

Call for Project Proposals

Supporting the topic of

Science in your Own Language (SOL)

Deadline:	15 April 2025, 17:00 CEST
Documents and procedures:	http://www.chistera.eu
Call information:	Eugenio Echagüe +33 1 7354 8221 <mark>eugenio.echague@agencerecherche.fr</mark>
Indicative budget:	Appr. 7.15M€

Funding Organisations supporting this call:



CHIST-ERA supports European coordinated research on long-term ICT and ICT-based scientific challenges

CHIST-ERA is supported by the Pathfinder programme of the European Innovation Council



Key Facts & Figures

CHIST-ERA support to Open Science

CHIST-ERA is a consortium of research funding organisations in Europe and beyond supporting useinspired basic research in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) or at the interface between ICT and other domains. The CHIST-ERA consortium is itself supported by Horizon 2020 and is part of the European Innovation Council's Pathfinder programme.

CHIST-ERA fully joins the Open Science agenda of Horizon Europe following the principle 'as open as possible, as closed as necessary':

- The network proposes an original policy framework, encompassing national/regional policies, for the researchers to shape their projects in line with highest standards of open access practices;
- 2. With a focus on emerging ICT, CHIST-ERA further accompanies this effort by supporting R & D projects on key enabling tools, services and standards aimed at facilitating and promoting open access, within and beyond ICT research domains.

Content of the Call

Topic.	
Indicative budget:	Approx. 7.15 M€
International consortium:	The project consortia must have a minimum of 3 eligible and independent partners requesting funding from participating funding organisations from at least 3 of the following countries:
consortium.	Belgium, Estonia, Finland, France, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Kingdom.
Standard consortium size:	Three to six partners
Evaluation:	Proposals are evaluated based on criteria of a) Relevance to the topic, b) Scientific and technological quality, c) Impact and d) Implementation
Funding:	Each partner is funded separately by the national/regional funding organisation they are applying to. They must fulfil the conditions of their funding organisation, as described in the annex
Tentative Timeline	
15 April 202	5, 17:00 CEST Deadline for proposal submission
From L	ate July 2025 Notification of accepted proposals

Topic: Science in your Own Language (SOL)

From November 2025 Start date for accepted projects

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Projects Targeted in the Call

The CHIST-ERA (<u>www.chistera.eu</u>) consortium has created a common funding instrument to support transnational projects. Through this instrument, the national/regional funding organisations of CHIST-ERA support and join the <u>Horizon Europe Open Science</u> agenda. By launching joint calls, they can support more diverse communities, who are able to tackle the most challenging and novel Open Science topics.

This call concerns the following topic:

Topic: "Science in your own language (SOL)"

This multilateral call focuses on automatic translation of scientific knowledge in order to overcome language and cultural barriers.

It has been designed from a dual perspective. Firstly, to account for the needs of scientists or technologists who generate knowledge in their own language but need to publish, compete or peerreview in a different one. Secondly, to assist scientists, technologists or citizens who would like to benefit from the knowledge contained in documents or repositories featuring languages unknown to them.

<u>European data strategy</u> framework fosters a free flow of data within the EU and across sectors where access to data and use of it benefit quick research and innovation development and transfer to the market. The implementation of the strategy is providing the basis, infrastructure, tools and guidelines for clear access rules and interoperability. In this new ecosystem, knowledge sharing is critical to speed up research outcomes maturity and innovation. On the other side, having better information benefits service providers and users that can implement or select better solutions. Again, getting information in your own language is key.

Stakeholders deserve prompt access to reputed sources of scientific and technical know-how and data to provide answers to societal demands. But would an automatically translated scholarly paper be accepted at a top tier conference? Could a research proposal be written in one language and be reliably evaluated in another? Could higher-educational content be translated not only in their written form, but also in their spoken form, in an online, interactive setting? Could a detailed, public, technical specification, not written in a *lingua franca*, be readily available to remote end users of a data hub in their own language? Because the reasoning of a document can be dramatically altered by a single translation error, be it made in the process of Machine Translation or by the limited knowledge of a foreign language by a human agent, the topic of this Call encompasses multiple scientific challenges. Translation of complex documents (including graphs, images, tables videos and other supporting information) with intricate cross-references, terminology and phraseology issues, also requiring handling dependencies at the document-level will be needed. In addition, it will be necessary to adapt styles and lexicons from a variety of scientific domains and to remain open to accurate simplification and summarisation of the content for non-experts, across linguistic and cultural barriers.

This CHIST-ERA call will address the following two main strategic objectives:

- Promote multilingualism among science and technology *producers* (back-end) and *users* (frontend) through Machine Translation tools.
- Demonstrate, in the EU context, the use of a self-evaluation methodology, contributing to robust developments by ensuring experiment reproducibility with predetermined data sets, performance indicators and schedules.

Target Outcomes

Projects should address one or more of the following issues:

- Machine translation of scholarly documents to and from *different languages* including the translation of research metadata and data where applicable, documents, protocols, paper and project reviews, other academic or technical outputs such as outreach materials and press releases, blogs and other web-based content.
- Design of tools for seamless and interoperable access to multilingual scientific and technology data hubs and repositories for stakeholders who chose to approach and use them in their own language. Tools should be demonstrated by application to sectoral use cases.
- Tools for multilingual detection of scientific frauds and plagiarism.

Expected Impact

Funded projects are expected to significantly advance the state-of-the-art by achieving one or more of the following objectives.

- Open science to citizens and society.
- Take on board all research works independently of their language. Make academic results not published in English, arguably the current *lingua franca*, widely available to the academic communities so they can be internationally recognised.
- Increase the value of research and research driven products and services by facilitating regional or national targeted impacts.
- Increase the visibility of scientific results, irrespective of the language used to report them.
- Make creativity and reasoning in research benefit from all language subtleties.
- Design and implement demonstrations of new approaches to knowledge access both through novel modelling of data structures and software oriented to meet new criteria for accessibility policies.

Reproducible Performance Evaluation

Funded projects are expected to provide a performance evaluation plan where datasets, data repositories, and performance indicators are defined and established. These may be implemented either by the consortium partners themselves or by agreed-upon external non-profit organisations of their own choice. Tools and methodologies developed, by the consortium partners need to be evaluated against the declared datasets and/or repositories according to performance indicators.

Open Science Policy

Research supported by public funds should be available to the public free of charge, to improve transparency, reproducibility, visibility and democratisation of research, and also to avoid multiple payment of the same research. As such, CHIST-ERA is committed to promote Open Science by encompassing national/regional efforts.

This entails achieving more openness in the CHIST-ERA-funded science through open access to peerreviewed publications and associated software and data, as well as constantly improving the transparency of the CHIST-ERA processes.

