SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION (WTZ)
AUSTRIA / CZECH REPUBLIC
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JOINT PROJECTS 2022-2023

CLOSING DATE: 30 April 2021 – 12:00 noon

The programme for Scientific & Technological Cooperation (WTZ) is carried out in the frame of international agreements with selected partner countries with the aim to stimulate international research.

Thematic areas

Open to all scientific disciplines and thematic areas, including social sciences as well as humanities.

Target group

AUSTRIA:

- Researchers at universities, universities of applied sciences and non-university research institutions in areas of basic research
- PhD/Doctoral students

Minimum requirement for the Austrian Principal Investigator: PhD/doctoral degree

Project applications submitted by early-stage researchers as well as project applications with involvement of PhD/doctoral students and/or female researchers will be prioritized.

Please note: Only new project partnerships can be funded under this programme.

CZECH REPUBLIC:

Researchers at research organisations in the Czech Republic as defined in Art. 1.3. (ee) of the Communication from the Commission – Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01).

Project applications submitted by early-stage researchers as well as project applications with involvement of PhD/doctoral students and/or female researchers will be prioritized.

Funding

Funding will be provided for the mobility of researchers to carry out bilateral research projects. In Austria up to EUR 2,000.- per project of the granted funding may be applied for project-related material costs.

Project duration: January 2022 until December 2023

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1 Bachelor and Master graduates are not eligible for funding.
2 Researchers with an experience of up to 10 years after their PhD/Doctoral degree; recognized career breaks will be taken into account (e.g. due to family or health reasons or occupation outside the academic sector).
3 These project applications will receive additional points during the evaluation process and hence a better overall score.
4 (Follow-up-) Applications of bilateral partnerships whose Principal Investigators already received funding from this programme to carry out a joint project are not eligible.
Funding mode: The sending side covers the travel expenses whereas the accommodation expenses will be financed by the hosting side (and vice versa).

Please note: Research stays in both countries are obligatory.
Funding will be provided for activities within the scope of these guidelines only.

AUSTRIA:

Funding amount: max. EUR 7,000.- per project

Eligible costs:
- **Travel expenses**: Travel costs (economy class) will be reimbursed based on submitted invoices.\(^5\)
- **Accommodation expenses**:
  - Researchers: EUR 100.- **per working day for up to 14 days** OR EUR 1,400.- **per month** for long-term stays **between 14 days and 3 months** maximum
  - PhD/Doctoral students: EUR 100.- **per working day for up to 12 days** OR EUR 1,250.- **per month** for long-term stays **between 12 days and 3 months** maximum.
- **Project related material costs**: max. EUR 2,000.- as part of the granted maximum budget based on submitted invoices.\(^6\)

CZECH REPUBLIC:

Maximum funding: **CZK 200,000** per project (**CZK 100,000** each year)

Eligible Costs:
- **Travel expenses for Czech researchers travelling to Austria**: max. CZK 7,000 per 1 travel
- **Per diem (accommodation and meals allowances)** for Austrian researchers travelling to the Czech Republic:
  - CZK 2,000 / per day for short-term stays (1 - 15 days)
  - CZK 30,000 / per day for long-term stays (1 - 3 months)
  - CZK 1,000 / per day for stays of 16 days to 1 month

Application process and content

It is up to the applicants to find suitable partners in the respective country. Applications must be submitted according to respective rules in each country simultaneously: to OeAD by the Austrian research team and to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports by the Czech research team. Only applications submitted in time in both countries are eligible for funding.

**AUSTRIA**: Electronic application only [web-link].

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\(^5\) For trips up to seven hours bus and train shall be used. Travelling by private car will be reimbursement with the value of an economy class train ticket (proof of ticket price required).

\(^6\) Only project-specific material costs will be reimbursed, that are essential to carry out the research project and that go beyond the resources made available from the research institution’s infrastructure. Infrastructure or basic equipment of research institutions cannot be funded.
Content: (in PDF format)

- Brief academic CV of each Austrian project member
- List of relevant publications of the last 2 years on the Austrian side
- Project description including methodology (about 3 to 5 A4 pages)
- Brief description of the partner institutions
- Brief description of the project tasks of ALL project members (Austrian and Czech)
- Further cooperation perspective

CZECH REPUBLIC:

Grant application of the Czech applicant of must be filled in Czech language on the forms for this call, which are available on the website of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS): www.msmt.cz. The grant application with all mandatory annexes must be submitted in one data message preferably via the data box of MEYS: vidaawt

Evaluation criteria:

- **Scientific quality** of the proposed research project incl.
  - Feasibility of the joint research plan
  - Adequacy of the scientific method
  - Qualification of the scientists/research teams involved (max. 25 points)

- **Perspective for further joint cooperation activities** (max. 15 points)

- Project applications will receive up to 10 points additionally,
  - **Either if submitted by early-stage researchers** (+10 points)
  - **Or if involving doctoral students/early-stage researchers** (+5 points) and/or **female researchers** (+5 points) (max. 10 points)

Maximum score: 50 points

**Funding decision**

Based on national evaluations in Austria and in the Czech Republic a joint shortlist will be prepared. The funding decision will be taken by the Austrian-Czech Joint Commission on Scientific and Technological Cooperation and announced presumably by December 2021.

**Reporting and publications**

**Scientific and financial reporting on the project is obligatory:**

- **Brief project progress report after one year** via the OeAD online tool as a precondition for further funding!
- **Final scientific and financial report** no more than 3 months after the end of the project incl.:
  - Output of the projects compared with the objectives and aims of the application
  - Short, concise summary comprehensible to lay persons

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2 This short report will be distributed to researchers within OeAD’s WTZ-funding programme in similar disciplines to increase networking in the sector of international cooperation.
Joint publications resulting from these cooperation projects have to mention the support from the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research and Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

**Intellectual property**

The project partners must take adequate steps to ensure protection and sharing of the intellectual property that could result from the joint projects.

**Closing date for applications**

Applications must be submitted before **30 April 2021, 12:00 noon** to be eligible for funding.

**Further information**

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<th>In Czech Republic:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OeAD - Austria's Agency for Education and Internationalisation</td>
<td>MEYS - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Isabella Scheibelreiter</td>
<td>Ms Irena Sindelarova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ebendorferstraße 7</td>
<td>Karmelitska 529/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-1010 Vienna</td>
<td>118 12 Praha 1 – Mala Strana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel. +43 (0)1/ 53408-472</td>
<td>Tel.: +420 234 812 287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:wtz@oead.at">wtz@oead.at</a></td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:irena.sindelarova@msmt.cz">irena.sindelarova@msmt.cz</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.oead.at/wtz">www.oead.at/wtz</a></td>
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