



**Implementation of a Joint Call of Programme Owners and
Programme Managers from EU Member States, Countries
Associated to EU's Horizon 2020 Programme and Russia**

**Terms of Reference
Era.Net RUS Plus Call 2017
Joint Call on
'Science and Technology'**

28 March 2017

(National rules amended on 9 June 2017)

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List of Abbreviations

AC	Associated Countries
CA	Consortium Agreement
CP	Contact Point
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
FP	Funding Party
GFP	Group of Funding Parties
IA	Implementation Agreement
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
JC	Joint Call
JCS	Joint Call Secretariat
MS	Member States
R&D	Research & Development
SC	Scientific Council
SSH	Social Sciences and Humanities
ToR	Terms of Reference

Important hints before you start preparing your project:

- **Study these ToR carefully to avoid problems with eligibility of your project!**
- **In particular read in detail the Annex 1 on National Funding rules, which apply to you and your project partners (starting on page 21).**
- **Note – not all funding organisations support all topics in this call! Check first in the national funding rules, whether your topic is supported by your national funding agency.**
- **Contact your National Contact Point before preparing and submitting the proposal to ensure eligibility of the project!**

1. Background Information

ERA-NET PLUS Actions comprise the joint implementation of a transnational call from the preparation and the publication of the call to the evaluation, selection and funding of proposals as well as the project monitoring and follow-up between national or regional programmes. They require programme owners from different EU Member States (MS) and /or Associated Countries (AC) to the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation to implement a **Joint Call (JC)** focussing on, e.g., projects in Science & Technology (S&T projects). The financial commitments from the participating national or regional research programmes are the basis of the joint call.

Building on a successful first Joint Call in the **ERA.Net RUS Plus** project implemented in 2014/2015 and on the mutual interest of programme owners and programme managers in the Russian Federation, EU Member States and Associated Countries, a **Group of Funding Parties (GFP)** has been established for the implementation of a second ERA.Net RUS Plus call in 2017.

A **Steering Committee**, comprising representatives from each Funding Party (FP) will be responsible for defining the principles of the Joint Call on Science and Technology as well as for the steering, decision making and monitoring of its implementation. The members of the Steering Committee are to be nominated directly by their FP – one member per FP. The Steering Committee will oversee the preparation and implementation of the Joint Call. An important right is the nomination of experts for the **Scientific Council (SC)**, the scientific advisory body responsible for the evaluation process of the proposals to be submitted.

The members of the GFP will be supported by a **Core Consortium** led by its **Coordinator**. The Core Consortium will facilitate the preparation process of the Joint Call and assist the operational management of its implementation. Members of the Core Consortium are:

1. DLR Project Management Agency, European and International Cooperation, DLR, Germany (Coordinator)
2. Russian Foundation for Basic Research, RFBR, Russia
3. International Centre for Innovations in Science, Technology and Education, ICISTE, Russia
4. Centre for Social Innovation, ZSI, Austria
5. Higher School of Economics, HSE, Russia

DLR acts as coordinator for the ERA.Net RUS Plus and for the call 2017. The role of the coordinator is to manage administrative, financial and communication issues related to the ERA.Net RUS Plus project and the call 2017. The Core Consortium will provide administrative

services for supporting the whole call process starting with preparing and launching the competitive call for proposals for collaborative S&T projects and lasting till the final selection of projects. Those projects have to be jointly selected by the GFP, to be followed by the monitoring of national contract negotiations with the beneficiaries and the proceeding funding period of the collaborative projects. Partners ZSI and HSE will take care of monitoring and impact assessment of the call. Details of the implementation of the Joint Call for Science & Technology projects have been agreed upon by all GFP members in an **Implementation Agreement (IA)** with these Terms of Reference (ToR) being an integral part thereof.

The GFP will be assisted by a **Joint Call Secretariat (JCS)** assumed by three of the Core Consortium partners (DLR, ICISTE¹, RFBR). The mandate of the JCS is defined by the GFP and the Steering Committee through the Implementation Agreement (IA). The GFP will launch the Joint Call for S&T projects on 27.04.2017 to be closed strictly on 04.07.2017. The call will follow a one-step submission and evaluation procedure.

With this Joint Call for Science & Technology projects interested project consortia including partners from the participating countries will be invited to submit S&T projects.

Programme Owners

The following **programme owners** have signed an Implementation Agreement for the Joint Call for Science & Technology projects in their capacity of Programme Owners/Managers. They have thus confirmed their participation as Funding Parties, and their readiness to pledge financial contributions for funding the projects selected through the call:

1. Research Foundation – Flanders, FWO (Belgium)
2. Bulgaria National Science Fund, BNSF (Bulgaria)
3. Estonian Research Council, ETAg (Estonia)
4. Academy of Finland, AKA (Finland)
5. Federal Ministry of Education and Research, BMBF (Germany)
6. State Education Development Agency, VIAA (Latvia)
7. Centre for International Projects, CIP (Moldova)
8. Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding, UEFISCDI (Romania)
9. Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, MON (Russia)
10. Russian Foundation for Basic Research, RFBR (Russia)
11. Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, UB RAS (Russia)
12. Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, SB RAS (Russia)
13. Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, FEB RAS (Russia)
14. Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, MPNTR (Serbia)
15. Slovak Academy of Sciences, SAS (Slovakia)
16. Swiss National Science Foundation, SNF (Switzerland)
17. Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, TÜBİTAK (Turkey)

¹ Programme manager acting on behalf of the Russian Ministry of Education and Science (MON)

2. Joint Call

2.1 Call Topics and Scope

Research proposals regarding the following S&T topics and subtopics can be submitted:

1. Nanotechnologies

- 1.1 Advanced nano-sensors for Environment and Health
- 1.2 Novel functional nanomaterials based on design and modelling

2. Environment/Climate change

- 2.1 Impact of climate change and extreme climate events on the environment
- 2.2 Prevention and remediation of pollution of aquatic systems

3. Health

- 3.1 Regenerative Medicine, Biomaterials and Organ-on -a chip-systems
- 3.2 Drug discovery for cancer, cardiovascular and infectious diseases

4. Social Sciences and Humanities

- 4.1 Demography, conflicts and security issues
- 4.2 Traditional and non-traditional cultural values
- 4.3 Opportunities for and challenges to regional development and social cohesion

5. Robotics

- 5.1 Robotics Design and Human-Robot Interaction
- 5.2 Robots in agriculture, medicine, industry, maritime and education

By **S&T projects** are meant joint Research and Development (R&D) projects undertaken by a partnership of institutions or research teams (“consortium”) designed to produce new knowledge through fundamental, experimental and/or theoretical scientific research, whereby each team of the partnership actively pursues specific objectives with a view to pooling the results to contribute to common, well-defined objectives. Projects need to comply with national rules regarding critical aspects (e.g., development of dual-use technology, IPR issues).

The goal of the call is to create long-term research collaboration in the fields of research and innovation between EU MS/AC and Russia.

2.2 Call Budget and Call Modalities

Related information as regards the indicative financial contribution to the call budget by each of the Funding Parties can be found in the following table:

FUNDING PARTY	Indicative Contribution ² (EUR)	Nanotechnologies	Environment/ Climate Change	Health	Social Sciences and Humanities	Robotics
1. Research Foundation – Flanders, FWO (Belgium)	200,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	x
2. Bulgaria National Science Fund, BNSF (Bulgaria)	250,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	x
3. Estonian Research Council, ETAg (Estonia)	300,000.00 €	x	x		x	
4. Academy of Finland, AKA (Finland)	500,000.00 €				x	
5. Federal Ministry of Education and Research, BMBWF (Germany)	2,200,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	x
6. State Education Development Agency, VIAA (Latvia)	840,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	x
7. Centre for International Projects, CIP (Moldova)	100,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	
8. Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding, UEFISCDI (Romania)	250,000.00 €	x	x	x		x
9. Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, MON (Russia)	3,000,000 € ³	x	x	x		x
10. Russian Foundation for Basic Research, RFBR (Russia)	tbd	x	x	x	x	x
11. Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, UB RAS (Russia)	100,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	x
12. Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, SB RAS (Russia)	200,000.00 € ⁴	x	x	x	x	x
13. Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, FEB RAS (Russia)	60,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	x
14. Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, MPNTR (Serbia)	100,000 €	x	x	x	x	x
15. Slovak Academy of Sciences, SAS (Slovakia)	200,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	
16. Swiss National Science Foundation, SNF (Switzerland)	900,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	x
17. Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, TÜBİTAK (Turkey)	500,000.00 €	x	x	x	x	x

The Joint Call on S&T will be implemented through a **coordinated funding scheme** whereby each FP will fund its own teams within a multilateral project also known as a **virtual common pot**, with a view to harmonise the funding contributions in order to guarantee the funding of as many as possible of the projects selected through a peer-review process.

² The indicative financial contribution of each of the Funding Parties listed is confirmed by written statements.

³ Commitment to 180,000,000 RUB, amount in € depending on exchange rate

⁴ Commitment to 12,000,000 RUB, amount in € depending on exchange rate

The funding of projects will depend on the nature and duration of the proposed activities and must be justified in terms of the resources needed to achieve the objectives of the project. The funding requested should therefore be realistically adjusted to the actual needs of the project, taking into account any other funds available. Each FP may adjust a project's budget if deemed necessary.

In case a project partner cannot receive funding from its national funding organisation in a selected project, this specific project will not be retained for funding, unless: (1) this partner agrees to fund its total share on its own budget and the consortium includes at least three partners eligible and funded by their respective FP, or: (2) the remaining project consortium is ready and capable to take over the activities of this partner and includes at least three more partners eligible and funded by their respective FP. However, there must be at least one Russian partner in each consortium funded by a Russian FP.

A partner participating on its own budget **may not** be the coordinator of the project.

2.3 Eligible Applicants and Project Consortium

Applicants must be eligible for funding by their respective national FP. They can represent:

- Research and higher education entities
- Research performing small and medium enterprises
- Other entities eligible for funding according to respective national legislation.

Details can be found in the **National Rules of Funding Parties** (Annex I).

A **project consortium** must comprise project partners eligible for funding from at least three different countries, of which at least one team eligible for funding from Russia. Each project partner will be represented by a team leader. One of the team leaders must be designated as “Coordinator”.

Applicants who are non-eligible for funding could join any eligible consortium submitting a proposal in the context of this call, however, on their own expenses. This is only valid for cases where the ineligible applicant does not act as coordinator of the project.

2.4 Duration

The duration of a project needs to be realistically aligned with the activities to be implemented by the project consortium.

The **duration of a project should be from 24 to 36 months**. A project can be planned to a duration of 36 months only on the condition that all FPs involved allow it (Annex I). The duration of a project is to be determined at the proposal stage. An extension of duration will not be allowed once the project is started.

3. Eligibility of Proposals

In order to be eligible, proposals must:

- Be in the scope and in the thematic focus of the call (as described in Section 2)
- Meet the consortium composition requirements (as specified in Section 2)
- Be submitted by at least three applicants from three different countries (of which at least one from Russia) which are eligible to receive funding from their national members of the GFP (as specified in Section 2)
- Comply with the allowed duration (as specified in Section 2)
- Comply with the funding requirements (as specified Section 2)
- Comply with the terms of the submission procedure (as specified in Section 5)
- Be complete according to the rules described in these ToR
- Be submitted in the English language only
- Be submitted through the online submission system PT-OUTLINE
- Meet the submission deadline (as specified in section 5)

Only proposals meeting all eligibility criteria are processed by the Joint Call Secretariat. Non-eligible proposals will be rejected.

