SAVE the DATE! 26th March 2025

Info Session on European Research Council (ERC)

Do you have questions on: **What is and what is not ERC?** What are the benefits of applying? **Is this funding scheme really for me?** What do you need to know? **What do you need to do?** When is the right time to apply?

If you do **not know** what **ERC** is, you **have heard about it** but are not really sure if it is for you or if you **have tried to apply and did not succeed**, then **this info session is for you.**

Take this opportunity to better understand what ERC is about, what support do you have inside and outside Técnico and what will be the next steps after this first session.

Registration until 21st of March HERE

Confirmation and more information about the room will be sent on the 24th March.

Agenda

10:00 Welcome

10:10 ERC Roadmap: Understanding the Program, Planning, and Applying Smartly

11:30 Q&A

12:00 Next Steps

12:30 Closing

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Mariana Santa-Marta studied Biology (1996–2001) and has a PhD in Microbiology (2002–2006) at Universidade de Lisboa. She did a Postdoctoral training in California, returned to Portugal in a Ciência Position at the Faculty of Pharmacy where she became actively involved in grant writing, project management, and researcher training. She specialized in research management by volunteering at the Pre-Award office of Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência and pursued a postgraduate course in Project Management at ISEG. She gained hands-on experience through short-term roles in various Lisbon research offices, by establishing the Pre-Award Office in the Chemistry Department of FCT NOVA, playing a key role in launching the Pre-Award Office at Champalimaud and securing funding for numerous projects, including Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. Since November 2021, she has led the Pre-Award efforts at both CERENA and CEGIST at IST. Mariana specialized in individual support for Pillar 1 applications, including the MSCA-PF and ERC schemes. Her ERC track record includes establishing a structured internal program at CERENA and CEGIST to strategically prepare researchers for ERC applications, resulting in 8 submissions for the 2023 to 2025 calls —with candidates advancing to interviews and resubmissions. To date, she has directly supported 22 ERC applications across IST and the Champalimaud Foundation, with 12 advancing to interviews and 7 securing funding (3 awaiting results).