



Revolutionizing invasive alien species control using behavioural economics and animal cognition

Fact Sheet

Project Information

COGNITIVE CONTROL

Grant agreement ID: 948181

[Project website](#)

DOI

[10.3030/948181](https://doi.org/10.3030/948181)

EC signature date

29 October 2020

Start date

1 April 2021

End date

31 March 2027

Funded under

EXCELLENT SCIENCE - European Research Council (ERC)

Total cost

€ 1 451 805,00

EU contribution

€ 1 451 805,00

Coordinated by

UNIVERSITAET REGENSBURG



Germany

Project description

Understanding the minds of invasive insects

Invasive insect species often cause ecological and economic damage, harming crops and livelihoods. Invasive ants can be especially damaging to ecosystems, and are nearly impossible to control. Traditional solutions, such as poison spraying, are ineffective since the ants are sheltered in their nest, and baiting with poison often fails, possibly since the ants learn to avoid them. The EU-funded COGNITIVE CONTROL project seeks to develop new approaches to control invasive insects by using cutting-edge methods to exploit their cognitive abilities. It will adapt consumer

psychology techniques to manipulating the ants, as well as disrupting any behavioural immunity using neuroactive chemicals. The ultimate goal of COGNITIVE CONTROL is to provide fresh approaches in the battle against alien invasive species.

Fields of science (EuroSciVoc)

[social sciences](#) > [psychology](#).

[natural sciences](#) > [biological sciences](#) > [zoology](#) > [entomology](#).



Keywords

[Comparative Psychology](#)

[collective behaviour](#)

[invasive species](#)

[pest management](#)

Programme(s)

[H2020-EU.1.1. - EXCELLENT SCIENCE - European Research Council \(ERC\)](#)

MAIN PROGRAMME

Topic(s)

[ERC-2020-STG - ERC STARTING GRANTS](#)

Call for proposal

[ERC-2020-STG](#)

[See other projects for this call](#)

Funding Scheme

[ERC-STG - Starting Grant](#)

Host institution



UNIVERSITAET REGENSBURG

Net EU contribution

€ 1 451 805,00

Total cost

€ 1 451 805,00

Address

UNIVERSITATSSTRASSE 31

93053 Regensburg

 Germany 

Region

Bayern > Oberpfalz > Regensburg, Kreisfreie Stadt

Activity type

Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

Links

[Contact the organisation](#)  [Website](#) 

[Participation in EU R&I programmes](#) 

[HORIZON collaboration network](#) 

Beneficiaries (1)



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European Union, 2025