The JCS will ask the FPs to check and confirm the eligibility of applicants participating in a project consortium according to their national regulations.

With this respect, the “**National Rules of all Funding Parties**” will be available in **Annex I**, and must be read and observed carefully!

Contact Points: In order to ensure a smooth implementation of the JC, each FP has appointed one or more contact person(s) acting as Contact Point (CP). **Applicants are strongly advised to contact their CP in due time before proposal submission in order to check their eligibility on national level.**

Contact details are listed on <http://www.eranet-rus.eu>.

4. Allowable Project Costs

Allowable project costs are grouped in categories as described below. They might differ for individual partners in a given project consortium depending on national regulations of their respective Funding Party (Annex I).

- **Labour costs**

Participating individual partners may claim for labour costs according to the internal rules of their respective institution, and observing regulations as defined by their responsible national Funding Party (see Annex 1!).

- **Operational costs**

Travel and Subsistence

- National and international travel at the most economic fare available, in accordance with national regulations.
- Visa and social security or other insurance costs relating to the travel period.
- Accommodation and other subsistence costs according to the internal rules of the participant's organisation, respecting regulations as defined by their responsible national Funding Party.

Equipment

- Any participating partner may purchase equipment respecting national procurement rules and procedures.
- All equipment costs financed by the grant must be relevant to equipment purchased or manufactured after the commencement date of the project contract.
- Costs for infrastructure, operation, transportation, etc. required for the project.

Consumables

- Costs of materials or goods, including those required for repair or maintenance of equipment.

Other costs

- Costs for publication, dissemination and patenting etc. which cannot be classified under the previous cost items but are required for the project implementation.
- Management, organisational and subcontracting costs required to run the project.

5. Submission of Proposals

5.1 Submission process

5.1.1 General Information

The process of submitting, evaluating and selecting projects will be done in a **1-step procedure**; applicants are invited to submit a **proposal**. All proposals must be written **in English only**.

5.1.2 Structure of proposal

GENERAL INFORMATION

Proposal Details

- Title and acronym: Give the title and acronym of your project.
- Topic and sub-topic of the call to which the submitted proposal refers.
- Keywords: Identify the keywords selected from the keyword list.
- Free words: Supply additional free words to further specify your scientific subject.
- Duration: Minimum 24 months, up to 36 months.
- Total cost: Estimated overall budget of the project (in EUR).
- Participation of any research team of this proposal in any other proposal in this joint call.

Summary

Summarise the objectives, give a short description of the research activities, of the expected results of the project and market and economic impact as well as societal impact.

TEAM INFORMATION

- Identify the participating teams and the institutions to which they belong.
- Identify the Project Coordinator and the team leaders.

For each team, the following information should be given:

- Team Details:
 - Give the total number of team members. The size of each team should be limited to those people actually needed for performing the tasks.
 - Describe the background and particular expertise of the team against the tasks to be performed. Describe how the teams complement each other in the performance of the project.
 - If relevant, list a maximum of five references of relevant, recent scientific publications, patents which best show the capability of the research team to perform the work proposed. Indicate for each the name of the authors, the title of the article, the journal or other publication, the date and place of issue. If a publication exists on a website, give its address.

- Describe the relevant instrumentation and infrastructure available in view of the tasks assigned to the team.
- Contact details of the Project Coordinator and each team leader.

BREAKDOWN OF COSTS

- For each team, give the cost breakdown and a brief justification for all allowable costs.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Give an overall description of the research project. Give a detailed justification of the objectives of the project against the state-of-the-art in the scientific area of the project.

1. Scientific and/or technological objectives

- Describe as precisely as possible the scientific and research objectives of the project. Whenever possible, quantify the objectives in terms of measurable outcomes.
- Justify the methodology chosen to reach the objectives, highlighting the particular advantages of the methodology.
- Explain the relevance and importance of the research project proposed, in terms of concrete applications (scientific, technological and innovative) and in terms of economic and societal impact.
- If relevant, highlight the multidisciplinary character of the project, whereby the activities in the project will tend to draw on a range of scientific disciplines and explain how this interdisciplinarity is going to be exploited.
- If the proposal is part of a larger national or international project, explain its precise role and how it fits into this wider context.
- Explain the gain in competitiveness and the added value resulting from the cooperation between the partners of the consortium.

2. Background and state-of-the-art in this field

- Give the scientific and technological basis for your project and describe the present state-of-the-art concerning the specific R&D topics of your project.

3. Novelty of the project

- Identify important gaps to be filled in the current knowledge/know-how.
- Explain the novel character of the research proposed. Show how the objectives of the project aim at significant advances in the state-of-the-art through extending the current knowledge and/or filling the gaps identified.
- Has a novelty search already been performed or is this search planned? If relevant, specify the institution with which the novelty search has been performed and indicate the result.

4. Impact of the project

- Describe the expected results of your project and the utilisation potential.
- Discuss and if available give references concerning market and economic needs.
- Describe the expected impact of the research project results in terms of market, economical and societal needs of Russia and the EU.
- If relevant, describe potential legal aspects as well as ethical implications of the research project results for society.
- **Sketch out a result exploitation plan which explains:**
 - how the new knowledge generated through the project and other deliverables of the project such as data bases, problem solving concepts, computer codes, technical solutions etc.) will be exploited;
 - if relevant: how innovative technologies/concepts will be further exploited through an implementation plan for the projects' results;
 - if relevant: how results will be transferred to market and commercial users;
 - how intellectual property, including foreground knowledge, patents, copyrights, license agreements and any other arrangements will be managed.

5. Project management and team information

- Describe how the overall coordination, communication and monitoring of the project will be implemented. Provide a project organisation chart. Indicate the decision schemes foreseen in the project (decision boards, coordination meetings).
- If appropriate set up a detailed diagram (e.g. Gantt-Chart) showing the work plan of the project: the time schedule of the tasks and mark their interrelations; milestones and/or decisions on further approach will have to be made; indicate a critical path marking those events which directly influence the overall time schedule in case of delays.
- Explain how information flow and communication will be enhanced within the project (e.g. collaboration and task meetings, exchange of scientists).
- Risk management: Indicate where there are risks of not achieving the objectives and fall-back positions, if applicable.
- Describe how ethical considerations connected to the project will be addressed.
- Explain where there is a potential for synergy effects between different tasks of the project and how this is going to be exploited.
- Explain which part of the R&D activities will be subcontracted to R&D institutions or companies (if relevant).

5.2. How to use the online submission system “PT-Outline”

5.2.1 Registration in the On-line Submission System

In order to submit a proposal, the project coordinator should access the online submission system through the link:

https://secure.pt-dlr.de/ptoutline/RUS_ST2017

Only submissions through the online submission system “PT-Outline” will be accepted. Proposals sent by post, e-mail, telex or facsimile will be rejected without notice.

When accessing the online submission system the first time, the project coordinator will be requested to enter her/his e-mail address. In return s/he will receive by e-mail a **user ID** and a **password**. Her/his account will be activated after receiving the password.

5.2.2 Access to the online submission system

By using the **password** all partners in the consortium are able to execute their own part of the project proposal submission and to replace the proposal partly or fully with an updated version.

Proposal submission just before the deadline should be avoided. High internet traffic during the last days before the submission deadline of the Call may make the access difficult. Inability to submit a proposal due to overload of the PT-Online system should not be considered as a reason for later submission or submission via email etc.

5.2.3 Acknowledgement of receipt and registration number

After final submission of the proposal, the project coordinator will automatically receive an acknowledgement of receipt with the proposal’s registration number by e-mail.

Submission Deadline

The deadline for submission of a proposal will be 04.07.2017, 15:00 (CEST) equivalent to 16:00 Moscow time.

All proposals must be submitted by the project coordinators before the submission deadline. As access to the online submission system will be automatically closed after the deadline, no proposal submission will then be possible. It is thus the sole responsibility of a project coordinator to ensure that the proposal is submitted before the deadline.

6. Evaluation and Selection of Proposals

Proposals submitted under the ERA.Net RUS Plus call 2017 - Joint Call on S&T will be evaluated as follows:

6.1. Fundamental principles

The fundamental principles governing the evaluation of project proposals are:

- **Transparency.** The process for reaching funding decisions will be clearly described and available to any interested party.
- **Equality of treatment.** All proposals will be treated alike, irrespective of where they originate or the identity of the applicants.
- **Ethical considerations.** Any proposal that contravenes fundamental ethical principles may be excluded from being evaluated and selected at any time.

6.2. Peer-Review Procedure

The evaluation of proposals will be done as follows.

Each proposals will be evaluated by external expert reviewers selected from a dedicated pool of evaluators consisting of external expert reviewers will assess anonymously the merits of the submitted proposals.

A **Scientific Council (SC)** consisting of high level scientific experts will be appointed by the GFP for all issues related to the evaluation procedure, especially to ensure the quality of the outcome of the external peer review. Each FP has been invited to nominate two experts for the SC, each one with competences relevant to one different call topic.

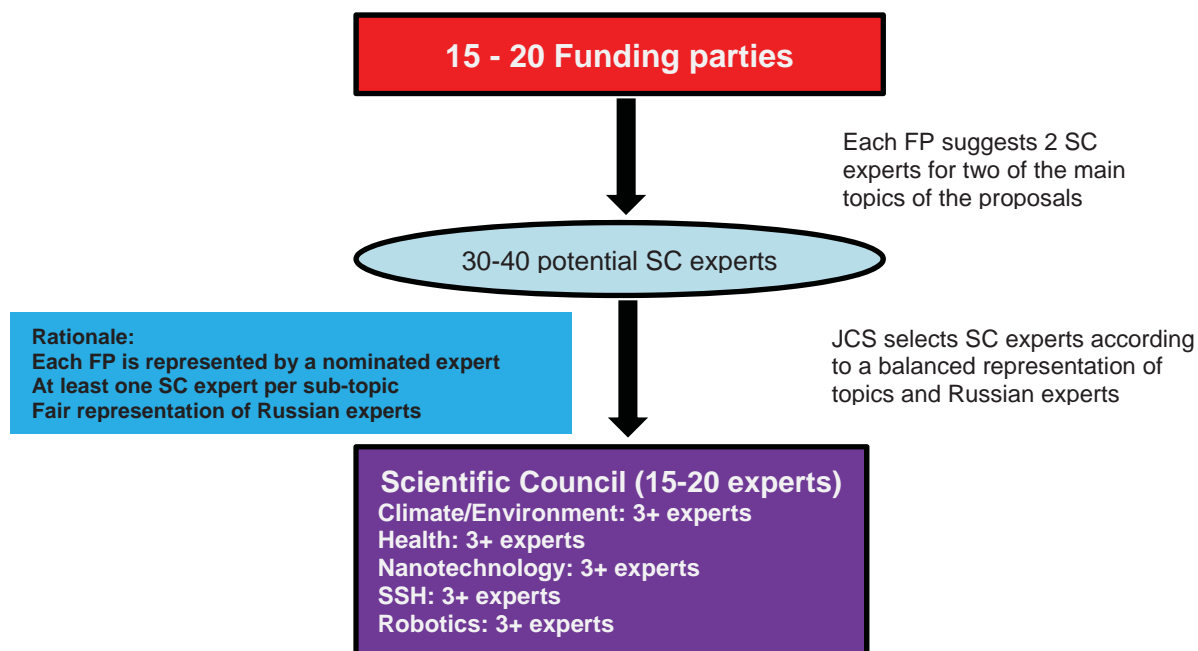
6.2.1 Scientific Council

The SC will consist of about 15 to 20 experts, depending on the number of FP participating. Each FP will be represented in the SC by at least one expert.

