchers | The ERC (European Research Council) is the main European organization that promotes research projects based on scientific excellence.



Ikerbasque outcome by research field



Our 400 researchers develop their research in 24 universities, hospitals and research centers:

Achucarro

Basque center for neurosciences

Azti

Marine and food innovation

BC3

Basque centre for climate change

BCAM

Basque center for applied mathematics

BCBL

Basque center on cognition brain and language

BCMaterials

Basque center for materials, applications & nanostructures

Biocruces bizkaia

Health Research Institute

Biodonostia

Health Research Institute

Biofisika Institutua

Basque centre for biophysics

CIC energiGUNE

Energy cooperative research center

CIC bioGUNE

Center for cooperative research in biosciences

CIC biomaGUNE

Center for cooperative research in biomaterials

CIC nanogune

Nanoscience cooperative research center

CFM-MPC

Materials physics center

Deusto

University of Deusto

DIPC

Donostia international physics center

Globernance

Institute for democratic governance

IISL/IISJ

Law&Society: Socio-legal studies

Neiker

Knowledge for the agro-livestock and forestry sector

Polymat

Basque center for macromolecular design and engineering

Tecnalía

Technology corporation

Tecnum

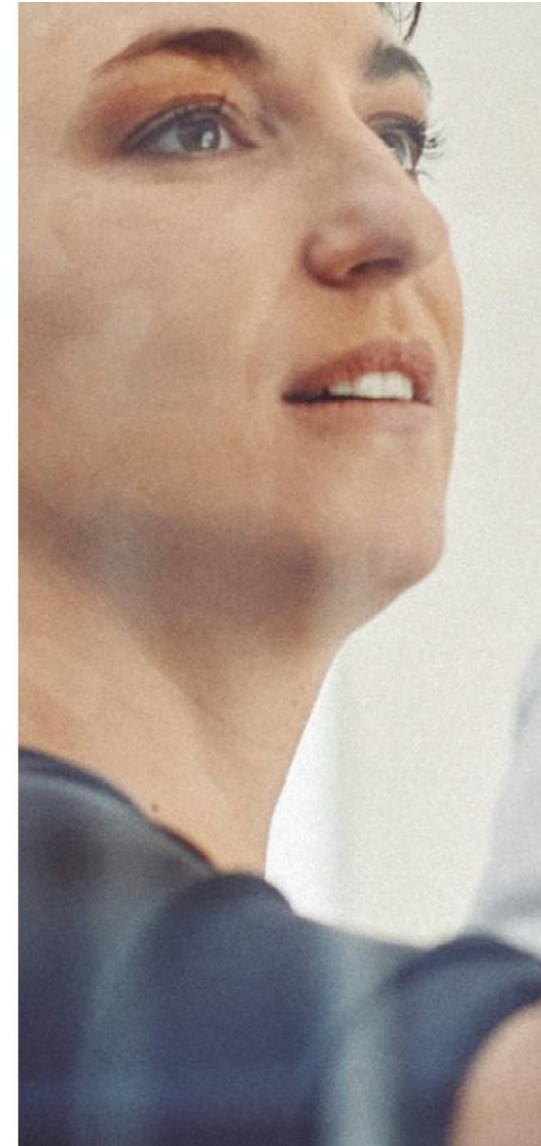
University of Navarra

Mondragon Unibertsitatea

University of Mondragon

UPV/EHU

University of the Basque Country





Ikerbasque committed to hiring 80 researchers over the next 4 years

Ikerbasque recruitment calls

Research Fellows call

- Annual call for 15 positions.
- Open 1st quarter.
- **2 to 8 years of postdoctoral experience**
- All research fields.
- 5-year contracts.
- Evaluation at the end of Fellowship to obtain a permanent position as Research Associate Professor.

Permanent Positions call

- Annual call for 10 positions.
- Open 3rd quarter.
- **Over 8 years of postdoctoral experience**
- All research fields.
- Permanent contracts.
- Triennial evaluation for career promotion options.

ERC Fast Track

- Open all year
- Addressed to researchers of all nationalities who have **obtained an ERC grant** in the last calls.
- All research fields.
- Permanent contracts.