At the level of CHIST-ERA, Open Science aspects are positively appreciated already during the evaluation, whose criteria explicitly assess the Open Science practices and activities planned within each project. In addition, we refrain from using inadequate proxies (e.g. impact factors) during the assessment of the projects and give higher weight to the scientific content of a paper than to publication metrics, in line with the principles of the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)¹

1. Open access to publications, data and software

<u>All publications of the project</u>² must be available in open access³ under Creative Commons CC-BY licence or equivalent.

Moreover, the full text of the publication (version Author Accepted Manuscript - AAM or publisher version - VoR) must be deposited on an open institutional repository, at the time of publication at the latest, with a reference to the CHIST-ERA support.

<u>All data⁴ underlying a project output</u> must be widely accessible and deposited on a FAIR-enabling repository⁵ together with all the necessary documentation in accordance with the FAIR principles⁶, as early as possible in the course of the project and at the latest with the publication of the corresponding output and appropriately linked to the latter, with a reference to the CHIST-ERA support.

<u>All software produced by the project</u> must be available under an open-source licence⁷. In order to facilitate contribution and reuse, software development must be performed on a code hosting platform that allows collaborative development⁸. To ensure long term availability of the project results, the source code of the software must be stored together with all its development history in the

¹ <u>https://sfdora.org/</u>

² This includes peer-reviewed journal publications, peer-reviewed conference papers, books and book chapters. ³ By publishing i) in a natively open access to publications venue or ii) in a subscription journal by implementing the <u>*Rights Retention Strategy*</u>.

 ⁴ It is the necessary material that is commonly accepted in the scientific community as necessary to document, validate and reproduce findings: Datasets, software and any other possible type of artefacts, including metadata.
 ⁵ Criteria to select a trustworthy repository: <u>https://scienceeurope.org/media/b0bhp2ro/se-rdm-template-4-researcher-guidance-for-the-selection-of-trustworthy-repositories.docx</u>

⁶ https://www.openaire.eu/how-to-make-your-data-fair

⁷ <u>https://opensource.org/licenses</u>

⁸ Many collaborative development platforms for software are available: Besides the popular GitHub, GitLab.com and Bitbucket platforms, one can find other ones operated and maintained by academic institutions.

Software Heritage archive⁹ with a reference to the CHIST-ERA support. It is recommended to have it referenced with curated metadata in an open institutional repository when possible.

For data and software that cannot be shared for a legitimate reason, the specific reason or clause as well as the conditions under which the data could be accessed must be provided. In this case, the metadata must be deposited on a FAIR-enabling repository.

In the long-term, we expect CHIST-ERA supported projects to aim at preserving data and software beyond the projects' lifetimes.

2. Data Management Plan

The project must produce a Data Management Plan (DMP) that must be submitted to CHIST-ERA at the beginning of the project via the ARGOS¹⁰ online platform. The DMP is a living document and it is the responsibility of the project's Open Science Coordinator to update it within the same platform (at least once per year). At the end of the project, the DMP must be updated and made publicly available on a document or data repository. The main goal is to provide a sustainable overview of data and software associated to the project beyond its mere lifetime, ensuring reproducibility and long-term reuse.

3. Open Science Coordinator

In order to facilitate the planning and the proper implementation of the Open Science policy, the role of Open Science Coordinator must be assigned to one of the project consortium members. The Open Science Coordinator is the main contact point for CHIST-ERA for Open Science-related matters and has the following responsibilities:

- a. Planning the dissemination activities of the consortium in connection with all scientific deliverables;
- b. Assisting the project coordinator with adapting the consortium budget to cover for the Open Science costs, given the available opportunities offered by the CHIST-ERA partners;
- c. Submit and update the project's DMP and follow up with Open Science aspects during the lifetime of the project (data sharing, embargos, etc.). In particular, coordinate these aspects with the elaboration of exploitation plans for some of the project deliverables such as those requiring specific intellectual property strategies (e.g. patenting or commercialisation);
- d. Liaise with project members with respect to Open Science aspects;
- e. Analyse Open Science practices in other projects.

 ⁹ It is possible to trigger archival in Software Heritage of software projects hosted on a broad variety of platforms, see https://www.softwareheritage.org/howto-archive-and-reference-your-code/
 ¹⁰ https://argos.openaire.eu

Open Access to Publication and Research Data Policy at National/Regional Level and Financial Support Eligibility: Overview Table (see annex for further information)

			: funding vel	Finantial Support Eligibility			
Country	Funding Organisation	Open access to publicati ons	Open access to research data	Article Processing Charges	Book Processing Charges	Book Chapter Processing Charges	Research Data Repository Charges
Belgium	F.R.SFNRS	Yes	No	\checkmark			No
Estonia	ETAG	Optional	Optional	\checkmark	\checkmark		Yes
Finland	АКА	Yes	Yes				Yes
France	ANR	Yes	Yes	\checkmark	\checkmark		Yes
Ireland	Research Ireland	Yes	Yes	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	Yes
Lithuania	LMT	Yes	Yes	\checkmark	\checkmark	N/A	Yes
Luxembourg	FNR	Yes	Yes	\checkmark			Yes
Poland	NCN	Yes	Yes	\checkmark		\checkmark	Yes
Slovakia	SAS	No	No	\checkmark		\checkmark	Yes
Spain	AEI	Yes	Yes	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	Yes
Switzerland	SNSF	Yes	Yes	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	Yes
Taiwan	NSTC	Yes	Optional				No
United Kingdom	UKRI	Yes	Optional				Yes

Widening Countries Participation

The Widening Countries designate a list established by the European Commission of low performing countries in research and innovation, be they European Union Member States or Associated Countries to Horizon Europe.

To spread excellence, CHIST-ERA, as competitive funding instrument of collaborative projects, can support the opening of established research and innovation networks in the non-Widening Countries to most talented researchers and experts in the Widening Countries. Conversely, broader engagement of the Widening Countries' research and innovation communities has the capacity to broaden the European scientific and technological landscape with varied perspectives and scientific and technology challenges to tackle.

To support this ambition, the following actions are implemented:

- The selection criteria prioritise projects with Widening Countries in case of ex aequo projects;
- Dissemination of CHIST-ERA call funding opportunities is strengthened in Widening Countries;
- A Partner Search Tool and an online networking event are made available at <u>www.chistera.eu</u>;
- An additional funding for coordination support may be granted by some funders of the Widening Countries.

With regard to the latter action, applicants are encouraged to consult the 'Overview Table' (p. 14-15) and national/regional annexes (from p. 21) or funding organisation contact points to check if specific support applies.

Further information on CHIST ERA approach to widening concept is available from the CHIST-ERA website at <u>https://www.chistera.eu/widening-countries-policy</u>

The participating Widening Countries to the call are: Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia.

Management of the Call

The Call Secretariat is jointly set up at ANR (France) and AEI (Spain) and will assist the Call Steering Committee and the Evaluation Panel.