From the group of potential SC-experts suggested by the FPs, the Joint Call Secretariat will pre-select the experts for the SC panels according to the following rationale:

- Each FP will be represented by at least 1 nominated expert⁵
- Each sub-topic will be represented by at least 1 SC expert
- A fair representation of Russian experts will be ensured

⁵ A targeted extension of the SC, e.g. on the basis of representation in sub-topics might be envisaged and decided upon by the GFP at a later stage after the proposals had been submitted.



The JCS will present the list of nominated SC experts to the Steering Committee and to the GFP for their final approval based as closely as possible on the described rationale for the selection. However, some flexibility should be allowed if necessary.

6.2.2 Tasks of the Scientific Council

The JCS will invite the Steering Committee, the GFP and the Scientific Council in due time to propose new peer-reviewers, and invite the SC members to review and give their opinion on the list of peer-reviewers registered in the PT-EXPERTDATABASE.

The SC members will be involved in the peer-review procedure.

6.2.2.1 National Eligibility Check

The “national eligibility check” is performed by each of the FPs (see section 6.3.1).

6.2.2.2 Evaluation of proposals

The JCS will allocate the proposals to three potential external reviewers from the PT-EXPERTDATABASE according to matching keywords. The SC will check the matching of proposals to external reviewers, if deemed necessary. The JCS moderates and manages the evaluation process with the approved external reviewers and puts together a preliminary ranking list for projects based on their scores and written evaluations.

A SC meeting will be gathered to discuss the ranking lists for the projects eligible for funding.

Each SC member will act as a key-reader for several proposals. The SC will jointly decide on unclear cases due to discrepancies between evaluation results and will present their joint decision (one ranking list per topic, including reserve list) to the FPs. The final decision on the selected projects eligible for funding will be taken by the GFP.

6.2.3. Appointment of Evaluators

The evaluators for the peer-review process will be selected from a pool of evaluators (**PT-EXPERTDATABASE**) on the basis of their competence, irrespective of their nationality, age and affiliation. The FPs are highly encouraged to review the national experts chosen from the PT-EXPERTDATABASE and to invite additional evaluators to register in the database. Keywords and free words specified in the proposal help selecting the most suitable evaluators in the field of the proposal.

Link to PT-EXPERTDATABASE:

<https://secure.pt-dlr.de/evalinco/?callReference=ERA-NET-RUS-Plus>

In general, evaluators need to have skills and knowledge appropriate to the relevant scientific and technological fields in which they are asked to assist. All evaluators must also have a proven experience in one or more of the following areas or activities:

1. Management or evaluation of S&T projects
2. International cooperation in science and technology; development of human resources
3. Transfer of results of research and technological development projects

Evaluators must also have the appropriate language skills required for the proposals to be evaluated. In case an evaluator finds his/her competences to be irrelevant to the project he/she has been selected to evaluate, he/she must inform the JCS so that the project is allocated to another evaluator.

For each proposal, three independent evaluators of which at least one from Russia and one from an EU-MS/AC, are to be selected by the JCS from a pool of possible evaluators (PT-EXPERTDATABASE), with a view to achieve maximum competence for the evaluation. The SC will check the relevance of the allocation of proposals to external evaluators by the JCS and eventually reconsider the proposal by nominating an appropriate expert from the PT-EXPERTDATABASE.

6.2.4. Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality

The Consortium relies on the integrity of evaluators to base their opinion with strict impartiality exclusively on the basis of the information given in the proposal and against the established evaluation criteria.

When choosing an evaluator, the JCS and the SC take all reasonable steps to ensure that s/he is not faced with a conflict of interest in relation to the proposals, which s/he is requested to assess. The evaluators will commit themselves to inform the JCS whenever a conflict of interest arises in the course of their duties. When so informed, the JCS takes all necessary actions to remove the conflict of interest.

The evaluators are committed to maintain confidentiality of the information contained within the proposals they evaluate and of the evaluation process and its outcome.

The JCS and the GFP, represented by the Steering Committee, are committed to maintain the anonymity of the evaluators. The members of the JCS and the SC, as well as the experts evaluating the proposals, will sign a confidentiality agreement.

6.3. Evaluation and Selection Procedure

6.3.1. Eligibility Check

Pre-Eligibility Check: The JCS carries out a “Pre-Eligibility Check” of submitted proposals and ensures that they meet all general formal eligibility criteria as set out above.

National Eligibility Check: Each FP thoroughly verifies and confirms in a “National Eligibility Check” whether proposals from applicants from the respective country meet the national eligibility criteria as stated in Annex I. This includes financial parameters like funding limits.

6.3.2 Evaluation of proposals

The evaluation of the **proposals** is performed online, using the **online submission and evaluation system PT-Outline**. Each proposal will be evaluated by three peer-reviewers. The evaluators receive access to the proposal and submit online the results of her/his evaluation. The access to proposals is protected by user names and passwords.

The JCS will allocate each of the proposals to three potential external reviewers from the PT-Expertdatabase according to matching keywords. The SC will check the matching of proposals to external reviewers and will propose alternative experts from the PT-Expertdatabase, if deemed necessary.

The evaluators are not informed on the other experts evaluating the same proposal. Each evaluator therefore assesses each proposal independently without exchanging views with other evaluators.

Each evaluator fills in an individual evaluation form whereby s/he gives a score to each evaluation item, resulting in an overall score for the proposal. The evaluator also checks the compliance of the proposal with the thematic focus of the call.

6.3.2.1 Evaluation criteria

The set of criteria includes the following:

- I. Scientific and/or technological merit
- II. Potential impact
- III. Quality of the consortium
- IV. Quality of the project management
- V. Quality of the presentation of the full proposal

Evaluation scores will be awarded for each of these five criteria, and not for the sub-criteria. The sub-criteria are issues which experts should consider in the assessment of that criterion. For criteria I to V the threshold is 3 points out 5 per criterion (scoring table in section 6.3.4).

The evaluation of the full proposals should address the following five criteria:

I. Scientific and/or technological merit (threshold: 3/5)

- Sound concept, quality of objectives
- Progress beyond the state-of-the-art
- Quality and effectiveness of the scientific and technological methodology and associated work plan

II. Potential impact (threshold: 3/5)

- Impact of the project towards relevant societal challenges
- Meeting market and economical needs
- Appropriateness of measures for the dissemination and/or exploitation of transnational project results, and management of intellectual property

III. Quality of the consortium (threshold: 3/5)

- Complementarity of qualifications and relevant experience of the coordinator and the individual participants/participating research teams
- Fair distribution of efforts

IV. Quality and efficiency of the implementation and the management (threshold: 3/5)

- Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures
- Appropriate allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment)

V. Quality of the presentation (threshold: 3/5)

- Clarity and comprehensiveness of the full proposal
- Compliance with the structure requirements

The total score of a proposal is the weighted average of the individual scores given to each criterion, rated from 0 to 5. The table below summarizes the scores and the weight coefficients per criterion, for the evaluation of proposals:

	Criteria	Score	Weight
I.	Scientific and/or technological merit	0-5	45%
II.	Potential impact	0-5	25%
III.	Quality of the consortium	0-5	15%
IV.	Quality of the project management	0-5	10%
V.	Quality of the presentation	0-5	5%
	TOTAL	0-5	100%

6.3.2.2 Rebuttal step

Applicants will be provided with a report of the expert evaluation (without disclosing experts' identities) via PT-Outline. Applicants will be given about one week to respond to the evaluators' comments via PT-Outline. In this 'rebuttal' they can provide additional information, point out misconceptions and differences in insight of the evaluators. The rebuttal will be limited to text form with a given character limit. The proposal itself cannot be changed in this rebuttal step. The JCS may introduce a cut-off after the expert evaluation and invite only applicants who still have a possibility for getting funded to the rebuttal step. Evaluation reports will be provided to the unsuccessful applicants later. The JCS does not enter any kind of discussions on the evaluation results and evaluators' comments provided.

6.3.2.3. Ranking list and decision procedure

Based on the external evaluations, the JCS will prepare five separate preliminary ranking lists (one per call topic, including a reserve list). From the total scores x_i given by each evaluator the **average score** $\langle x_i \rangle$ of each full proposal is calculated and retained to establish the ranking. The average score will be rounded to the second decimal.

The SC will hold a meeting for the review of the proposals within thematic Panels. Within this meeting, the SC will discuss critical cases (e.g. proposals that received contradictory evaluations), also taking into account applicants' comments of the rebuttal phase, and will prioritize between proposals that have attained almost the same average score in order to ensure a fair ranking. The SC will present five lists of proposals recommended for funding together with their tentative budgets (one list per call topic, including a reserve list) to the GFP. Additionally, all external evaluation reports will be made available to the GFP without reference to the peer reviewers.

The GFP decides on the final list of projects to be funded and on a reserve list of projects eligible for funding.

Given specific internal regulations, some FPs will confirm their commitment only after approval of the minutes of the GFP meeting by their dedicated decision bodies.

The final outcome of the evaluation of full proposals, including the detailed scores per criteria and the corresponding remarks made by the evaluators and the SC, will be made available to the project coordinators after the final funding decision of the GFP has been taken.

6.3.4 Scoring and ranking of S&T projects

The total score of a proposal is the weighted average of the individual scores given to each criterion, rated from 0 to 5. Half marks can be given (for example 3.5).

Score	Justification
5: EXCELLENT	The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.
4: VERY GOOD	The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are still possible.
3: GOOD	The proposal addresses the criterion well, although certain improvements would be necessary.
2: FAIR	While the proposal broadly addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses that would need correcting.
1: POOR	The criterion is addressed in an inadequate manner, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
0: NOT RELEVANT	The proposal fails to address the criterion under examination or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information.

Proposals with similar scores will be grouped in categories according to the following table:

Score range	Category
5.00 – 4.80	A
4.79 – 4.60	B
4.59 – 4.20	C
4.19 – 4.00	D
3.99 – 0	E

Within each category, the actual ranking of all proposals will not be taken into account and the proposals will be considered on equal foot, so as to facilitate the funding decision by the Funding Parties.

7. Decision Making by the Group of Funding Parties

The members of the GFP will consensually take the final decision on the proposals, based on the recommendations of the SC. A concluding GFP meeting will be convened and supported by the JCS and the Core Consortium.

In preparation of the concluding meeting of the GFP, the ranking lists prepared by the SC will be presented to the FPs. The Core Consortium will ask the FPs to check the eligibility of requested funds and return an estimated national budget for each project based on their own national regulations.

Within each category (A-E), decisions will take into account the indicative budgets of the FPs. For those **cases in which the national financial contributions are exhausted**, the respective FPs should follow the following steps to bridge the gaps due to the lack of funds:

- The respective FPs will explore a budget increase;
- If a budget increase is not possible, the respective FPs will consider financial cuts within the budgets requested in the proposals.

As a last resort, the participation of some project partners in the projects in question on their own resources will be considered, if the constitution of the consortia allows it.

The minutes of the final GFP meeting will be prepared by the JCS or one of the partners of the Core Consortium and finally adopted by the Consortium. **When adopted, the minutes of the final GFP meeting – including the final funding list – are binding for the members of the Consortium.**

Before the Funding Decision is considered ‘final’, the reserve lists needs to be handled at national level by respective FPs in order to verify the options for additional projects to be implemented. This procedure will be closed 4 weeks after the decision taking meeting of the GFP. The JCS will coordinate this process. The final list of projects to be funded will be approved by written procedure by all FPs.