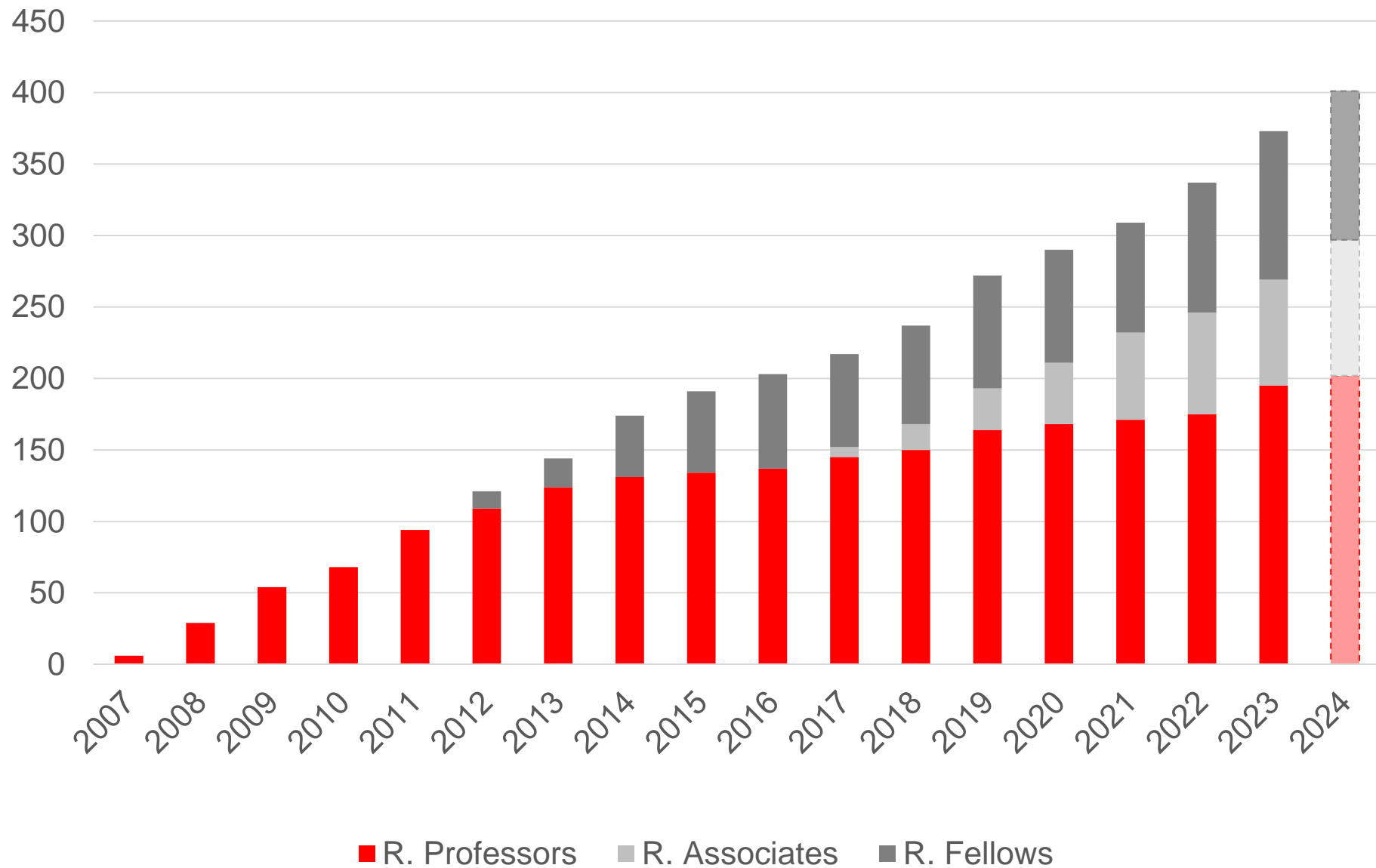
Research career promotion



- ikerbasque is committed to long term career promotion for scientists and has been awarded the hr logo for excellence in human resources.
- Our main objective is to have motivated researchers that enjoy their work, want to progress in their career and create new knowledge for the world's scientific community.
- To support this objective, ikerbasque has set up a continuous external assessment process of their research track.
- ikerbasque Research Fellows can be assessed during the last year of their contract. As a result of this assessment the **Research Fellow** can obtain a **permanent position** as **Research Associate Professor**.