Call Steering Committee

The Call Steering Committee is the highest decision-making body of the CHIST-ERA call, being composed of representatives of all CHIST-ERA national/regional funding organisations participating in the call.

The CSC steers all activities of the call. In particular, the Call Steering Committee nominates the members of the Evaluation Panel, approves the composition of the Evaluation Panel and establishes the final list of projects recommended for funding to the funding organisations based on the ranking list provided by the Evaluation Panel. All decisions concerning the call implementation are taken by the Call Steering Committee (e.g. management of confidentiality and conflicts of interest).

Evaluation Panel

The Evaluation Panel is the evaluation body of the CHIST-ERA call and is composed of experts in the call topic.

The evaluation panel evaluates the proposals. In particular, it establishes a ranking list of projects which serves as a basis for the Call Steering Committee funding recommendation.

Tentative Timeline

15 April 2025, 17:00 CEST Deadline for proposal submission

From Late July 2025	Notification of accepted proposals
From November 2025	Start date for accepted projects

Eligibility

CHIST-ERA is a hybrid funding instrument. Proposals are submitted by consortia with partners from multiple countries. The call as well as the proposal evaluation and selection are transnational. Funding is then provided by participating national/regional funding organisations directly to the selected consortium partners.

Each partner is directed by a principal investigator (PI), who interacts with the funding organisation. One PI acts as the coordinator for the consortium and is the single point of contact with CHIST-ERA.

It is necessary that both the consortium is eligible for CHIST-ERA and all partners requesting funding are eligible to be funded at national/regional level (see corresponding national/regional annex p. 21 and following). If a partner is eligible to receive funding by multiple participating organisations, the partner must choose a single organisation for funding.

Projects have a duration of 24 or 36 months.

Eligibility of the Consortium

The following CHIST ERA general eligibility criteria must be met:

- 1. The consortium is international:
 - It must have a minimum of three eligible and independent partners requesting funding to organisations in the call from three distinct countries.
- 2. The consortium is balanced:
 - At most 60% of the total requested funding may be requested by partners from one country.

The consortium needs to be focused, that is, the proposed project must have a clearly defined goal. Consortia should therefore typically contain between three and six partners.

Partners who are not requesting funding may be part of a consortium if they are able to secure their own funding. Third-party funding is not considered for the criteria above. The consortium coordinator must be supported by a funding organisation participating in the call.

Proposals requesting a contribution of 250 K \in to 500 K \in would allow this call to be addressed appropriately. This does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Eligibility of Partners

The eligibility rules for partners are specific to the chosen funding organisation. The table on the next page provides an overview of the principal eligibility criteria for each funding organisation, including contact points. The full list of eligibility rules can be found in the corresponding national/regional annex (p. 21 and following).

In particular, be aware that some funding organisations:

- Require that eligibility of partners is checked with them prior to applying;
- Require that additional documents are submitted to them;
- Apply a cap on the amount of funding that can be requested.

In order not to jeopardize the whole consortium, partners should ensure that no doubts exist about the eligibility of their entity, the eligibility of their PI and their eligible costs.

National/Regional Research Funding Organisations: Overview Table (see annex for further information)

* The budget is indicative and represents the committed funding available for all projects the organisation supports in this call. Together with the budget, the expected number of projects gives an indication of the financial constraints that should be expected by partners applying to this funding organisation. Partners are strongly discouraged from requesting greater budgets than are necessary for the activities being proposed. Many proposals will request less than the upper limits (if any) indicated in the table.

Note: If the currency used in the country of the funding organisation is not the euro, the figure in the table is based on the exchange rate of January 2025.

** Some funding organisations require that partners contact them prior to submission or send specific documents. Some allow industrial partners but additional conditions may apply. Applicants are strongly recommended to contact their contact point prior to submission in order to verify their eligibility.

Country	Funding organisation	Budget (M€) *	Expected NB of projects *	Limits on amount which may be requested (K€) *	Contact prior to submission **	Additional forms **	Industrial partners eligible for funding **	Contact(s)
Belgium	FRS- FNRS	0,2	1	200	Recommended	Yes	No	international@frs-fnrs.be
Estonia	ETAG	0,3	1	150 or 300	No	No	Yes	margit.suuroja@etag.ee
Finland	AKA	0,5	1-2	450 by partner	Recommended	No	See AKA Annex	katrine.mahlamaki@aka.fi
France	ANR	1,5	4-6	350	Yes	No	Yes	eugenio.echague@anr.fr
Ireland	Rese arch Irela nd	0,32	2	160	Yes	Yes	No	euprogrammes@researchir eland.ie; marina.milic@researchirela nd.ie
Lithuania	LMT	LMT	0,3	2	 150 per project with 1 LT applicant. 200 per project with two LT applicants. Additional 50 if the coordinator is an LT applicant 	No	No	<u>laura.kostelnickiene@lmt.lt</u>
Luxembourg	FNR	0.35	1-2	350	No	Yes	No	<u>helena.burg@fnr.lu</u>

Country	Funding organisation	Budget (M€) *	Expected NB of projects *	Limits on amount which may be requested (K€) *	Contact prior to submission **	Additional forms **	Industrial partners eligible for funding **	Contact(s)
Poland	NCN	0.75	3-4	No	Yes	Yes	Yes (under certain conditions)	alicja.dylag@ncn.gov.pl
Slovakia	SAS	0,12	1	120	Yes	Yes	No	panisova@up.upsav.sk
Spain	AEI	0,6	3-4	 0.175 per project with one AEI applicant 0.275 per project if AEI applicant is coordinator 0.325 per project if two AEI applicants with one as coordinator. 	No	Yes	No	<u>era-ict@aei.gob.es</u>
Switzerland	SNSF	0,9	3-5	NO	Recommended if PI never supported by reference funding scheme	Yes	Only if the institution does not pursue commercial goals	<u>chistera@snf.ch</u>
Taiwan	NSTC	0,81	3	270	Yes	No	No	cmtom@nstc.gov.tw

Country	Funding organisation	Budget (M€) *	Expected NB of projects *	Limits on amount which may be requested (K€) *	Contact prior to submission **	Additional forms **	Industrial partners eligible for funding **	Contact(s)
United Kingdom	UKRI	0,8	3	350	No	No	No	stephanie.russin@epsrc.uk ri.org

Application Procedure

Ensure the Proposal is Valid

- The proposal is clearly in line with the topic of the call;
- The consortium meets the CHIST-ERA eligibility criteria;
- Each partner meets the corresponding national/regional eligibility criteria (the coordinator is strongly encouraged to check it with her/his partners sufficiently in advance).

It is the responsibility of each partner to ensure their eligibility. Consult the overview table on the previous pages and the detailed regulations of each organisation in the annex for partner-specific conditions and processes (i.e. deadlines for submission of additional documents, internal evaluations etc.).

