

Call for Mobility Plus Project Proposals

Identification information

Partner country:	TURKEY
Partner organisation:	Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)
Programme:	Mobility Plus Projects
Implementation period:	January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2023

Legal framework

The call is based on Agreement on Scientific Cooperation of the year 2019 between the Czech Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as CAS) and The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (hereinafter referred to as TÜBİTAK), and in accordance with art. 2 par. 2 of the Act No. 283/1992 Coll., on the Czech Academy of Sciences, as amended, and art. 3 par. 2 of the Statutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

Basic definitions

Objectives

- Improvement of scientific cooperation between both countries;
- Stimulation of involvement of young researchers and PhD students;
- Support of research teams aspiring to cooperate on large international projects in the future;
- Enabling the use of methodology, infrastructure and equipment for the mutual benefit of both institutions.

Eligibility criteria

Project proposals from **all research fields** are accepted.

Maximum project duration is **3 years, i.e. 36 months**; extension beyond this period is not permitted.

On the Czech side:

- Project proposals can be submitted by the CAS institutes only (<http://www.avcr.cz/en/about-us/cas-structure/research-institutes/>);
- In case an applicant submits more than one project proposal within one call, only one of them can be funded.
- Only two subsequent projects realized by the same research teams can be funded.

Research team

Each research team consists of:

- One principal investigator (senior or junior researcher);
- One or more co-investigators.

Research team members are divided into four categories:

- Senior researchers (5 or more years after receiving PhD);
 - Junior researchers – postdocs (less than 5 years after receiving PhD);
 - PhD students;
 - Others (e.g. engineers, technicians).
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- All members must be employees of the CAS institutes.
 - Out of the whole team, at least 1/3 must be junior researchers or PhD students.

On the Turkish side:

- The Principal Investigator (PI) can be either from Academy, public or private sector.
For detailed information on the eligibility for Turkish team, see:
https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/1071_arastirma_projeleri_surec_dokumani.pdf
- The PI must hold a PhD degree if he/she is from the academy and must hold a BA/BASc Degree if he/she is from public/private sector.
- If the PI is from the private sector, he/she must be working there full-time for at least min. 6 (six) months.

Financial conditions

Financial contributions must be calculated and provided in compliance with the valid national legislation and internal regulations of the partner organisations.

Up to 3 (three) projects shall be selected for funding.

The cost of exchange of experts, scientist and other specialists shall be covered on the following basis:

- The Sending Party shall meet all related costs connected with travel, lodging and allowances according to their own regulations and allowances.
- The Sending Party shall be responsible for the emergency health insurance of its scientists, including medical care.

On the Czech side:

- Financial contribution shall be provided by the CAS towards the costs of the Czech research team.
- The maximum financial contribution shall be **CZK 200,000** per mobility project per year.
- Min. 50% of the approved financial contribution shall be used to cover mobility costs: travel, living expenses.
- Min. 30% of the approved financial contribution shall be used to cover research costs: consumables, services, small equipment, and networking.
- Non-eligible costs are: personnel, large equipment (exceeding CZK 40,000), overheads.
- There are no eligible indirect costs.

- The ratio between mobility and research costs shall be maintained on the project level as well as yearly. Transferring financial contributions between these two categories is allowed if the minimal ratio for both categories is maintained.
- The course of project implementation will be monitored through annual and final reports including use of financial means, justification of costs and possible transfers between categories.

On the Turkish side (for information only):

- TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant shall be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with the rules of TÜBİTAK 1071 Program.
- As a rule, Turkish team, either from academy, public or private sector, which is eligible for funding can receive up to 720.000 Turkish Liras excluding overhead and Project Incentive Premium (PIP) of funding per proposal in total.
- The funding shall cover the expenses in connection with the project, i. e. Personnel, travel, equipment/tool/software, service procurement, material costs.
- For Turkish team, the daily allowances shall be paid in accordance with the provision of the per diem Law No-6245 along with the economy class flight tickets for the scientific visits from Turkey to Czech Republic
- The total duration of visits in one direction of a specific project for Turkish researchers cannot be more than three months a year. It is possible to exceed 90 days a year provided that it is justified and deemed appropriate.
- The size of the grant may vary depending of the needs of each project and must be fully justified.
- A balanced distribution between the project items is required.

Project proposal submission

Project proposals must be submitted in parallel to both partner organisations.

- The partners should come to an agreement with each other using their own means of communication and jointly develop and complete their project proposal before submitting it to TÜBİTAK and CAS. TÜBİTAK and CAS do not match the collaborating partners.
- Project proposals must provide detailed information on the objectives and justification of the planned joint research work, the methodology to be followed, the composition of each research team and the intended time schedule.