On behalf of the GFP, the JCS will inform the applicants by standard letter about the result of the evaluation process and successful applicants about the next steps in order to start the projects.

8. Project Contracts and Monitoring

Following the final decision taken by the GFP, for each project approved for funding, **two contracts** will be executed in parallel:

- An **Umbrella Agreement** to be negotiated and signed on the one hand by the JCS represented by DLR, and on the other hand by the coordinator of each project consortium.
- A **National Contract** to be negotiated and signed between and by each participating partner in a consortium and its corresponding FP.

Overall consistency between all contracts/agreements will be ensured by the FPs.

- The **Umbrella Agreement** will regulate horizontal issues of relevance for the whole project consortium in order to ensure the quality of international cooperation. It will set forth general terms and conditions of cooperation in the project including the signing of a **Consortium Agreement** including an agreement on the fair management of **Intellectual Property Rights** (IPR - background and foreground). As a rule, knowledge created in a project shall be owned by the participants generating it. The Umbrella Agreement will set out the reporting duties of the coordinating institution on behalf of the consortium as a whole.

- The **Umbrella Agreement** will include (as annexes) the full proposal, an overview of the funding budgets for all partners, guidelines for reporting to the JCS and the ToR.

National Contracts will regulate the transfer of funds to national beneficiaries based on national regulations. They will establish the legal ground for project funding at national level according to the rules and regulations of the respective FP.

Overall monitoring of the S&T projects

The JCS will be responsible for the overall monitoring of the projects building on standardized intermediate and final reports to be submitted by the project consortia (via the project coordinator) according to the terms of the ‘Umbrella Contract’. The reports will be available for further use by the FPs.

The overall monitoring includes the following items:

- Synchronisation of national grant agreements by the JCS: FPs start in parallel individual contracting procedures between the Funding Party and the respective beneficiary for each individual ERA.Net RUS Plus project according to the national regulation. The JCS tries ensuring a synchronised starting date of all projects.
- Follow-up of signing a Consortium Agreement (CA) including provisions on the fair management of IPR to be signed between all partners of a project consortium within three months after project start. If necessary, consortia are to be reminded of this contractual obligation including corrective measures at project level in consultation with the FPs involved.
- When asked to by the JCS, the project coordinator compiles information on the progress of an individual project from all project consortium partners and submits a short standardized report on the start phase of the projects (funding contracts etc.) and an intermediate / final report on the scientific progress of the project. The report will be analysed and forwarded by the JCS to all Funding Parties involved. In case of deviations the JCS will arrange a consultation and decision taking on possible corrective measures by all Funding Parties involved.

According to the regulation of the umbrella agreement, any change concerning a project (i.e. changes of consortium partners, substantial deviations from the work program, premature end of the project or any other issues that might have significant impact on the implementation of the project) has to be reported by the project coordinator to the JCS. The JCS will inform all FPs accordingly and arrange a consultation and decision taking on possible corrective measures by all Funding Parties.

Annex I: National Rules of Funding Parties

BELGIUM

Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO)

All call topics of the joint call are supported by FWO:

1. Call topic: Nanotechnologies
2. Call topic: Environment/Climate change
3. Call topic: S&T projects in Health
4. Call topic: Social Sciences and Humanities
5. Call topic: Robotics

Applicants are advised to contact the FWO before submission in order to verify the researchers' eligibility, thus avoiding the ineligibility of a consortium as a whole.

Who can apply?

In order to be eligible for ERA-NET funding the researcher has to comply with the terms and conditions presented in [article 9 of the FWO research project regulation](#).

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

Funding money can be used for staff, consumables and infrastructure. The minimal and maximal amounts of money allowed per cost category, as applicable for the regular FWO-projects, are not applicable for the projects funded by FWO in ERA-NETs.

Overhead is not an eligible cost. Notwithstanding, FWO pays the host institutions of a project 6% overhead on top of the funding amount.

More elaborate directives can be consulted in the [regular project regulations \(art. 16-20\)](#).

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal **beyond** the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the Single Joint Call

FWO only funds basic/fundamental research in this call.

Upper funding limit

The Research Foundation – Flanders intends to fund the highest ranked project with Flemish participation, where FWO is indicated as funding agency.

The funding modalities for FWO are as follows: **max. 200.000 EUR per project/max. duration of 36 months.**

Further information relevant to **NATIONAL/REGIONAL** applicants

For the FWO regulation on research projects, see: <http://www.fwo.be/en/fellowships-funding/research-projects/research-project/regulations-for-research-projects/>

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BULGARIA

Bulgaria National Science Fund (BNSF)

The following call topics of the single joint call are supported by BNSF:

1. Call topic: Nanotechnologies
2. Call topic: Environment/Climate Change
3. Call topic: Health
4. Call topic: Social Sciences and Humanities
5. Call topic: Robotics

Who can apply?

Eligible applicants under the present call are Bulgarian entities, which are either:

- accredited universities under Art. 85 Para. 1 item 7 of the Law on Higher Education.
- science organizations under Art . 47 Para. 1 of the Law on Higher Education.

Applicants under items 1 and 2 must comply with the definition for “research and knowledge distribution organization” under item 15 “b” of the Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation.

Applicants under the present procedure must be directly responsible for the implementation of the activities of the project proposal, and not act as intermediaries; they must perform the proposed project activities on their own behalf and at their own expense.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

Financial resources under the project of Bulgarian participants are managed in compliance with the Rules of the Bulgarian Science Fund, within the general rules of the call announced under the respective international programmes (in that number ERA-NET programmes), and as per the Instructions adopted by the Executive Board.

Funding under the present procedure shall be awarded only for “eligible costs”, specified in the general rules of the call announced under the respective international programme (in that number ERA-NET programmes). The project budget (as per the financial plan) is a preliminary assessment of expected costs and should correspond to the value indicated in the project.

When project proposals are evaluated, circumstances might be found that make it necessary to change the budget. They may also mandate that the temporary expert research committee requires additional clarification and information from the applicant, as well as that the proposed project budget is reduced. The possible budget amendments **cannot** lead to increasing the amount applied for under the present procedure.

General conditions for eligibility of costs

Costs under the present call for proposals procedure are considered eligible if they satisfy the following conditions:

- they are made by an approved beneficiary (lead organization of the project);
- they comply to the project purpose and cover activities under the project;
- they are financially justified and in conformity with national legislation;
- they are necessary for the implementation of the project and comply to the principles of good governance of public finance – publicity, transparency and feasibility of forecast costs in combination with economy, effectiveness and efficiency;
- they are made in between the grant contract signature and the closure of the project;
- they are duly reported in the accounting and tax documents of the beneficiary;
- they can be ascertained and verified by type and amount and tracked by the kept accounts;
- they are supported by an original receipted invoices or an accounting document of equivalent probative value according to national legislation;
- they are not funded by any other source, including another project, programme or any financial scheme funded by public resources, including resources of the European Union.

Specific eligible costs

The specific eligible costs are indicated in the general rules of the call, announced by the respective international programme.

The following costs under the present call for proposals procedure shall be considered **ineligible**:

- costs for activities carried out before the date of entry into force of the grant contract under the current procedure;
- costs that have already been funded or are fundable by other, confirmed sources;
- costs made for the purchase of assets and / or performance of activities not directly related to the project proposal and the fundamental research planned in it;
- tax costs, including refundable VAT;
- fine, sanction and penalty payments for events occurring within the contract duration;
- costs for consulting services during the project proposal preparation stage;
- costs depending on the use of local rather than imported goods;
- all costs falling outside the scope of eligible costs of the procedure in the respective state.

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the single joint call

a) *Applicant eligibility criteria*

Applicants under the present procedure must be directly responsible for the implementation of the activities of the project proposal, and not act as intermediaries; they must perform the proposed project activities on their own behalf and at their own expense.

Call applicants must be persons:

1. performing research;
and
2. whose activities are fully not-for-profit or
3. whose activities are both for-profit and not-for-profit, but they are clearly separated and are organized in a way to allow tracking of expenses and revenues related to their performance, including through analytical accounting. When the applicant performs both for-profit and not-for-profit activities, the financing, expenses and revenues about each type of activity are considered separately on the basis of consistently applied accounting principles for costs that can be objectively justified.

The assets acquired as a result of funding under the present call shall be used only in not-for-profit activities and the funding awarded shall not be used for any type of business activities, including the following:

- research under contracts with enterprises /industries;
- consulting or other services provided to enterprises / industries;
- renting assets (infrastructure /equipment).

IMPORTANT: Bulgarian applicants present at the Bulgarian National Science Fund on a paper all required according to the National Rules verifications under items 1,2 and 3.

They will be part of the nationally eligibility check. Each circumstance under items 1,2 and 3 is subject to verification and in case illicit funding is received, it should be reimbursed, including its due interest. The applicants approved for funding must declare and prove the circumstances listed above. The Bulgarian Science Fund performs monitoring of the declared circumstances during the project lifetime and after its termination until the depreciation period of the assets purchased under the project expires. The mechanism of performing periodic monitoring of the declared circumstances is described in detail in the internal rules drawn out by the respective permanent expert research committee. Both the submitted accounting documents and the applicant on site are subject to monitoring.

b) *Applicable State aid rules*

The activities funded under the current call fall outside the scope of Art. 107 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as laid down in Art. 2.1.1. “Public funding of non-economic activities” of the Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation.

c) Requirements for project team members

The following requirements for the project team members are applied:

- 1) The team leader should be a scientist holding a PhD or DSc degree and having the scientific competence necessary for the successful implementation of the project, which they should certify through their professional CV, research publications, and patents (if applicable) in the respective scientific field. Additional requirements to the project leader may be set forth in the general rules of the call announced by the respective international programme.
- 2) The other participants are as follows:
 - scientists and experts with specific achievements in the thematic field of the project proposal, ascertained with a professional CV and a thematically relevant publications list;
 - doctoral / post-doctoral researchers and young scientists for whom a professional CV and a thematically relevant publications list (if applicable) is attached;
 - students;
 - technical staff.
- 3) The project leader and project team members holding a PhD or DSc degree should be included in the database of the Bulgarian Science Fund or provide data that will be included in the database.
4. Persons, who, while having been project leaders under previous calls of the Bulgarian Science Fund after 2011 have not met the deadline for submitting the project reports without a good reason, or have been leaders of projects in the last three years that have been evaluated as unsatisfactory, cannot participate in projects under the current call.

d) Ineligible under the present call for proposals procedure shall be proposals:

1. including activities already funded by other sources;
2. not including research under a joint project;
3. including activities whose performance has started before the grant contract under the current procedure has been signed.

The National Requirements and Eligibility Criteria adopted by the BNSF are fully applicable for this call.

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

Up to **50,000** euro per project (Bulgarian partner) in Call Topic. Project duration is 24 months.

Any other information relevant to the single joint call

The estimated budget that will be awarded by the Bulgarian Science Fund to approved Bulgarian candidates, the minimum (if applicable) and the maximum amount of funding, as well as the funding stages are laid out in the general rules of the call announced by the respective international programme.

Public funding should not exceed 100 % of the total eligible costs of the project.

Project funding is bound with the project activities' implementation and the extent to which the planned project results are achieved.

The costs not recognized at the financial audit are reimbursed to the Bulgarian Science Fund.

IMPORTANT: When the scientific evaluation of the final project report **is not satisfactory**, the Executive Board of the Bulgarian Science Fund can decide on full or partial reimbursement of the awarded funding, including project personnel costs.