The consortium coordinator shall make sure that all partners who are required to contact their respective funding organisation, do so prior to the submission of the proposal.

Submitting the Proposal

The call follows a one-stage submission and evaluation procedure. The proposal (typically 20 to 30 pages) is submitted and evaluated by a joint international evaluation panel.

The coordinator prepares a joint proposal for the whole consortium, using the template available on the CHIST-ERA website (<u>http://www.chistera.eu</u>). The form is submitted via the electronic submission system on the website.

To support the applicants, the following services are provided at <u>http://www.chistera.eu</u>: Call Newsletter, information webinars, FAQ, Partner Search Tool and online networking event, and submission technical guidelines.

We recommend that a preliminary proposal be submitted several days before the call deadline to guarantee against unforeseen issues. Proposals that have already been submitted can be modified until the deadline.

Partners whose funding organisation requires submitting forms alongside the joint proposal submission must do so at this point (see overview table and the national/regional annex).

The coordinator and all partners must be in a position to diligently answer e-mail queries after the submission. If a partner's PI is not available, the PI must be represented by a collaborator from the same organisation.

Evaluation and Selection Procedure

Evaluation

The Call Secretariat and the national/regional funding organisations check the proposals against the CHIST-ERA as well as the national/regional eligibility criteria.

The evaluation relies on an international evaluation panel of experts, assisted by external reviewers. The composition of the panel is published after the selection at <u>www.chistera.eu</u>.

The proposals are evaluated and ranked according to the following criteria:

Relevance to the Topic (threshold: 4/5, weight: 1)

Relevance of the project with respect to the topic description.

S/T Quality (threshold: 3.5/5, weight: 1)

Scientific and technological excellence:

- Clarity of long-term vision of a breakthrough for scientific knowledge translation;
- Soundness of the concept, ambition and quality of the proposed objectives that address this vision;
- Quality of the research & development method including performance evaluation and assurance of the reproducibility of the results;
- Originality and novelty, and potential for non-incremental progress beyond the state-of-theart;
- *High risk, flexibility and plausibility of the methodology.*

Impact (threshold: 3.5/5, weight: 1)

The extent to which the outputs of the project would contribute, at the European and/or international level, to:

- Broader research opportunities based on open or shared data and software;
- Convergence with European and/or international initiative(s) and/or infrastructures;
- Long-term transformation of research practices;
- Long-term facilitation of science-based innovation by societal stakeholders.

Quality of the proposed measures and plans to:

- Disseminate and use project results (incl. data and means to reproduce results) in line with the Open Access principles (see pages 6-7), and management of intellectual property;
- Communicate the project to different target audiences.

Implementation (threshold: 3/5, weight: 1)

Quality and efficiency of the implementation and management:

- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan to achieve project objectives and impacts, including appropriateness of allocation of the resources to tasks and partners (incl. justification of requested resources) and of data management;
- Effectiveness of the performance evaluation plan, including steps taken for its implementation by the consortium on the basis of defined datasets, data repositories, metrics and other performance indicators;
- Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures (incl. risk management);

• Quality and added value of the participants (complementarity, coherence of the consortium as a whole, balance of involvement etc.).

The assessment by the evaluation panel of each proposal is detailed in a consensus report, which is made available to the applicants.

The proposals have to meet the threshold in each criteria, otherwise are not considered for funding.

Selection

On the basis of the ranking of the proposals and of available funding, the Call Steering Committee prepares a list of projects recommended for funding to the national/regional funding organisations. The project coordinator receives the selection decision and the consensus report who in turn is invited to distribute them to all partners. The list of funded projects is published on CHIST-ERA website.

The list of projects recommended for funding is established by following the ranking list of the evaluation panel starting at rank 1:

If at a given rank N in the ranking list not all ex-aequo projects can be funded because some funding organisation(s) lack budget, the following options (or a combination thereof) are considered:

- Priority 1: The budget of the funding organisation(s) in question can be increased;
- Priority 2: The funding of the projects or of all the projects to be funded by the funding organisation(s) in question is reduced;
- Some project(s) cannot be funded.

In the latter case, the following additional selection criteria are considered:

- The output of the call, i.e. the overall funding, should be maximised (e.g. by prioritising projects with high presence of under-represented countries and vice-versa)
- If possible, each funding organisation funds at least one project;
- The projects involving partners from the Widening Countries should be prioritised.

In the same latter case (some project(s) of rank N cannot be funded), the Call Steering Committee can apply a certain degree of flexibility, when it comes to following the ranking list. In case no other options are available budget wise, additional projects in the ranks N+1 and following may be selected. The same selection procedure as mentioned previously will be applied.

Management of Projects

Contracting of the Consortium

If the project is recommended for funding, each partner may need to submit an administrative application to the chosen funding organisation to apply for their CHIST-ERA funding (grant or contract). In rare cases, specific partners in a consortium may be requested to apply for their funding from another funding organisation than the one they had chosen initially. The subsequent negotiation phase between the partners and the funding organisations follows the established procedures and, if successful, results in a grant agreement between the two parties or similarly valid administrative act.

All partners of a consortium should request their funding to start at approximately the same date, to ensure that the collaborative research can be conducted as planned.

The administrative and financial management of funding is overseen by the respective funding organisations, according to their rules and guidelines.

Consortium agreement

A consortium agreement has to be signed by all partners and sent to CHIST-ERA. As some funding organisations require that the consortium agreement is signed before the grant agreement can be finalised it has to be signed as soon as possible, but no later than three months after the start of a project.

Reporting

Consortia must present the status of their project at each yearly event organised by CHIST-ERA (frequency to be confirmed). The project partners, not only the coordinator, are encouraged to attend. The related costs are eligible and should be included into the presented budget (based on yearly events).

Furthermore, the coordinators of funded projects have to submit a scientific report including an upto-date Data Management Plan on each 12-month period of the project. The reports must be sent to CHIST-ERA within two months after the end of each period. Some funding organisations require separate reports for individual project partners. This is specified in their grant agreements.

Any publications resulting from the projects must acknowledge CHIST-ERA.

Project modifications

During the lifetime of the project, the funding organisations coordinate the management of the project modification requests (incl. extension). Should the request emanate from a single partner, it is formulated by the coordinator on behalf of the consortium to CHIST-ERA, which in turn coordinates with the funding organisations.

Belgium - F.R.S.-FNRS

F.R.S.-FNRS Fund for Scientific Research – FNRS Rue d'Egmont 5, 1000 Brussels https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/

Florence Quist Senior Scientific Officer +32 2 504 9351 international@frs-fnrs.be

Funding Criteria and Regulations

Funding and project duration: The maximum amount of requested funding per project is 200 000 EUR.