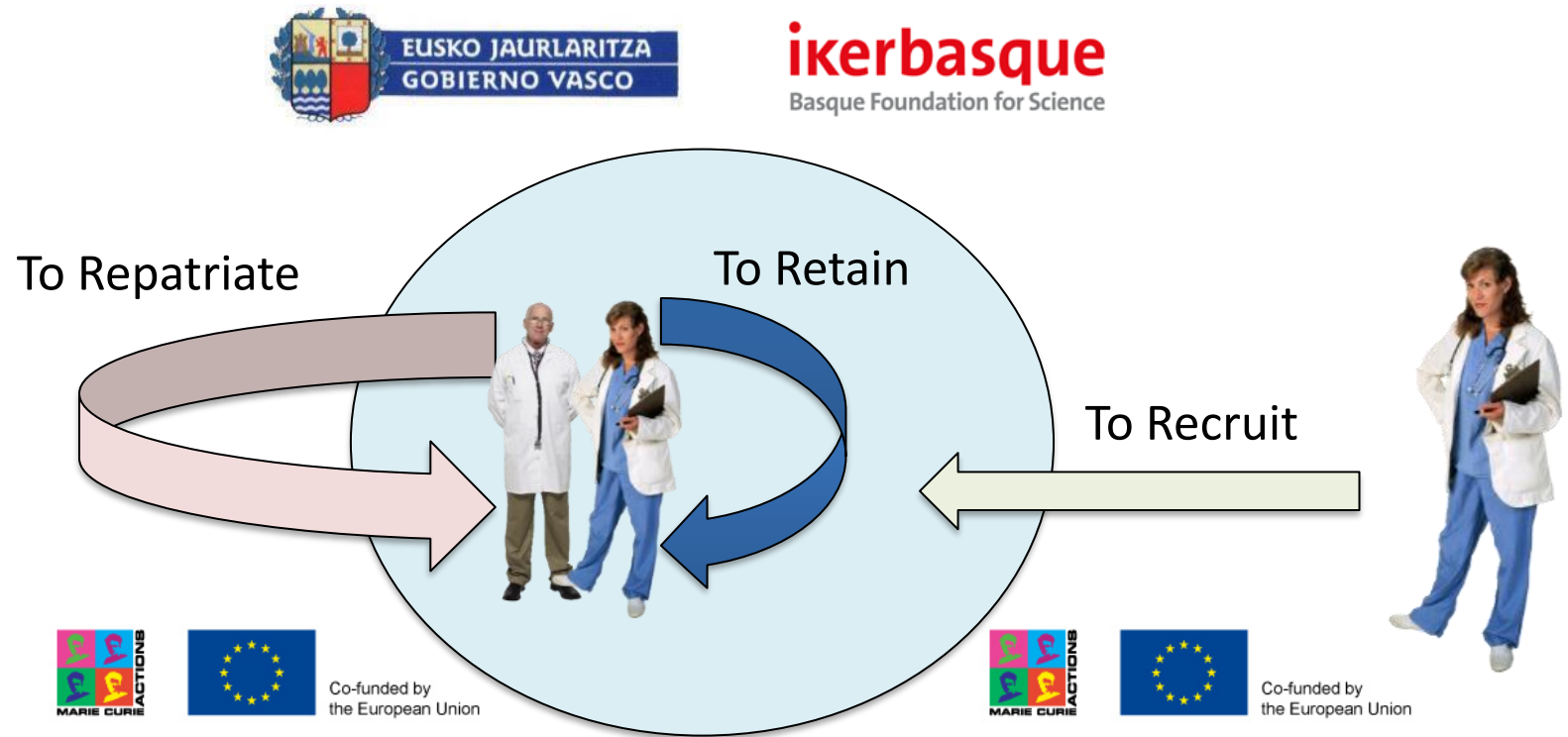
Ikerbasque Research Community



Ikerbasque 3R scheme

Ikerbasque guides its talent attraction policy on the 3R scheme, Recruit, Repatriate and Retain:

- **Recruiting** and hiring top-level researchers with no prior ties to the Basque Country
- **Repatriating** talent trained in the Basque Country
- **Retaining** and consolidating top-level researchers in our territory.