The financial relations between the Bulgarian Science Fund and the lead organization (contract holder) are drawn out in the contract concluded between them and in the decisions of the Fund's Executive Board based on a proposal by the permanent expert research committee.

In case of a lack of financial resources, the Fund can delay the provision of funding for the individual stages, for which it shall notify the beneficiary in writing. In such a case, the project implementation shall be prolonged by a period of the same length as that of the delay.

National Contact Point

Funding Institution: Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF)

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ESTONIA

Estonian Research Council (ETAg)

The following call topics of the single joint call are supported by ETAg:

1. Call topic: Nanotechnologies
2. Call topic: Environment/Climate change
3. Call topic: Social Sciences and Humanities

Applicants will be advised to check with the respective national Contact Point the eligibility as to who may apply and what costs are eligible before a consortium submits the complete application.

Estonian Research Council (hereafter 'The Council') funds basic and applied research. Applied research is only funded as far as it does not refer to product development with commercial value and for marketing purposes.

A grant or research support is the allocation of funds by the Council for a specified purpose to carry out research work and the grant shall be awarded within an open competition.

Funding will come from the Mobilitas Plus programme, which is partly financed by the European Regional Development Fund. The project must comply with the rules set in the Mobilitas Plus decree No. 1.1-2/15/481 of the Minister of Education and Research of 30 December 2015.

1. Participants of the project

- 1.1. **The Host Institution** (the final recipient) is the applicant of the grant, to which the grant will be allocated within an open competition.
- 1.2. **The Principal Investigator** is the researcher who is appointed to be responsible for the use of the grant for its specific purpose and for the productive realisation of the project. The principal investigator:
 - 1.2.1. Must possess either the Estonian nationality or citizenship or be a permanent resident of Estonia.
 - 1.2.2. Has an updated profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS).
 - 1.2.3. Has as a rule entered into an employment relationship with the Host Institution, which is the basis of the realisation of the grant project and through which the grant shall be allocated to the Principal Investigator.
 - 1.2.4. Must be a holder of the doctoral degree of Estonia or an equivalent academic degree (both awarded by the deadline of submission of the grant application, at the latest).
 - 1.2.5. Must have published within the last five years prior to the proposal's submission deadline at least three publications, which comply with the requirements of clauses

1.1 of the classification of publications of the ETIS, or at least five publications, which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 3.1 of the classification of publications of the ETIS; international patents are equalised with publications of clause 1.1.; the monographs are equalised to each author with three publications mentioned in clause 1.1 if the number of its authors is three or less. If the applicant has been on the parental leave or in the compulsory military service within these last five years, the deadline of the publication requirement shall be extended by the time stayed on the parental leave or compulsory military service

- 1.3. **The main participant of the project** is a person who participates in the substantial performance of the project. The main participant of the project shall either possess at least the master's degree or the respective qualification and must have published at least one publication within the last three years prior to the proposal's submission deadline, which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1 of the classification of publications of the ETIS; or be a doctoral candidate.

The Council shall enter into a grant agreement with the Principal Investigator and the Host Institution.

- 3.1. A budget of proposal shall consist of the research expenses and the overhead costs, through which the grant project is to be carried out.
- 3.2. The research expenses consist of personnel costs, travel costs, other direct costs and subcontracting costs. The expenses on research are clearly required to carry out the project and respectively identifiable. All eligible costs are set in the decree of Mobilitas Plus.
- 3.3. Double funding of activities already having contributions is not acceptable. If the project or parts of the project are already being funded from other sources or the Host Institution is currently applying for other funding for the same project, the Host Institution is required to provide this information.
- 3.4. Only costs which have been made between the signature of the grant agreement and 31.12.2022 are eligible.
- 3.5. **Remuneration** may only be paid out of the grant to the Principal Investigator and main participants in the project according to the time they participate in the grant project and their total salary cost.⁶
- 3.6. **Travel costs** cover expenses for transport, accommodation and daily allowances (except in case of internal travel).
- 3.7. **Subcontracting costs** cover generally only additional or complementary tasks (e.g. costs for translation, analyses, etc.) to the third parties. Core project research tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 10% of the total costs.
- 3.8. **Other direct costs** are:

⁶ comprising basic monthly salary plus social security charges and other statutory costs

- 3.8.1. Consumables related to the project;
 - 3.8.2. Costs for publishing and dissemination of project results (fair distribution of costs between partners should be followed);
 - 3.8.3. Costs for organising the meetings/seminars/conferences (only in Estonia);
 - 3.8.4. Fees for participating in scientific forums and conferences;
 - 3.8.5. All other costs which are clearly required for the implementation of the project, are respectively identifiable and which comply with the eligible costs of the Mobilitas Plus decree.
- 3.9. Overhead costs of the project are 15% of eligible direct personnel costs and should cover general expenses of the Host Institution and the Council. Two thirds (2/3) of the overhead will go to the Host Institution and one third (1/3) will be kept by the Council (for checking the compliance of the costs with the rules of the European Structural Funds).
- 3.10. Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (copying machine or printer publicly used, phone bills, copying service, etc.) shall be covered from the overhead fee.
- 3.11. Participants' personal expenses or expenses not directly related to the project are not eligible.
- 4.1. If a human research or animal tests are intended in the research project, the positive resolution of the Ethics Review Committee or Animal Testing Project Permits Committee with respect to the performance of the project addressed to the Council shall be submitted by the time of commencement of human research or animal testing.

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

The ETAg upper funding limit is 150 000€ per project. Project duration is 24 to 36 months.

Further information relevant to NATIONAL applicants

Contact Point

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FINLAND

Academy of Finland (AKA)

The following call topics of the joint call are supported by AKA:

Call topic 4: Social Sciences and the Humanities

- Demography, conflicts and security issues
- Traditional and non-traditional cultural values
- Opportunities for and challenges to regional development and social cohesion

Who can apply?

Funding is primarily granted to research teams that are composed of researchers who have already earned their doctorate. In principle, a project to be funded shall serve Finnish research and society or international collaboration.

The applicant (the principal investigator of a research project) must have the qualifications of a professor or an adjunct professor or be a researcher with a doctorate.

Academy funding is allocated to the researcher's host organisation. Academy funding to organisations outside the national economy (non-governmental organisations e.g. universities) is classed as discretionary Government transfers. Since these funds are allocated not to individual researchers but to their host organisation, the host organisation is regarded as the recipient of the transfer in accordance with the Act on Discretionary Government Transfers, and will accordingly be required to assume all related obligations. The decision to grant a discretionary Government transfer is subject to specific conditions, in that the organisation receiving the transfer is permitted to use the transfer in question solely for funding research carried out by the principal investigator named in the application.

Staff to be hired with the research funding must have an employment relationship with the site of research or the organisation that has received the funding.

The Academy of Finland will provide funding for research projects only insofar as the institution serving as the site of the research undertakes to provide the project with the necessary basic facilities, which are the same as those available for other research staff at the institution, such as office and laboratory premises, equipment (incl. computer equipment), and telecommunications, telephone, mailing, copying and library services.

Academy funding to non-research organisations: The primary goal of non-research organisations is related to other activities than independent research or dissemination of research results. As a rule, the Academy does not grant funding to support economic activity. Economic activity is defined as all activity where goods or services are offered on an open market. The Academy may also grant funding to non-research organisations, but only if it can be granted in

keeping with the EU's state aid rules in the form of de minimis aid. All aid granted by authorities in an EU country to such organisations that does not exceed 200,000 euros per three fiscal years can be regarded as de minimis aid. The funding also comes under the Finnish Act on Discretionary Government Transfers and, where applicable, the Academy's general funding conditions.

Business collaborators in Academy-funded projects: If an Academy-funded project involves cooperation with business companies that are not funded by the Academy, the project must follow special terms and conditions regarding business cooperation. The aim of the terms and conditions is to prevent indirect state aid to business companies. Read more in the Academy's general funding conditions (item 10.1). Where an Academy-funded project involves cooperation with business companies, the terms and conditions of the project, in particular as regards contributions to its costs, the sharing of risks and outcomes, the dissemination of results, and access to and allocation of IPRs, must be concluded in writing before the start of the project.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

I. Eligible costs as direct costs

- a. Costs of personnel
- b. Costs of durable equipment
- c. Consumables and supplies
- d. Subcontracting
- e. Other costs

Events

Travel

Subsistence allowance

II. Indirect Costs: Overheads

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the joint call

Calls for Academy research funding and the preparation, drafting and execution of Academy funding decisions are all carried out under the full cost model. This affects the application for research grants, budgeting, the allocation of research grants as well as accounting and reporting. The full cost model does not apply to personal grants.

Academy research funding is by nature a joint venture in which the funds to finance the costs of each project always come from at least two sources. When applying for Academy funding, universities, research institutes and other research organisations commit to contributing a certain percentage of the project costs.

When the full cost model is applied, the Academy's funding contribution comes to a maximum of 70 per cent. The percentage is equally applicable to all project costs, that is, to both direct and indirect costs, including overheads.

The Academy has adopted a payment procedure for all organisations that receive Academy funding. In the use of funds, funding recipients shall follow both relevant legislation and the

Academy's separate guidelines. In the use of the funds, the valid general conditions and guidelines of the Academy of Finland shall be adhered to, unless otherwise decided.

Research grants from the Academy can be used only for the purpose for which they have been granted. This is the responsibility of the site of research that has received the funds and the principal investigator of the research project.

Any supplies, equipment and literature acquired with Academy funding will remain in the ownership and possession of the site of research. In the case of research infrastructures, the parties can agree in writing on other procedures and notify the Academy at the application stage. The guidelines for the acquisition procedure at the site of research in question shall be followed.

The general conditions and guidelines are an integral part of the Academy's funding decisions and are sent to the funding recipient and the principal investigator together with the funding decision.

The Academy recommends that Academy-funded social-science research data be delivered to the Finnish Social Science Archive (FSD), based at the University of Tampere.

Funding recipients should also read the Academy's research-ethical guidelines, equality plan (PDF) and IPR handbook for researchers.

All applicants are obliged to contact the National Contact Point, and requested to read the general conditions for funding decisions of the Academy of Finland prior to submitting their application. These conditions will be applied.

<http://www.aka.fi/en-GB/A/Funding-and-guidance/Use-of-funding/>

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

A realistic amount of funds to be applied from AKA per one project is around € 100 000 per year. Project duration is 24 or 36 months.

National Contact Point

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GERMANY

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

Applicants will be advised to check with the respective national Contact Point the eligibility as to who may apply and what costs are eligible before a consortium submits the complete application.

The following call topics of the joint call are supported by BMBF:

BMBF will support S&T Projects relating to any research areas listed in the 5 priority domains of the call.

Who can apply?

Research proposals may be submitted by German

- Research institutions
- Universities
- SMEs

Research institutions that receive basic funding from the Federal Government and the Länder can only be granted funds to cover extra expenditure in addition to their basic financing.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

I. Direct costs

a. Costs of personnel

Grants towards the costs of scientific staff, technical staff and/or student assistants, required in connection with the proposed project can be provided.

b. Costs of durable equipment

Funding for equipment can be provided. However, this only includes equipment that does not form part of an institution's basic equipment (i.e. no laptops, notebooks or equipment which is regularly used by the applicants).

c. Consumables and supplies

Any consumables necessary for the project implementation (expendable items, devices, business needs, transportation expenses, literature, rents, orders, etc.) may be considered as direct costs. Consumables are only eligible costs if bought after the start date of the project. Consumables belonging to the basic facilities of an applicant are not eligible.

d. Subcontracting

The general rule should be that applicants shall implement the project and shall have the necessary resources to that end. However, it should be accepted that as an exception certain parts that are not "core" parts of the project may be subcontracted. Examples for minor services to be subcontracted are rent of locations, translation costs, costs for technical equipment in the context of the organization of events or printing services etc.

e. Other costs

Events: With regard to workshops in Germany, grants can be provided towards expenses such as

the preparation of the workshop, catering and rental of the venue. For food and beverage per lunch/dinner a maximum amount of 30 EUR/person shall be applied. The amount of the grant depends on the size of the workshop and the number of guests.