Eligibility criteria:

All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the <u>PINT-MULTI regulations</u>. This call is <u>not co-funded</u> by the European Commission (see article III.6).

Admitted costs:

Please note that personnel costs (Article III.6) have an annual average cap of 50,000 euros for this call. For the administrative application on e-space, costs such as "Consumables", "Travel", and "Other" should all be included in the "operating expenses" category in the form.

For "overhead" costs:

- Operating expenses: up to 1% within the granted budget. This percentage should be included in the requested operating budget.
- Personnel: up to 2% outside of the granted budget. This percentage will be paid upon reimbursement of expenses to institutions by the F.R.S.-FNRS.

Please check the Practical guide on costs for any other questions.

Forms to be submitted:

Applicants to F.R.S.-FNRS funding must submit an administrative application on <u>e-space within 5 working</u> days after the general deadline of the CHIST-ERA call to be eligible. Please select the "PINT-MULTI" funding instrument when creating the administrative application.

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

F.R.S.-FNRS does not require publication in open access journals regarding its funded research projects. Each researcher is free to choose the place of publication and, if desired, the publication fee can be paid from the grant. Please read the <u>Regulations on Open Access Policy</u>.

F.R.S.-FNRS does not require that data created as a result of funded research projects be stored in a repository or published as open data. Correct management of research data and submission of a data management plan are required.

Estonia - ETAG

ETAG Estonian Research Council, Soola 8, Tartu 51004 Estonia <u>https://etag.ee/en/</u>

Margit Suuroja Senior Adviser +372 731 7360 Margit.Suuroja@etag.ee

Funding Criteria and Regulations

<u>Funding and project duration</u>: The maximum amount of requested funding per project is 150 000 EUR for a project partner and maximum 300 000 EUR for a project coordinator for a total period of up to three years.

Eligibility criteria:

The Host Institution may be any legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia and has an Estonian bank account. If the Host Institution is a for-profit institution, the State aid and de minimis aid regulations must be taken into account.

The Principal Investigator:

1. must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline;

2. must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded by the submission deadline of the grant application at the latest;

3. must have published at least three articles that comply with the requirements of Clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles that comply with the requirements of Clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five calendar years prior to the proposal submission deadline.1 International patents are equalled with publications specified under Clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS Clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications specified in Clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or fewer. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or performed compulsory service in the Defence Forces, or has another good reason, they can request the publication period requirement to be extended by the relevant period of time.

If the Principal Investigator has received the PhD degree outside Estonia, its correspondence to an Estonian doctoral degree must be recognised by either the Estonian ENIC-NARIC Center or the Host Institution in accordance with the Regulation of the Government of the Republic of April 6, 2006, No. 89 "Evaluation and academic recognition of documents proving foreign education and the name of the qualification awarded in the foreign education system terms and conditions of use". The Funding Organisation may ask for a relevant Evaluation Report.

If several Estonian institutions participate in a proposal, all institutions must have a Principal Investigator who meets the national eligibility requirements.

If human research or animal testing are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorisation Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Funding Organisation by the start of the relevant activities.

Direct costs:

1. Personnel costs are monthly salaries (along with all state taxes, contributions, and compensations arising from law) of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution.

2. Other direct costs are:

- travel costs that may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel Insurance only for travels abroad;

- where the project is funded from the European Regional Development Fund (Mobilitas 3.0) resources, travel and accommodation costs are eligible only for travels abroad;

- consumables and minor equipment directly and fully related to the project;

- publication and dissemination of project results;

- organising meetings, seminars or conferences (e.g room rent, catering, equipment rental and related costs);

- fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events directly and fully related to the project;

patent costs;

- all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy editing, webpage hosting, etc.) and are directly and fully related to the project.

3. Indirect costs (overhead) are costs that cannot be identified as specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action and/or should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution related to the management of the grant. Office consumables and costs for equipment and services intended for general use (e.g., phone bills, copy service, printer) should be covered from the indirect costs. Indirect costs are 15% of the personnel costs.

4. Subcontracting costs are direct costs. Subcontracting costs should cover only additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total costs.

5. Double funding of activities is not acceptable.

6. If several Estonian institutions participate in one proposal, the sum of their requested budgets may not exceed the maximum contribution of the respective national Funding Organisation indicated in the call documents.

EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding.

 Eligibility
 criteria:
 https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Vastavusnouded-RV

 uhiskonkurssidel
 2024.pdf

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

ETAG does not require publication in open access journals regarding its funded research projects. Each researcher is free to choose the place of publication and, if desired, the publication fee can be paid from the grant.

ETAG does not require that data created as a result of funded research projects be stored in a repository or published as open data. Correct management of research data and submission of a data management plan are required.

Finland - AKA

Research Council of Finland Hakaniemenranta 6, 00530 Helsinki, Finland <u>http://www.aka.fi/</u> +358 295 33 5000

Katrine Mahlamäki Science adviser +358 295 33 5062 katrine.mahlamaki@aka.fi

Funding Criteria and Regulations

<u>General</u>

Finnish applicants are recommended to contact the Research Council of Finland before proposal submission for the purpose of checking national funding terms and conditions (e.g., national eligibility criteria).

Applicant

In addition to their doctorate, the PI must have other significant scientific merits. Usually, they are a professor or docent-level researcher. In addition, the applicant must have a close connection with Finland to support the implementation of a multi-year project. A PI requesting funding from the Research Council of Finland (coordinator or partner) may not participate in more than two proposals.

Funding

The Scientific Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering plans to grant <u>a maximum of 450,000 euros per</u> <u>partner (150,000 euros per year)</u>. In general, the conditions and restrictions on Academy Projects apply to the funding. The Research Council applies the full cost model in its funding, and <u>the Research Council's funding</u> <u>contribution for a project can come to no more than 70% of the total project costs</u>. Funding can be granted to research teams for the purposes of hiring scientific staff, for the acquisition of equipment and supplies, and for other expenses arising, for instance, from researcher mobility and networking activities. The costs of making publications open access are included in the overheads of the sites of research and thus form part of the costs of the basic facilities they provide. The PI's salary costs must not be significant in relation to the project's total costs. For example, <u>a three-year research project must not include more than 4.5 months of the PI's effective</u> <u>working hours</u>. This is equivalent to about 1.5 months a year. Research Council funding cannot be used for economic activity. Economic activity is defined as all activity where goods or services are offered on an open market regardless of whether profits are pursued or generated. When an organisation is also engaged in economic activities, separate accounts must be kept of the funding and costs of and the revenue generated by such activities. Finnish partners of projects that have been selected for funding will be invited to submit national application forms through the Research Council's online system.

The Research Council of Finland advises that funding recipients as soon as possible after the funding decision has been made agree in writing between all project partners on the rights of ownership and use of the project's research results. At the launch of the project, the partners should also agree on the rights of ownership and use of the materials and data to be used by the project.