Ikerbasque MSCA Cofund grants

- Ikerbasque has obtained **5 MSCA Cofund grants** since 2009.
- These grants have co-funded the incorporation of **210 researchers** along these years.
- Total **European funding of 26 million euro** has been matched by regional funding from the Basque Government.
- MSCA actions are totally aligned with the Ikerbasque strategy to offer a long-term career track to European researchers.
- MSCA actions cofund the **recruiting and repatriating** contracts for researchers coming from outside Spain.
- In addition, Ikerbasque is committed to funding all these positions once they became permanent and the European funding is over.

IKUR Strategic Research programme

ikur

Neurobiosciences

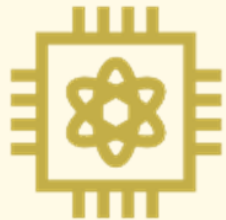


Healthy aging

Innovative therapies

Personalized medicine

Quantum technologies



Aerospace technology

Finance, insurance...

Communications technology

NeutriOnics



Science industry

Biomedical industry

Energy and environment

High Performance Computing & AI



Smart industry

Personalized medicine

Cleaner energy

IKUR Neutrionics: Scope of the support

IKUR-NEUTRIONICS 22-26 = 5.06M€*

27 projects, 51 positions and investment in the implementation of strategic infrastructure and equipment

Full dedication to the projects supported by IKUR



**TALENT =
3.34M€ (66%)**



- Postdoctoral research personnel: 2 years of support
- Predoctoral research personnel: 3 years of support



**EQUIPMENT =
1.39M€ (27%)**



- Technical personnel: 2 years of support (personnel linked to the operation of strategic equipment for the Area).
- Equipment of interest to the whole community of the Area
- Use open to the whole community of the Area



**ACTIONS =
0.33M€ (7%)**



- Measurement campaigns on large neutron infrastructures
- Visits to neutron spallation sources

(*) This budget does not include the contracting and dedication of the Principal Investigators of the projects or other costs related to the use of equipment and resources already existing in the participating centres or to which it is possible to have access through other support instruments of the Basque Innovation System.

IKUR Neutrionics: Detail of the supported activity

Illustrative

Overview of supported concepts in IKUR - Neutrionics

CONCEPT	2022	2023-2024	2025-2026	Total 2022-2026
Projects in cosupervision	8	5		13
Projects in collaboration		5	9	14
Actions¹		4	4	8
Talent (No. of positions)	14	16	21	51
• Postdoctoral Researchers	6	7	12	25
• Predocctoral Researchers	7	7	8	22
• Technicians	1	2	1	4
Equipment	6	5	2	13

Example of some infrastructure/equipments aquired

Year	Center	Infrastructure/Equipment
2022	MPC	Equipment for low angle X-ray diffraction
	DIPC	Auxiliary system for coherent neutrino detector
	BCMaterials	Atomic force microscope
		X-Ray Diffractometer
	Biofisika	Probe Drum Lab-in-a-box light scattering
		Quartz Crystal Microbalance with dissipation
2023	Biofisika	Langmuir Balance
	DIPC	Super-continuum laser
	MPC	Calorimeter for in-situ studies with neutrionic techniques (design and adaptation, it is an equipment that does not exist in the market)
		New generation Acurion ellipsometer
		Fiber-optic Raman spectrometer
2025	DIPC	Compact Monochromatic Neutron Source for The Study of Ultralow-Energy Nuclear Recoils
	MPC	Portable neutron detection system

(1) Measurement campaigns on large neutron infrastructures (3) + Visits to neutron spallation sources (1)

ERC grants at Ikerbasque associated with neutronics

Call	IP	Acronym	Funding (€)
StG 17 (concluded)	Paola Ferrario	PETALO	1,500,000
SyG 20 (active)	Juan J. Gómez-Cadenas Fernando P. Cossío Roxanne Guenette	BOLD	9,373,587
StG 21 (active)	Francesc Monrabal	GanESS	1,496,205
AdG 21 (active)	Juan Collar	ESSCvNS	2,795,294
Total			15,165,086

Novel infrastructures



Novel Ikerbasque building (July 2025, 5,000 m²)

- Ikerbasque NEXT researchers
- ERC grantees



BasQ
Basque Quantum

IBM QS2 (September 2025)

Ikerbasque management team



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Basque Foundation for Science