Travel and subsistence allowance for German staff: The subsistence allowance per full day (including accommodation, meals) in the context of a business trip should be applied as a lump sum. Travel costs are eligible (economy class). Please check www.internationales-buero.de/de/foerderung.php for current rates. Lump sums can be reduced or cancelled when accommodation or meals are financed through a third party. Contributions to health insurance and other types of insurance are covered by this lump sum and is payable by the beneficiaries themselves. Arrival and departure days are treated as half days.

f. Costs for filing and obtaining patents

Necessary expenses for patent applications (patent lawyers and patent office fees) that are needed to fulfil the funding objectives can be covered, provided that the expenses are incurred during the funding period and that they have not already been or are expected to be covered by other public funding providers.

II. Indirect Costs: Overheads

Overhead costs are eligible depending on the type of institution as well as on the respective accounting system. Universities (public/non-public) and university hospitals (regardless of their legal status) can apply for a lump sum of 20% (Projektpauschale) of the requested funding for research projects.

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the Joint Call

Grants for universities, research and science institutions and similar establishments will be calculated on the basis of the eligible but additional project-related expenditures (grants for Helmholtz centers and the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft (FhG) will be calculated on the basis of the total project-related costs eligible for funding), up to 100% of which can be covered in individual cases.

In exceptional cases, SMEs can be funded. The grants for SMEs are calculated on the basis of the total project-related costs eligible for funding. As a rule, up to 50% of these costs can be covered by government grants, depending on how close the project is to application. The BMBF policy requires an own contribution towards the eligible costs incurred - as a rule at least 50%.

The European Commission's Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development must be taken into account when calculating the respective funding ratio. This Community Framework allows a differentiated bonus arrangement for collaborative projects involving applicants in the new German Länder and for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which may result in a higher rate of funding.

A lump-sum of 20% (Projektpauschale) of the requested funding for research projects for the benefit of universities and university hospitals is already included in the upper funding limit.

Upper funding limit

Upper funding limit: **150.000 EUR/project** incl. lump sum of 20% (Projektpauschale)
(NOT per partner in a given project.) Project duration is 24 to 36 months.

Applicants whose proposals have been evaluated positively will be invited to submit - in coordination with the designated project coordinator - a formal application for funding on which a decision will be taken after a final evaluation. To draft formal applications for funding, applicants must use the BMBF's electronic application system "easy".

Further information relevant to NATIONAL applicants

Contact Point

German Aerospace Center (DLR), Project Management Agency
European and International Cooperation
Heinrich-Konen-Str. 1
53227 Bonn/Germany

- **Ms. Karin Kiewisch**
Nanotechnologies
E-Mail: karin.kiewisch@dlr.de
Phone : +49 228 3821-1855
- **Ms. Maria Josten**
Environment/Climate Change
Robotics
E-Mail: maria.josten@dlr.de
Phone: +49 228 3821-1415
- **Mr. Stefan Klumpp**
Health Research (excluding Organ-on-a-chip-systems)
E-Mail: stefan.klumpp@dlr.de
Phone: +49 228 3821-2038
- **Mr. Michael Stöcker**
Health Research (Organ-on-a-chip-systems)

E-Mail: m.stoecker@fz-juelich.de
Phone: +49 2461 61 -3326
- **Ms. Cornelia Parisius**
Social Sciences and Humanities
E-Mail: cornelia.parisius@dlr.de
Phone: +49 228 3821-1422
- **Ms. Andrea Kröll**
Administrative and financial issues
E-Mail: andrea.kroell@dlr.de
Phone: + 49 228 3821-1413

LATVIA

State Education Development Agency (VIAA)

All call topics of the joint call are supported by VIAA:

1. Call topic: Nanotechnologies
2. Call topic: Environment/Climate change
3. Call topic: S&T projects in Health
4. Call topic: Social Sciences and Humanities
5. Call topic: Robotics

Who can apply?

Following legal persons (as defined under the Latvian law) are eligible for funding, except natural persons:

- ✓ R&D institutions - research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, their institutes and research centres etc.
- ✓ Enterprises and companies.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

Direct costs:

- Personnel costs,
- Other direct costs such as consumables, equipment (only depreciation costs), materials and etc.,
- Subcontracts (up to 25% of total direct costs),
- Travels costs,
- Project management costs,

Indirect costs (can reach a maximum of 20% of the total direct costs).

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the joint call

R&D institutions (research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, research centres etc.) must be listed in the Registry of Research Institutions operated by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia.

Private entities must be registered in the Registry of Enterprises of the Republic of Latvia and provide most of its R&D&I activities in the Republic of Latvia.

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

Maximum of 70 000 euros per project year can be requested by each project participant. Project duration is 24 to 36 months.

National co-financing rate for project shall be determined in accordance with the Commission's Regulation (EC) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the common market in application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty (General block exemption Regulation).

Any other information relevant to the joint call

The funding of RTD activities is provided pursuant in accordance with the Law on Research Activity (adopted on 14 April 2005 with amendments) and Regulation of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia No 259 on the procedure for providing support for participation in international cooperation programs for research and technology (adopted on 26 June 2015).

National Contact Point

- Maija Bundule
- State Education Development Agency
- Phone: +371 67785423
- E-Mail: maija.bundule@viaa.gov.lv

MOLDOVA

Center of International Projects of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova (CIP)

The following call topics of the joint call are supported by CIP:

1. Call topic: **Nanotechnologies**
2. Call topic: **Environment/Climate change**
3. Call topic: **S&T projects in Health**
4. Call topic: **Social Sciences and Humanities**

Who can apply?

Applicants will be advised to check with the respective national Contact Point the eligibility as to who may apply and what costs are eligible before a consortium submits the complete application.

Research proposals may be submitted by Moldovan researchers (based in Moldova) from the Research and Development Organizations accredited for science by the National Council for Accreditation and Attestation. The list of eligible R&D Organizations can be accessed at: <http://www.cnaa.md/en/accreditation-commission/>

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

I. Direct costs

a) Costs of personnel

Funding can be provided for scientific staff, administrators and/or student assistants, in connection with the proposed project according to the corresponding national regulations.

b) Costs of durable equipment

Funding for equipment can be provided. However, this only includes equipment that does not form part of an institution's basic equipment (i.e. no laptops, notebooks, photo & video cameras or equipment which is regularly used by the applicants).

c) Consumables and supplies

Any consumables necessary for the project implementation (expendable items, devices, business needs, transportation expenses, literature, rents, orders, etc.) may be considered as direct costs.

d) Subcontracting

The general rule should be that applicants shall implement the project and shall have the necessary resources to that end. However, it should be accepted that as an exception certain parts that are not "core" parts of the project may be subcontracted. Examples for minor services to be subcontracted are rent of locations, translation costs, costs for technical equipment in the context of the organization of events or printing and materials multiplication services etc.

e) Other costs

Events: In case of organization of workshops in Moldova, could be eligible expenses such as:

preparation of the workshop, catering and rental of the venue. For the expenses related to the events organizations in Moldova shall be applied the corresponding national regulations.

f) Travel and subsistence allowance

The travel-related expenses: subsistence allowance per full day (including accommodation, meals), health insurance, and tickets tour-retour in the context of a business trip should be calculated according the Government Decision of the republic of Moldova nr.10 from 05/01/2012.

g) Costs for filing and obtaining patents

Necessary expenses for patent applications (patent lawyers and patent office fees) that are needed to fulfill the funding objectives can be covered according to the corresponding national regulations.

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the joint call

The Annex#3: “Regulation of the calls organizing for State Programmes and projects from science and innovation area” to the Partnership Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Academy of Sciences of Moldova shall apply for any general or additional eligibility criteria.

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

Upper funding limit: 20.000 EUR/project. Project duration is 24 months.

Any other information relevant to the joint call - N/A

National Contact Point

- Center of International Projects of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova
- Dr. Lidia Romanciuc
- Phone: +37322270774
- E-Mail: intprojects@asm.md

ROMANIA

Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI)

The following call topics of the joint call are supported by UEFISCDI:

1. Nanotechnologies

- 1.1 Advanced nano-sensors for Environment and Health
- 1.2 Novel functional nanomaterials based on design and modelling

2. Environment/Climate change

- 2.1 Impact of climate change and extreme climate events on the environment;
- 2.2 Prevention and remediation of pollution of aquatic systems

3. S&T projects in Health

- 3.1 Regenerative Medicine, Biomaterials and Organ-on-a-chip-systems
- 3.2 Drug discovery for cancer, cardiovascular and infectious diseases

5. Robotics

- 5.1 Robotics Design and Human-Robot Interaction
- 5.2 Robots in agriculture, medicine, industry, maritime and education

Who can apply?

Eligible entities for funding are universities, public institutions, R&D national institutions, joint-stock companies, SME's and Large companies, NGOs (associations, foundations, etc.), others

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

For the fundamental research activities, industrial research and experimental development, according to HG 134/2011, types of expenses are eligible, as follow:

- a. Staff costs;
- b. Logistics expenses
 - Capital expenditure;
 - Expenditure on stocks - supplies and inventory items;
 - Expenditure on services performed by third parties cannot exceed 25 % of the funding from the public budget. The subcontracted parts should not be core/substantial parts of the project work;
- c. Travel expenses;
- d. Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs) and travel expenses. Indirect costs will not exceed 20 % of direct costs, excluding the cost for subcontracting.

More information can be found at:

<http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/articole/4536/Pachet-de-informatii-ERANETERANET-Cofund.html>

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the joint call

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

Maximum 200 000 € /project as partner and 250 000 € /project as coordinator. Project duration is 24 to 36 months.

National Contact Point

- Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI)
- **Domnica Cotet**
- Phone: +40 21 302 38 80
- E-Mail : domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Russian Ministry of Education and Sciences (MON)

Applicants will be advised to check with the respective national Contact Point the eligibility as to who may apply and what costs are eligible before a consortium submits the complete application.

The following call topics of the joint call are supported by MON:

1. Nanotechnologies
2. Environment/Climate change
3. Health
5. Robotics

Who can apply?

Research proposals may be submitted by Russian legal entities (based in the Russian Federation):

- Any Russian legal entity conducting research (government entity as well) except public establishment

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

1. Costs of personnel: Payments for the labour of employees engaged in the project.
2. Tangible costs, including consumables and supplies necessary for the project implementation.
3. Costs of durable equipment.
However, this only includes equipment that does not form part of an institution's basic equipment (i.e. no laptops, notebooks or equipment which is regularly used by the applicants). It should be kept in mind that the purchase of equipment is to be justified in the proposal.
4. Subcontracting.
As an exception, it is acceptable that certain parts that are not "core" parts of the project may be subcontracted. Subcontracting should be justified in the proposal.
5. Other direct costs, such as:
 - travel costs;
 - costs of shared knowledge centers' services;
 - preparation of specific scientific and technical information (documentation);
 - expenses for the usage of commercial patent and other informational resources;
 - expenses for test operations including the quality control of purchased consumables and supplies.
6. Overheads.

All the costs should be justified in the proposal.

