



# Exciting Minds – Unlocking ERC Potential in Estonia

12 June 2025 at 9:30–17:00  
University of Tartu Library, Estonia

## AGENDA

- 9:30–10:00 Registration and welcome coffee
- 10:00–10:15 **Welcome by the moderator** – Lauri Mälksoo, Professor at University of Tartu
- 10:15–10:30 **Opening of the conference** – Anu Noorma, Director General of Estonian Research Council
- 10:30–11:30 **Overview of ERC funding opportunities** – Vanessa Fivet, Scientific Officer at ERCEA
- 11:30–12:00 **Introduction to the three parallel sessions**
- 12:00–13:00 Lunch
- 13:00–14:30 **Parallel sessions:**
- I Insights on applying to the ERC in the Life Sciences**  
Maarja Adojaan, Estonian Research Council – moderator  
Jaan-Olle Andressoo, University of Helsinki & Karolinska Institutet  
Hedvig Tamman, University of Tartu  
Meelis Pärtel, University of Tartu  
Kaspar Valgepea, University of Tartu  
Carlo La Vecchia, University of Milan
- II Insights on applying to the ERC in the Physical Sciences and Engineering**  
Kristin Kraav, Estonian Research Council – moderator  
Jelena Klinovaja, University of Basel  
Marlon Dumas, University of Tartu  
Ken Carslaw, University of Leeds  
Olesia Dmytruk, CNRS
- III Insights on applying to the ERC in the Social Sciences and Humanities**  
Lauri Mälksoo, University of Tartu – moderator  
Karin Roelofs, Radboud University  
Eneken Laanes, Tallinn University  
Andreas Eckert, Humboldt University of Berlin  
Laur Kanger, University of Tartu
- 14:30–15:00 Coffee break
- 15:00–15:30 **The role of excellent bottom-up frontier research in Europe** – Axel Cleeremans, President of the Association of ERC grantees
- 15:30–16:15 **Panel discussion: Improving the support to ERC applicants in Estonia**  
Lauri Mälksoo, Professor at University of Tartu – moderator  
Mari Moora, Vice-Rector for Research at University of Tartu  
Katrín Niglas, Vice-Rector for Research at Tallinn University  
Kalle Olli, Vice-Rector for Research at Estonian University of Life Sciences  
Kristin Kraav, Deputy Head of International Research Cooperation Department at ETAG
- 16:15–17:00 Reception; visit to exhibition showcasing Estonian ERC grantees