On the Czech side:

- Project proposals in Czech or English must be complete and submitted within the stated deadline exclusively via the “KIS” online application.
- You are requested to register in the KIS application using the following link <https://kis.avcr.cz/kis2/oms/register> and fill in a project proposal. After finishing your proposal you shall forward it through your KIS account to the Director of your CAS Institute for its approval. The Director shall approve your proposal by submitting the project proposal to OMS KAV ČR (Division of International Cooperation, Head Office of the CAS) via his KIS account. **Bear in mind that all project proposals must be submitted by the CAS Institute Directors by 1 June 2020.**
- **Proposals submitted in any other way may be rejected on formal grounds.**

By submitting project proposal, the applicant:

- Agrees to processing of personal data contained in the project proposal pursuant to the relevant Czech legislation
- Declares that the information he/she stated is accurate, true and complete and that he/she is aware that if otherwise they shall face all the legal consequences;
- Declares that, if approved, he/she shall during the realization of the project follow:
 - [The Code of Ethics of researchers at the Czech Academy of Sciences](#);
 - [The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#);
 - [Recommendations of the International Commission "Self-Control in Science" \(Recommendations of the International Commission on Professional Self-Regulation in Science\)](#)

On the Turkish side (for information only)

- Turkish partners shall make their joint online application via TÜBİTAK's online application system: <http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>
- Turkish partners shall use E-signature for their applications. Detailed information can be achieved via:
http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/281/ardeb_e-imza_yardim_dokumani.pdf
- For the Turkish side, in case there are two or more institutions within the same project, Turkish institutions should submit a single joint proposal.
- Submission of proposals by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.
 - For Turkish team, please refer to the Ethics Committee Approval Document and Official Permission: https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/20689/ekbn_2020.pdf
 - TÜBİTAK will follow the IP policy with reference to the document available at: https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/tubitak_content_files/mevzuat/esaslar/ESASLAR_XI_3.pdf

Evaluation and Selection

Consists of a two-step process:

- At the national level, each partner organisation evaluates submitted proposals based on its internal rules and prepares a ranking list.
- At the international level, both partner organizations exchange their ranking lists, merge them, negotiate the final ranking and approve the proposals selected for funding. Total number of projects approved for funding is dependent on the financial possibilities of both partner organizations.

Only the project proposals, which shall be approved by TÜBİTAK and CAS shall be supported.

Criteria for evaluation of project proposals on the Czech side:

- **Quality of the project:**
 - Scientific relevance (concept, innovative character in relation to the state-of-the art, quality of objectives);
 - Methodology, work plan of activities and outputs;
 - Impact of project results, their dissemination and exploitation.
- **Quality of research teams:**
 - Composition and expertise of research teams;
 - Complementarity, methodology and equipment; previous cooperation and outputs;
 - Justification of collaboration needs.

- Active involvement of junior researchers and PhD students.
- Added value and broader impact of bilateral cooperation.

Evaluation of the final report (Czech side)

The project results and outputs will be evaluated. For definition of results see the Methodology for Evaluating Research Organisations and R&D&I Purpose-tied Aid Programmes (2017+) (<https://www.vyzkum.cz/FrontClanek.aspx?idsekce=799796>).

Criteria for evaluation of project proposals on the Turkish side (for information only):

- The proposals shall be reviewed according to a certain set of evaluation criteria:
 - Importance of International Collaboration
 - Scientific Excellence
 - Methodology
 - Project Management
 - Impact
- Awarded proposals shall go through a pre-award stage, which starts after the announcement of results, and continues for appr. Eight weeks. During pre-award period, the awarded institution shall be notified about the requirements (possible budget reduction, budget details, timeline changes, etc.).

Evaluation of the progress and final report (Turkish side)

For Turkish team, the Lead Principal/Principal Investigator of each project has to prepare financial and scientific/technical progress reports at determined dates in the project contract to be submitted TÜBİTAK. Payments shall be allocated following the approval of the progress reports.

Schedule

01.04.2020	Announcement of the call for project proposals
01.06.2020 24:00	Deadline for submission of project proposals on the Czech side (on TÜBİTAK 01.06.2020 17:00 (IST time) and 08.06.2020 17:00 (IST time) deadline for e-signatures for TÜBİTAK)
October 2020	Completion of the assessment at national level
November 2020	Completion of the joint assessment at international level
Nov./Dec.2020	Approval of the final results by both partner organisations
December 2020	Announcement of results

Contact persons

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