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the Single Joint Call

The participants from Russia, applying for the funding from MON, can receive up to 50% of the total funding of the joint project. One of the selection criteria for funding is correlation of the proposed amount of work and the requested funding. Funding is provided in Russian rubles.

Upper funding limit

Upper funding limit: **18 mln RUB/project**. Project duration is 24 or 36 months.

Applicants to the S&T call who would like to request funding from MON have to submit a national application within the Federal Target Program “Research and development in Priority Fields of the S&T Complex of Russia 2014-2020” (<http://www.fcpir.ru/>). National proposals are submitted by the Russian partner according to rules and requirements of the Federal Target Program. Applications should be submitted both electronically by completing online forms and posting scanned copies of documents on the portal <http://konkurs2014.fcpir.ru> and as a hard copy to be delivered personally (Brysovpereulok 21, entrance 1, room 110) or by post (Iverskaya 11, 125993 Moscow). Funding decision is also taken based upon the applicant’s compliance with national rules and requirements.

Further information relevant to NATIONAL applicants

Contact Point(s)

Ms. Irina Kuklina (ICISTE)

Email: ikouklina@mail.ru; kuklina@mniop.ru

Phone: +7 495 660 34 29

Ms. Anastasia Zadorina (ICISTE)

Email: zadorina@mniop.ru

Phone: +7 495 660 34 29

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)

The following call topics of the joint call are supported by RFBR:

All topics of the ERA.Net RUS PLUS 2017 Call are supported.

Who can apply?

1. Any Russian researcher
2. Foreign researcher working in Russian research institution, holding Russian Federation residence permit and accredited in tax authority and superannuation fund.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

Please use link below for detailed eligible costs list:

<http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/getimage/?objectId=1896479>

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the joint call

Despite Russian researchers can present themselves in a project proposal as a multiple private investigators, they will be treated by RFBR as one team only. In case the project will be among those selected for funding, RFBR grant award will be managed within one project through only one Russian legal entity. Therefore Russian researchers should agree beforehand through which legal institution they will manage grant award and appoint a person to be responsible for managing grant award and acting on behalf of team in negotiations with RFBR. The total number of Russian researcher in a project should not exceed 10 people.

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

The total funding volume for each project will be the subject of annual review, however an amount up to 3 mln. RUR per year may be anticipated. Project duration is 24 or 36 months.

Any other information relevant to the joint call

Please visit national call page at www.rfbr.ru for detailed information.

National Contact Points

- Denis Rudik
- Russian Foundation for Basic Research
- Phone: +74999410196 (ext.1625)
- E-Mail: rudik@rfbr.ru

- Yaroslav Sorokotyaga
- Russian Foundation for Basic Research
- Phone: +74999410196
- E-Mail: ysorokot@rfbr.ru

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (UB RAS)

Applicants will be advised to check with the respective National Contact Point the eligibility as to who may apply and what costs are eligible before submitting the complete application.

All call topics of the joint call are supported by UB RAS:

6. Nanotechnology
7. Environment/climate change
8. Health
9. Social Sciences and Humanities
10. Robotics

Who can apply?

Proposal may be submitted by any researcher working in a scientific organization that is under scientific supervision of Ural Branch of RAS.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

I. Eligible costs as direct costs

a. Costs of personnel

Grants towards the costs of scientific staff, administrators and/or post-graduate student assistants, required in connection with the proposed project can be provided.

b. Costs of durable equipment

Funding for low-cost equipment can be provided.

c. Consumables and supplies

Any consumables necessary for the implementation of the project, including consumables belonging to the basic facilities, may be considered as direct eligible costs. Consumables are only eligible costs under the project if bought after the start date of the project.

d. Subcontracting

The general rule should be that applicants shall implement the project and shall have the necessary resources to that end. However, it should be accepted that as an exception certain parts that are not "core" parts of the project may be subcontracted. Examples for minor services to be subcontracted are rent of locations, translation costs, costs for technical equipment in the context of the organization of events or printing services etc.

e. Other costs:

Events

Funding can be provided for the organization of workshops in Russia. Grants can be provided towards expenses such as the accommodation of the guests, transfers within Russia and rental of the venue. Once the accommodation and meals for the guests are covered, no additional per diem allowances will be provided.

Travel

As a general rule, travel costs (economy class) to Program Owner's countries, i.e., countries with funding bodies involved in this call, and within Russia are eligible. Only travel costs related to the activities under the project can be covered.

Subsistence allowance

The subsistence allowance per day including accommodation costs and meals in the context of the business trips should be applied in accordance with the budget rules of Russian Federation.

II. Indirect Costs: Overheads

Overhead costs are eligible within the limit of 20% of total project funding.

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the Joint Call

All the proposals submitted to Joint Call Secretariat that have the UB RAS as a Funding Party must be reviewed and preliminarily approved by the Expert Council of UB RAS. Before submitting a proposal online via PT-Outline to the Joint Call Secretariat, a Russian applicant should submit a copy of the proposal to the National Contact Point via e-mail (see below). After positive feedback, one hardcopy of the proposal approved by the director of the scientific organization must be sent to UB RAS Presidium, Pervomayskaya 91, 620990 Ekaterinburg.

Upper funding limit

Upper funding limit should be 100% of the eligible costs.

Russian applicants in joint research consortia funded by UB RAS can receive up to €25,000 of funding per project. Project duration is 24 or 36 months.

National Contact Point

- **Institution:**
Ural Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences
Pervomayskaya str., 91
620990, Ekaterinburg, Russia
E-Mail: fd@prm.uran.ru

- **Contact persons:**

Nikolay Mushnikov
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E-Mail: mushnikov@prm.uran.ru

Natasha Pomortseva
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RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences

All call topics of the joint call are supported by SB RAS:

1. Nanotechnologies
2. Environment/Climate change
3. Health
4. Social Sciences and Humanities
5. Robotics

Who can apply?

Research proposals may be submitted by any researcher or research team from organizations of the Federal Agency of Scientific Organizations working under scientific supervision of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

I Direct costs

a. Costs of personnel

Grants towards the costs of scientific staff, including young scientists and administrators and/or student assistants, required in connection with the proposed project can be provided.

b. Costs of durable equipment

Funding for low-cost equipment can be provided.

c. Consumables and supplies

Any consumables necessary for the implementation of the project, including consumables belonging to the basic facilities, may be considered as direct eligible costs. Consumables are only eligible costs under the project if bought after the start date of the project.

d. Travel and subsistence allowance

Travel

As a general rule, travel costs (economy class) to Program Owner's countries, i.e., countries with funding bodies involved in this call, and within Russia are eligible. *Subsistence allowance*

The subsistence allowance per day including accommodation costs and meals in the context of the business trips should be applied in accordance with the budget rules of the Russian Federation.

II. Indirect Costs: Overheads

Overhead costs are eligible within the limit of 20% of total project funding.

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the Joint Call

All proposals submitted to the Joint Call Secretariat that have the SB RAS as a Funding Party must be reviewed and preliminarily approved by the Expert Council of SB RAS. Before submitting a proposal online via PT-Outline to the Joint Call Secretariat, a Russian applicant should submit a copy of the proposal to the National Contact Point via e-mail (see below). This copy should contain a Russian version for the part of the project proposal concerning the SB RAS team.

After positive feedback, one hardcopy of the proposal approved by the director of the research organization must be sent to the SB RAS Presidium (17, Prosp. Akademika Lavrentieva, 630090, Novosibirsk).

Upper funding limit

Upper funding limit should be 100% of the eligible costs.

Russian applicants in joint research consortia funded by SB RAS can receive up to 1 mln RUB/ project per year. Project duration is 36 months.

National Contact Point

▪ **Institution:**

Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SB RAS)
17, Prosp. Akademika Lavrentieva
630090, Novosibirsk, Russia
<http://www.sbras.ru>

▪ **Contact persons:**

Natalya Maximova

Research Management Department, Presidium of SB RAS
Phone: (8-383) 330-15-47, +7-913-917-37-04
E-mail: maksimova@sbras.nsc.ru

Victoria Terekhova

Research Management Department, Presidium of SB RAS
Phone: (8-383) 330-18-62
E-mail: vika@sbras.nsc.ru

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (FEB RAS)

The following call topics of the joint call are supported by FEBRAS:

6. Nanotechnologies
7. Environment/Climate change
8. S&T projects in Health
9. Social Sciences and Humanities
10. Robotics

Who can apply?

Research proposals may be submitted by scientific organizations of the Far Eastern Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences under supervision of Federal Agency of Scientific Organizations.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

I. Direct costs

a. Costs of personnel

Grants towards the costs of scientific staff, administrators and/or post-graduate student assistants, required in connection with the proposed project can be provided.

b. Costs of durable equipment

Funding for low-cost equipment can be provided.

c. Consumables and supplies

Any consumables necessary for the implementation of the project, including consumables belonging to the basic facilities, may be considered as direct eligible costs. Consumables are only eligible costs under the project if bought after the start date of the project.

d. Subcontracting

The general rule should be that applicants shall implement the project and shall have the necessary resources to that end. However, it should be accepted that as an exception certain parts that are not "core" parts of the project may be subcontracted. Examples for minor services to be subcontracted are rent of locations, translation costs, costs for technical equipment in the context of the organisation of events or printing services etc.

e. Other costs

Events

Funding can be provided for the organization of workshops in Russia. Grants can be provided towards expenses such as the accommodation of the guests, transfers within Russia and rental of the venue. Once the accommodation and meals for the guests are covered, no additional per diem allowances will be provided.

Travel

As a general rule, travel costs (economy class) to Program Owner's countries, i.e., countries with funding bodies involved in this call, and within Russia are eligible.

Subsistence allowance

The subsistence allowance per day including accommodation costs and meals in the context of the business trips should be applied in accordance with the budget rules of Russian Federation.

II. Indirect Costs: Overheads

Overhead costs are eligible within the limit of 20% of total project funding.

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the joint call

In addition to online submission of proposals via PT-Outline, proposals should be submitted to FEB RAS in Russian language electronically through the system “FEB RAS Grant”:

<http://grant.febras.ru>

Moreover, two proposals hardcopy in Russian language must be sent to FEB RAS Presidium to the address of National Contact Point Marina Shtets, 50, Svetlanskaya St., Vladivostok, 690091, Russia.

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

Upper funding limit should be 100% of the eligible costs.

Russian applicants from FEB RAS in joint research consortia can receive up to RUB 2,000,000 of funding per project per year. Project duration is 24 or 36 months.

National Contact Point

- A. Institution: Far Eastern Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences
- B. Contact persons

For scientific issues

- Yury Kulchin
- Presidium of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (FEB RAS)
- E-Mail: kulchin@hq.febras.ru
- Phone/Fax : + 7-423-2268890

For administrative issues:

- Marina Shtets
- Presidium of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (FEB RAS)
- E-Mail: ompp@hq.febras.ru
- Phone/Fax : + 7-423-2268939

SERBIA

Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development (MESTD)

Applicants will be advised to check with the respective national Contact Point the eligibility as to who may apply and what costs are eligible before a consortium submits the complete application.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development is the central organization that promotes and finances research in Serbia. The MESTD serves all branches of science and the humanities by funding research projects of the national programs defined under Article 10. of the Law on Scientific and Research Activities (“Official Gazette of the RS”, No. 110/05, 50/06, 18/2010 and 112/2015). <http://www.mpn.gov.rs/dokumenta-i-propisi/zakonski-okvir>

All call topics of the ERA.Net RUS Plus S&T call 2017 are supported by MESTD:

1. Nanotechnologies

- 1.1 Advanced nano-sensors for Environment and Health
- 1.2 Novel functional nanomaterials based on design and modelling

2. Environment/Climate change

- 2.1 Impact of climate change and extreme climate events on the environment
- 2.2 Prevention and remediation of pollution of aquatic systems

3. Health

- 3.1 Regenerative Medicine, Biomaterials and Organ-on -a chip-systems
- 3.2 Drug discovery for cancer, cardiovascular and infectious diseases

4. Social Sciences and Humanities

- 4.1 Demography, conflicts and security issues
- 4.2 Traditional and non-traditional cultural values
- 4.3 Opportunities for and challenges to regional development and social cohesion

5. Robotics

- 5.1 Robotics Design and Human-Robot Interaction
- 5.2 Robots in agriculture, medicine, industry, maritime and education

Who can apply?