More information on the Research Council's general conditions and guidelines for funding: <u>https://www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/apply-for-funding/how-to-use-funding/</u>

Policies and guidelines for research project funding granted by the Scientific Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering: <u>https://www.aka.fi/en/about-us/decision-making-bodies/research-councils/research-council-for-natural-sciences-and-engineering/</u>

Open Access to Publications and Research Data Policy

We require that the scientific publications on the results of research projects funded by the Research Council of Finland are open access, and that the research data produced by the projects are made widely available. The degrees of data openness may justifiably vary, ranging from fully open to strictly confidential. More information is provided here: https://www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/responsible-science/open-science/

France - ANR

Agence Nationale de la Recherche 86, rue Regnault 75013 Paris

Eugenio Echagüe Project manager +33 1 7354 8221 eugenio.echague@agencerecherche.fr

Funding Criteria and Regulations

The specific appendix for applicants from France is available at <u>https://anr.fr/CHR4-2025</u>

If applicable, Declarations of Due Diligence for the financed projects (Nagoya Protocol) must be transmitted to ANR in due time.

ANR will declare partners seeking its support ineligible if they apply jointly with partners from countries that are subject to sanctions applicable to the research field by the European Union authorities. At the date of publication, these exclusions concern partners from the following countries: Russia, Belarus (as well as Ukrainian territories that are not under the control of the Ukrainian government). This list may evolve in case of new sanctions decided by the European Union.

Open Access to Publications and Research Data Policy

The projects supported by ANR commit to deposit the full text of the scientific publications in the HAL archive no later than the time of publication (version accepted for publication or editor's version) and to mention the ANR reference of the research project. They must provide a Data Management Plan by 6 months after the project start date. Please refer to the appendix for applicants from France mentioned above for additional guidelines.

Ireland - Research Ireland

Taighde Éireann – Research Ireland Three Park Place, Hatch Street Upper, Dublin 2, Ireland D02 FX65 www.researchireland.ie

Dr. Marina Milić Programme manager <u>euprogrammes@researchireland.ie</u> <u>marina.milic@researchireland.ie</u>

Funding Criteria and Regulations

The grants distributed by Research Ireland must be administrated by an Eligible Research Body (ERB) that fulfils Research Ireland criteria for an administrating organisation. On 25 September 2024, the Taighde Éireann-Research Ireland Board approved an interim Eligible Research Body Policy for the agency. The policy is guided by the Research & Innovation Act 2024, which provides for the establishment and functions of Research Ireland. Although the Act refers to the Eligible Research Body as 'the applicant', for the purpose of this call, the applicant will be deemed to be the individual submitting an application on behalf of the Eligible Research Body.

You must contact Research Ireland prior to proposal submission and submit the budget form template found on the CHIST-ERA page of the Research Ireland website: <u>https://www.researchireland.ie/funding/chist-era-2025/</u>

Who can apply?

Project Leaders (PL) and Principal Investigators (PI) shall be full-time members of the academic staff, either permanent or on temporary contracts of sufficient duration to cover the period of the proposed project, of a Research Ireland Eligible Research Body.

Eligible costs:

• **PhD stipends** - must be in accordance with Research Ireland stipend levels (€25,000 stipend + €5,750 fees per annum). PhD researchers should be aware that this programme is funded to a maximum of three years.

• **Postdoctoral Fellows** (salary) and **Senior Researchers** (academic replacement costs) eligible personnel costs - must be sought at agreed national rates. These are available at: http://www.iua.ie/research-innovation/researcher-salary-scales/

Eligible material costs can include:

- Travel & accommodation & meeting costs
- Costs for knowledge exchange
- All joint publication costs (incl. editing and translation costs)
- Other material costs, equipment where justifiable (costing less than €10,000 over 3 years)
- Consumables

The cost of institutional overheads may be included at a rate of up to 20% of overall direct costs less equipment.

Maximum amount of funding which can be requested is €160,000 including overhead costs.

Please note that applicants must contact Research Ireland (euprogrammes@researchireland.ie) prior to the submission of their proposal.

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

Please refer to the OA policy: http://research.ie/assets/uploads/2017/05/irc_open_access_policy_final_1.pdf

Resources on Data Management Plans and FAIR Principles:

- <u>DMPonline</u>, including <u>templates</u>
- <u>Science Europe (2018) Practical Guide to the International Alignment of Research Data</u> <u>Management</u>
- H2020 Programme (2016) Guidelines on FAIR Data Management in Horizon 2020
- <u>H2020 Programme (2016) Guidelines on Open Access to Scientific Publications and Research Data</u> in Horizon 2020
- <u>OpenAire</u> The OpenAIRE2020 project
- FAIR data principles FORCE 11
- ROAR- Registry of Open Access Repositories
- OpenDoar Directory of Open Access Repositories
- Registry of Research Data Repositories

Lithuania - LMT

Research Council of Lithuania https://www.lmt.lrv.lt/

Laura Kostelnickiene International Programme Coordinator +370 67617398 <u>laura.kostelnickiene@Imt.lt</u>

Funding Criteria and Regulations

Eligibility criteria

The maximum amount requested by the project partner is up to 150.000 EUR, and by the project coordinator—200.000 EUR. If two Lithuanian institutions participate in the project—200.000 EUR, and if one of them coordinates the budget—up to 250,000 EUR might be sought.

Eligible costs: personnel, subcontracting (services and copyright works), consumables, travel and subsistence, dissemination of results, and others. Overheads: up to 20% of direct costs.

Eligible Organisations

•Investigator with Lithuanian higher education and research institution (MSI), listed in the Lithuanian Register of Educational and Scientific Institutions.

•The applicant who intends to act as a Principal Investigator (PI) must be a scientist (researcher holding at least a PhD) and can apply one proposal under this call.

•Industrial partners only collaborate with Lithuanian higher education and research institutions.

•A public or private legal entity registered in the Republic of Lithuania can be a project partner applying with MSI. Funding may be allocated to a private legal partner under 2023 December 13 Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/2831 by Articles 107 and 108 of the Agreement to de minimis aid.

Further guidance

General Rules of the Research Council of Lithuania for the Competitive Funding of Research and Dissemination Projects (<u>LT</u>)

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

Please see Open Access Rules (LT)

Luxembourg - FNR

FNR Luxembourg National Research Fund, 2, Place de l'Université, 4365 Esch-sur-Alzette L-1017 Luxembourg https://www.fnr.lu/

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+352 691 36 28 12	+352 691 36 28 32
<u>Helena.burg@fnr.lu</u>	lucia.navarro@fnr.lu

Funding Criteria and Regulations

<u>Project duration</u>: The maximum amount of requested funding per project is 350.000 EUR for a total period of three years. If the project involves the recruitment of a PhD student, the PhD candidate could be supported for up to four years (see <u>FNR INTER guidelines</u>).

