



Call for Mobility Project proposals

Identification information

Partner country:	Bulgaria
Partner organisation:	Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS)
Programme:	Mobility
Period:	2023 – 2024

Legal framework

The call is based on Agreement on Scientific Cooperation of the year 2020 between the Slovak Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as SAS) and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as BAS).

Basic definitions

Objectives

- Improvement of scientific cooperation between both countries;
- Stimulation of involvement of young researchers and PhD students;
- Supporting 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 **2 years, i.e. 24 months**; extension beyond this period is not permitted.

Project proposals can be submitted:

- **On the Slovak side** by a [SAS institute or center](#)
- **On the Partner side** by a BAS institute or unit;

In case applicant submits more than one project proposal within one call, only one of them 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).



- All members must be employees of the SAS institutes.
- Out of the whole team, at least 1/3 must be junior researchers or PhD students.

Financial provisions

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

Up to 5 (five) two years mobility projects shall be selected for funding.

- Financial contribution shall be provided by the SAS towards the costs of the Slovak research team.
- The maximum financial contribution shall be **EUR 2,000** per mobility project per year.
- The approved financial contribution shall be used first of all to cover mobility costs: travel, living expenses.
- Max. 30% of the approved financial contribution can be used to cover research costs: consumables, services, small equipment.
- Non-eligible costs are: personnel, large equipment (exceeding **EUR 2,000**), 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.
- The course of project implementation will be monitored through annual and final reports including use of financial means and justification of costs.

Project proposal submission

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

On the Slovak side:

- Project proposals in English must be completed and submitted within the stated deadline exclusively via the Intranet online application.
- To submit a project proposal, log in to the SAS Intranet. Select Bilateral Mobility Call and fill in a project proposal. After finishing your proposal, you shall forward it through your Intranet account to the Director of your SAS Institute for its approval. The Director shall approve your proposal. Once the project proposal is approved by the Director, it will be automatically sent to OMS Úrad SAV (Department of International Cooperation, Office of the SAS) via his/her Intranet account. **Bear in mind that all project proposals must be submitted by the SAS Institute Directors by 31 May 2022.**
- Follow the attached instructions to submit your project proposal.

By submitting project proposal, the applicant:

- Agrees to processing of personal data within the meaning of the Act No. 18/2018 Coll., On Personal Data Protection, as amended;
- Declares that the information he/she stated is accurate, true and complete and that he/she is aware that if otherwise they will face all the legal consequences;
- Declares that, if approved, he/she will during the realization of the project follow:
 - The SAS Code of Ethics;
 - [The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#) (Slovak translation available [here](#)).



Evaluation and Selection

Consists of 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 organisations 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.

Criteria for evaluation of project :

- **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.**

Schedule

1 April 2022	Announcement of the call
31 May 2022	Deadline for submission of project proposals
September/October 2022	Completion of the assessment undertaken by external evaluators and the Commission for Foreign Relations
November 2022	Comparison and approval of results by both partner organizations and SAS Presidium
December 2022	Announcement of results

Contact persons

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