Research proposals may be submitted by Serbian Universities/Faculties and Research institutions, registered within the Serbian Register of accredited scientific and research organisations, in accordance with the national legislation.

A company and/or a public enterprise can be a participant in the project under the National Programme if it contributes in kind: (material, equipment) and/or financially.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

II. Direct costs

a) Costs of personnel

Funding can be provided for scientific staff, which is not fully engaged in national projects according to the corresponding national regulations.

b) Costs of durable equipment

Funding for equipment can be provided. However, this only includes equipment that does not form part of an institution's basic equipment (i.e. no laptops, notebooks, photo & video cameras or equipment which is regularly used by the applicants).

c) Consumables and supplies

Any consumables necessary for the project implementation (chemicals, devices, literature, rents, orders, etc.) may be considered as direct costs.

d) Travel and subsistence allowance

The travel-related expenses: subsistence allowance per full day (including accommodation, meals), health insurance, and tickets tour-retour in the context of a business trip should be calculated according to the corresponding national regulations.

e) Other costs

The general rule should be that applicants shall implement the project and shall have the necessary resources to that end. However, it is acceptable that as an exception certain parts that are not "core" parts of the project may be subcontracted. Examples for minor services to be subcontracted are rent of locations, translation costs, costs for technical equipment in the context of the organization of events, or printing and materials multiplication services etc.

Events: In case of organization of workshops in Serbia, expenses such as the following are eligible: preparation of the workshop, catering and rental of the venue. For the expenses related to the event organization in Serbia, the corresponding national regulations shall be applied.

III. Indirect costs

Overhead costs are eligible within the limit of 10% of total project funding.

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the single joint call:

Although a project proposal can involve several principal investigators from Serbia, they will be treated by MESTD as one team only. In case the project will be selected for funding, the MESTD grant award will be managed within one project through only one Serbian legal entity. Therefore Serbian researchers should agree beforehand through which legal institution they will manage the grant award and appoint a person to be responsible for managing the grant award and acting on behalf of the team in negotiations with MESTD.

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

Upper funding limit: 25.000 EUR/project. Project duration is 24 months.

Any other information relevant to the single joint call

National Contact Point

- Funding Institution – Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development

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SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)

The following call topics of the joint call are supported by SAS:

1. Nanotechnologies

- 1.1 Advanced nano-sensors for Environment and Health
- 1.2 Novel functional nanomaterials based on design and modelling

2. Environment/Climate change

- 2.1 Impact of climate change and extreme climate events on the environment
- 2.2 Prevention and remediation of pollution of aquatic systems

3. Health

- 3.1 Regenerative Medicine, Biomaterials and Organ-on -a chip-systems
- 3.2 Drug discovery for cancer, cardiovascular and infectious diseases

4. Social Sciences and Humanities

- 4.1 Demography, conflicts and security issues
- 4.2 Traditional and non-traditional cultural values
- 4.3 Opportunities for and challenges to regional development and social cohesion

Who can apply?

Only research Institutes of Slovak Academy of Sciences are eligible organisations for funding (up to 100%). Applicants from other Slovak R&D centres have to cover the project costs from their own sources (Letter of Commitment). The teams outside of SAS can be consortium members but not the coordinator of the consortium.

What types of funding are eligible for Slovak researchers?

1. Direct costs

1.1 Personnel costs

- must accurately reflect the work on the project
- may be used only to cover the costs (including health and social insurance) related to work agreements performed outside of employment
- maximum of 15 % of all direct costs
- maximum of 30% of all direct costs, in the case the Slovak project partner (SAS) is consortium coordinator (A project consortium must comprise project partners eligible for funding from at least three different countries, of which at least one team eligible for funding from Russia)

1.2 Material costs and expenditures

- a. *Consumables*: minor equipment and instruments, small-scale office and laboratory material (no basic equipment of the workplace; essential computer equipment is exception)
- b. *costs and expenditures for services directly related to the project*: contracts, consultations, publication of project results, conference fees
- c. *travel costs and living expenses*: limits for travel costs and daily subsistence allowance vary depending on destination country
(Pursuant to Slovak Act. 283/2002 Col. Of Laws on travel reimbursement)

2. Indirect Costs

- administration, energy and infrastructure
- maximum of 20% of all direct costs

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the joint call

Eligible costs as defined in the ToR of the joint call of ERA.Net RUS Plus text can be applied unless they are in conflict with the SAS Financial Rules for awarding grants for research projects.

Priority is given to the SAS Financial Rules.

http://www.sav.sk/index.php?lang=sk&charset=&doc=services-news&source_no=25&news_no=5570)

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

Maximum amount to 25.000 € per project/year for the funding period of up to 36 months, only on the condition that all respective FPs involved in the consortium approve the project duration for 36 months. In this case, final decision makes Presidium of SAS.

Any other information relevant to the joint call

National phase: Submission of the proposal at the national level will be required in parallel to the international evaluation. The submission will be carried out once the international evaluation and the ranking list have been performed and endorsed by the ERA.Net RUS Plus Call Steering Committee (CSC) and the Slovak project partner has been informed by the project consortium coordinator and invited by SAS to submit the proposal to it (Formular MVT'S). The Presidium of SAS makes the final decision for funding of selected projects.

Further guidance:

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- Web site: <http://www.sav.sk>
- 133 Act of February 19, 2002 on the Slovak Academy of Sciences,
- Financial rules for awarding SAS grants for research projects in frame of ERA.Net
- Programme for research institutes of SAS
- Principles of allocation of funds for the institutes of SAS to support projects in the field of international scientific cooperation

For more information please contact the NCP

National Contact Point

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SWITZERLAND

Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)

The following call topics of the joint call are supported by SNSF:

1. Call topic: Nanotechnologies
2. Call topic: Environment / Climate change
3. Call topic: S&T projects in Health
4. Call topic: Social Sciences and Humanities
5. Call topic: Robotics

Who can apply?

Proposals may be submitted by natural persons employed at a Swiss university, a Swiss university of applied sciences or an institution of the ETH Domain.

The SNSF Funding Regulations and the General Implementation Regulations for the Funding Regulations are applicable where not stated otherwise. The usual eligibility criteria of the SNSF are applied.

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

- a. Salaries of employees (not for Principal Investigator);
- b. Costs of materials that are directly related to the research project, namely material of enduring value, expendable items, field expenses, travel costs or third-party charges;
- c. Research costs for SMEs are not eligible;
- d. Indirect costs are not eligible.

Additional national eligibility criteria for the proposal beyond the general criteria in the Terms of Reference of the joint call

Proposals must be submitted in parallel to the SNSF

Upper funding limits for eligible costs?

Maximum contribution per project for the Swiss part: € 185.000. Project duration is 24 to 36 months.

Any other information relevant to the joint call

None

National Contact Point

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TURKEY

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)

In the frame of the Science and Technology Call, the applicants from Turkey are obliged to apply to the following support programme of TÜBİTAK:

- ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme (The Support Programme for Scientific and Technological Research Projects)

This application is meant to be made during the proposal stage of the ERA.Net RUS PLUS S&T Call.

All call topics of the joint call are supported by TUBITAK.

Who can apply?

I. Eligible applicants for the ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme.

Applicants may be from universities (public and private), R&D institutes, public and private corporations.

Project personnel requirements:

Principal Investigator, Researchers and Advisers:

- University personnel should have a PhD degree.
- Those working in a public institution or a private corporation should have an undergraduate diploma.
- The Principal Investigator should be the permanent staff of the organization making the project proposal.
- The principal investigator and the researchers (except for the foreign researchers) should be residing in Turkey. Foreigners may take part in projects as principal investigators/researchers provided that they are employed in an entity within the boundaries of Turkey.

A researcher should have a contribution of at least 10% of the project workload.

An adviser is allowed if the project requires special expertise on a specific subject. The number of advisers in a project is limited to the number of specific subjects in the project. The role of adviser in the project should be explained in detail in the project proposal.

II. Who Cannot Be A Principal Investigator?

University presidents and vice presidents, surgeons general, general secretaries, general managers or department heads in governmental agencies are not allowed to be principal investigators in the case that they occupy such positions at the time of application; similarly, the members of the executive committee and advisory board of TÜBİTAK research grant groups cannot be principal investigators in projects in the case that they occupy such positions at the time of application, however, they can take part in projects as researchers in a maximum of two projects.

What types of funding are eligible for Turkish researchers?

I. Eligible direct costs

a. Eligible direct costs for ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme

The maximal budget for research projects is 360,000 TL. This includes the scholarship payments; however it excludes payments to the PI, Co-PI's and overhead costs. The total funding will not exceed 100 % of the eligible costs. Project duration is 24 to 36 months.

Eligible types of funding under this programme are limited to personnel costs (scholarships), travel & subsistence, equipment and materials. Please see below for a detailed description of each item. Projects that involve building infrastructure are not funded.

b. Research material and small-scale research equipment

There is no applicable limit to material and equipment purchase as long as the overall project budget is in conformity with the rules laid down above in “*Art. 1.1. Eligible direct costs for ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme*”.

c. Personnel costs

Personnel costs include only the scholarships.

Total monthly budget for scholarships (personnel costs) should not exceed 4,800 TL.

d. Travel costs

Travels in business class are not accepted.

e. Living expenses

For the travel of Turkish researchers, the amount of the allowances varies according to the destination country and the conditions of the personnel, which is described in the Travel Expense Law No.6245. Please check TUBITAK website for the daily allowances for the Turkish researchers:

http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tubitak_content_files/seyahat/6245Kanunu.doc

f. Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events

The costs pertaining to organization of small scientific events shall be covered in accordance with the following rules:

In addition to the budget allocated for the participation in domestic/international scientific events, the maximum allowed budget for travel expenses of scientific events (scientific visit, networking etc.) in Turkey or abroad is limited to 15.000 TL/year.

As for the events in the form of meeting and workshops aiming at disseminating the results of the project outputs, the maximum budget is limited with 10.000 TL/year.

Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

The applications made simultaneously to the TÜBİTAK ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme will be checked only in terms of eligibility and budgetary regulations. The scientific merit of the projects will only be evaluated by the independent peer-reviewers in the frame of the ERA.Net RUS PLUS project.

The deadline for applying to the TÜBİTAK programmes is same with the deadline of submission of full proposals to the ERA.Net RUS PLUS Central Call Secretariat.

It should be noted that any project decided to be funded by TÜBİTAK in the framework of ARDEB 1001 Programme will have to fill in full ARDEB 1001 proposal forms and will have to provide all other requested accompanying documents and attain the necessary signatures and permits in order to be funded.

PLEASE CHECK TUBITAK WEBSITE AND CONSULT TUBITAK PERSONNEL FOR THE PROGRAMME CONDITIONS!

National Contact Point

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