<u>Eligibility of the proposal and applying candidates</u>: All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the <u>FNR</u> <u>INTER guidelines</u>. As a specific rule for this CHIST-ERA call, Luxembourg PIs are limited to submit one proposal per Luxembourg PI.

Forms to be submitted

Proposals must be submitted by the coordinating institutions' administrations (not by the PI) in electronic format to the online submission system (<u>FNR Grant Management System</u>) the latest 7 days after the deadline as the consortium application is submitted. Please select the "INTER" – "CHIST-ERA" funding instrument when creating the administrative application. The <u>FNR INTER guidelines</u> provide details about the basic administrative data and the documents to be provided.

General rules and regulations of FNR apply: <u>https://www.fnr.lu/fnr-beneficiaries/how-we-fund-research/</u>

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

The FNR attaches great importance to the impact of research outputs on science, industry, policy making and society in general. To maximise the possibilities for impact of research outputs, results from FNR-(co)funded research are expected to be disseminated via high-quality, peer-reviewed publications that are made freely available (<u>FNR Policy on Open Access</u> to Scientific Publications).

All FNR (co)-funded grants, for which an Open Access Policy applies, that publish a scientific article must submit their manuscript through ChronosHub to have their eligible amount of APCs directly paid by the FNR.

Poland - NCN

Narodowe Centrum Nauki ul. Twardowskiego 16 30-312 Kraków Poland https://www.ncn.gov.pl/en

Alicja Dyląg	Dr. Oskar Wolski
International Cooperation Officer	Coordinator for Social Sciences and Humanities
+48 532 086 494	oskar.wolski@ncn.gov.pl
alicja.dylag@ncn.gov.pl	

Funding Criteria and Regulations

The total funding allocated by NCN for research tasks to be performed by Polish research teams under the call is 750 000 EUR.

NCN Eligibility Requirements for CHIST-ERA applicants based in Poland:

Only proposals involving basic research (experimental or theoretical endeavours undertaken to gain new knowledge of the foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any direct commercial use) **may be submitted to NCN in response to the call for proposals.**

• Who can act as Principal Investigator?

The Principal Investigator in the Polish research team must be at least a PhD holder when submitting a proposal. The Principal Investigator must be a person employed at the host institution for the project for the entire project duration period pursuant to at least a part-time employment contract. The Principal Investigator must reside in Poland for at least 50% of the project duration period.

• What are the eligible costs for Polish researchers?

We strongly recommend all applicants to read information on <u>eligible costs</u> included in the <u>Annex to</u> <u>NCN Council's Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-</u> <u>funded under international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried</u> <u>out as multilateral collaboration UNISONO</u>.

Applicants can apply for funding for all costs relevant, necessary and directly connected to the proposed research project including:

1. Personnel costs (salaries):

- full time remuneration: funds for full-time employment of the principal investigator or postdoc(s); Please note, if the principal investigator is also the coordinator of an international consortium submitting a joint proposal a full-time remuneration of PI can be increased;
- additional remuneration for members of the research team; <u>Please note that if the principal</u> <u>investigator is also the coordinator of an international consortium submitting a joint proposal a</u> <u>budget for additional remuneration can be increased;</u>
- salaries and scholarships for students and PhD students. <u>Please note: if the principal investigator</u> is also the coordinator of an international consortium submitting a joint proposal the budget for salaries and scholarships for students and PhD students can be increased.
- 2. Purchase or manufacturing of research equipment, devices and software (the cost of an individual item of equipment must not exceed PLN 500 000);
- 3. Other costs such as:
 - ✓ Purchase of material and small equipment;
 - Outsourcing (costs of services rendered by third parties);
 - ✓ Business trips (travel and subsistence costs);
 - Visits and consultations;
 - ✓ Compensation for collective investigators;
 - Other costs crucial to the research project which comply with the <u>Annex to NCN</u> <u>Council's Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or</u>

co-funded under international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral collaboration UNISONO.

EURO exchange rate: 1 EUR = 4,2073 PLN

Please note:

- Applicants are obliged to adhere to the rules included in the <u>Annex to NCN Council's</u> <u>Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under</u> <u>international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out</u> <u>as multilateral collaboration: UNISONO</u>.
- The rules for awarding NCN scholarships are laid down in the <u>Regulations on awarding scholarships</u>.
- Up to 7 days from the proposal submission deadline Polish applicants <u>must submit their national</u> <u>applications in the OSF submission system</u>. The application will include a budget that should be calculated according to the <u>Annex to NCN Council's Resolution on awarding</u> <u>funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international calls</u> <u>launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral</u> <u>collaboration UNISONO.</u>
- If one international project includes partners from two or more different Polish institutions, these institutions apply as a group of entities. Each entity within the group has a separate budget, but the limit on the remuneration applies to the group as a whole (please see: <u>UNISONO</u>). Please note that groups of entities have higher limits on the remuneration.
- Indirect costs must not exceed <u>a maximum of 20%</u> of the total eligible costs and may not be increased during a research project.
- Additionally, indirect costs of up to 2% of direct costs may be spent on Open Access to publications and research data.
- Administrative personnel costs and costs of organisation of conferences must be covered from overheads.

Information on Personal Data Processing at NCN

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

- Open Access Policy at NCN
- Data Management Plan requirements

Slovakia – SAS

Slovak Academy of Sciences Štefánikova 49 814 38 Bratislava Slovakia http://www.sav.sk/?&lang_change=en

Zuzana Panisová Programme Officer International Cooperation Department +421 2 5751 0245 panisova@up.upsav.sk

Funding Criteria and Regulations

Eligibility criteria

Only research Institutes of Slovak Academy of Sciences are eligible organisations for funding (up to 100%). Participation of early career researchers is strongly recommended. Applicants from other organisations or industrial partners can be self-funded consortium members and cannot coordinate the project consortium.

For further details on criteria and SAS procedures see <u>https://oms.sav.sk/wp-content/uploads/Pravidla-pre-</u>schvalovanie-vyskumnych-projektov-MVTS-financovanych-zo-zdrojov-SAV <u>11-Nov-2021-1.pdf</u>

Funding and project duration

The maximum amount of requested funding per project is **up to 120.000 EUR for a 36 months duration.** Detailed SAS financial rules are available at <u>https://oms.sav.sk/wp-content/uploads/Financne-pravidla-na-udelovanie-grantov-SAV-na-medzinarodne-vyskumne-projekty-platne-na-vyzvy-zverejnene-od-1.12.2023.pdf</u>

Parallel/Additional application submission

SAS participants are requested to submit the document "Declaration to Participate in CHIST ERA Call" within the deadline for submission of the project proposals. For more details, please contact panisova@up.upsav.sk The template may be provided upon request.

