"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST" FOR HOSTING MARIE S. CURIE FELLOWS IN SPANISH INSTITUTIONS (CALL MSCA IF 2015)

1. Interested institution:
The Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)
C/ Serrano 117, 28006, Madrid (Spain)
www.csic.es

2. Brief Description of the Institution

The Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) is the largest public institution dedicated to research in Spain and the third largest in Europe. Belonging to the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness through the Secretary of State for Research, Development and Innovation, its main objective is to develop and promote research that will help bring about scientific and technological progress, and it is prepared to collaborate with Spanish and foreign entities in order to achieve this aim. It has a staff of more than 13,000 employees, among these about 3,300 are permanent researchers and about 4,300 are pre- and post-doctoral researchers. The CSIC has 70 fully own institutes or centres distributed throughout Spain. In addition, it has 53 Joint Research Units with universities or other research institutions. There is also a delegation in Brussels and Rome.

CSIC has considerable experience in both participating and managing R&D projects and training of research personnel. Under the 7th Framework Programme CSIC has signed approximately 700 actions (including 97 coordinated by CSIC and 47 ERC projects). Funding wise, CSIC is listed the 1st organisation in Spain and the 5th in Europe in the 7th Framework Programme, with a total FP7 contribution of over 260 million euros. During the first calls of H2020, CSIC has had an intense participation in all programmes. It has been remarkable the participation in certain calls, such as ERC and Marie Curie, as well as in ICT, NMBP and Societal Challenges. In March 2015 CSIC has obtained 90 projects with a total financial contribution of 40 million euros.

3. Please tick the areas of research (as established in Marie Sklodowska Curie Actions)	
□ Chemistry (CHE)	☐ Environmental Sciences and Geology (ENV)
☐ Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)	☐ Life Sciences (LIF)
☐ Economic Sciences (ECO)	☐ Mathematics (MAT)
☐ Information Science and Engineering (ENG)	☐ Physics (PHY)

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4. Research / Project Description

The work to be developed in this MSC action is centered on the metal-mediated synthesis of products with high-added value and with contrasted biological and pharmacological properties. The main targets are derivatives of 1,3-diaminotruxillic acid, whose interest resides in their strong antinociceptive activity and in the fact that they are the only non-peptidic agonists of the GLP-1, related with the treatment of the diabetes type-2. New unprecedented catalytic and photochemical approaches will be developed for the highly efficient chemo- and regioselective synthesis of these compounds. In addition, new methodologies based on flow techniques will be used to achieve high-performance processes, able to be scaled-up for industrial purposes. The pharmacological activity evaluation will be carried out in collaboration with renowned pharmaceutical firms.

The host team involves researchers at the frontier of organic and organometallic areas, with a strong background in organic synthesis catalyzed by transition metal complexes. Our main research lines are the synthesis of biomolecules (mainly amino acids and derivatives) and the activation of bonds mediated by transition metals (mainly Pd, Ru, Au, Pt). Our laboratories are equipped with the infrastructure needed to perform research of excellence. This is clearly reflected in the number and quality of the publications generated by the host team (more than 400 for Prof. Cativiela, and more than 100 for Dr. Urriolabeitia, most of them in journals with impact factor 4 or higher; the respective h indexes are 39 and 27), their ability to capture funds for research (more than 1 million € the last 3 years), the number of international academic contacts and the portfolio of industries with which there are open collaborations.

5. Who can apply?

At the deadline for the submission of proposals (10/09/2015), researchers (*):

- shall be in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience.
- must not have resided or carried out their main activities in the country of Spain for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the abovementioned deadline.

6. Contact person

Dr. Esteban P. Urriolabeitia (esteban@unizar.es) Prof. Dr. Carlos Cativiela (cativiela@unizar.es)

7. Applications: documents to be submitted and deadlines

- 1.- Full CV of the applicant
- 2.- Two (2) recommendation letters
- 3.- A motivation letter Deadline: June 15th, 2015

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Please note that:

- Deadline of the next call for proposals for Marie Sklodowska Curie Individual Fellowships is September, 10th 2015.
- Oficina Europea is only responsible for the display of the expressions of interests received by the institutions; further contact and information requests will take place directly between the host institutions and the interested researchers.

(*) Further details on the Call and additional eligibility criteria can be found at the Participants 'Portal