Researchers that are partners in projects recommended for funding will be requested to submit an application (MVTS Form A). The SAS Presidium makes the final funding decision. The funded projects are requested to submit consortium agreement and annual financial and scientific reports.

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

SAS does not have specific policies concerning OA/OD and DMP. The costs related to the publication of the results and the data are eligible project costs.

Spain - AEI

Agencia Estatal de Investigación Subdivisión de Programas Científico - Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia c/Torrelaguna, 58 bis – planta 6ª 20827 Madrid +34 916037990

Administrative and technical issues: Watse Castelein +34 9160 38876 <u>era-ict@aei.gob.es</u> Representative: Beatriz Goméz Miguel +34 916 038 707 beatriz.gomez@aei.gob.es

Funding Criteria and Regulations

Funding Programme:

Funding Programme: The framework for this funding action is the <u>Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica, Técnica</u> <u>e Innovación 2024-2027</u>. On a national level, the Call will be managed by the <u>Subdivisión de Programas Científico-</u><u>Técnicos Transversales</u>, <u>Fortalecimiento y Excelencia (STRAN)</u> of the AEI.

Instrument for funding the Spanish groups

The instrument for funding the Spanish groups is "Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional" (Projects of International Collaboration).

The applicants are strongly advised to read the call text of the <u>PCI 2024-2 ("Resolución de 16 de septiembre de</u> 2024") for reference and especially <u>the PCI Requirements</u> document.

Data Protection:

By submitting a grant application to the AEI, the applicants consent to communication of the data contained in the application to other public administrations, with the aim of further processing of the data for historical, statistical or scientific purposes, within the framework of the Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, on Personal Data Protection and Guarantee of Digital Rights.

Funding commitment

Maximum funding for the CHIST-ERA call 2025: 600.000,00 €.

Eligibility criteria

Eligible entities for the AEI funding are:

Non-profit research organizations (such as universities, public research institutions, technological centres and other private non-profit institutions performing RDI activities in Spain), which must comply with the requirements established by this transnational call and with the rules on eligibility defined in the corresponding Spanish national funding instrument "Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional" (PCI) and the <u>PCI Requirements</u> document. The entities must have been previously beneficiaries of any of the AEI calls. They have to ensure contractual relationship with the Principal Investigator (PI) during all the implementation of the project.

Although private enterprises are not funded by the AEI, the Spanish industrial sector is welcome to participate in the transnational consortia using their own funds or obtaining funds from the CDTI or other innovation and technological development funding agencies.

Additional eligibility criteria

Principal Investigators (PIs) requesting funding to the AEI must:

- Be eligible to the corresponding PCI call (see <u>PCI2024-2</u> as an example) and the <u>PCI Requirements</u> <u>document</u>
- Demonstrate experience as investigators in projects funded by the different Plan Estatal I+D+i: 2013-2016, 2017-2020, 2021-2023, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant national or international programmes.

Incompatibilities: These must be taken into account when participating in different ERA-Nets, European Co-funded Partnerships or other international initiatives.

- Pls are not allowed to apply for funding in (i) more than one proposal of this transnational call, (ii) in more than one proposal in the same PCI call and (iii) in PCI calls in consecutive years.
- If the same PI submits two or more proposals in this transnational call, they will all be declared ineligible, except one, without the possibility of changing the PI.
- PIs must remain unchanged between the proposal to this transnational call and the corresponding PCI call should the proposal be recommended for funding.
- A PI that has been granted a PCI the previous year will be declared ineligible, without the possibility of changing the PI.

Important:

- Applicants <u>have to</u> send to the AEI (<u>era-ict@aei.gob.es</u>) the document "Declaración de responsable" duly signed by the Spanish principal investigator. They must send it until one week after the deadline of the call, i.e. 15 April 2025.
 - The document to be signed you can find it on <u>Convocatorias Internacionales | Agencia Estatal de</u> <u>Investigación</u> "Tecnologías de la Información y Comunicación" in CHIST-ERA section. You can download it in <u>PDF</u> and <u>WORD</u>.
- 2. The applicants should include the PI's full name and the full name of their institution as it is stated in the Sistema de Entidades (SISEN).

Eligible costs

- Research and innovation activities are eligible. Mere dissemination, communication or other similar activities will not be eligible
- Only Personnel costs for new temporary employment dedicated to the project are eligible. This must
 be clearly stated in the contract. The costs of permanent staff linked to the beneficiary entity or
 members of the research team will <u>not be</u> considered eligible costs.
- Direct costs such as current costs, disposable materials, travelling expenses, coordination costs and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.
- Overheads (25% of all direct costs, including the subcontracting costs).

The AEI will avoid double funding (overlapping with other EU or National funding) and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded.

Funding rates

The following **funding limits** (including direct + 25% indirect costs) **are** considered eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared ineligible.

Maximum funding per project	CD (€)	CI (25%) (€)	TOTAL (€)
One AEI applicant	140.000	35.000	175.000
One AEI applicant - coordinator	220.000	55.000	275.000
Two AEI applicants- one coordinator	260.000	65.000	325.000

Additional € 30.000 (direct costs) can be granted for the entire proposal if the work plan includes substantial experimental tasks.

IMPORTANT:

- only ONE applicant asking funding for AEI is allowed per proposal as partner,
- two AEI applicants are allowed in the same proposal if one of them is acting as coordinator
- these amounts refer to 3 years projects. In case of shorter projects, the amount will be adjusted accordingly

Other Funding Criteria

- Centres formed by different Spanish legal entities will be considered as a unique entity, and thus the maximum funding should not exceed the limits per proposal established above (for example mixed centres).
- Two centres or institutions belonging to the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) will be treated as two separate partners one from another when one of them is acting as Coordinator of the proposal and their tasks and identity in the project are sufficiently separated and justified.

The final funding will take into account the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the added value of the international collaboration, the participation of the industrial sector, and the financial resources available.

Mandatory acknowledgement

Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge funding by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación: "Project (reference nº XX) funded by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación through the PCI (year) call (or its equivalent)".

Open Access and Open Data policy

Applicants should comply with Open Access/Open Data specified in the respective PCI call or equivalent. The results of the funded research actions, including both the results disseminated through scientific publications and the data generated in the research, must be available in open access, with the exceptions indicated in the PCI call or equivalent.

Switzerland - SNSF

Swiss National Science Foundation Unit Mathematical, Natural and Engineering Sciences Wildhainweg 3 P.O. Box 8232 CH-3001 Berne http://www.snf.ch

Dr. Ahmad Zein Assi Scientific Officer +41 31 308 21 83 <u>chistera@snf.ch</u>

Funding Criteria and Regulations

Projects must comply with the SNSF Project Funding regulations and practices.

In particular, all Swiss applicants and co-applicants must be eligible for Project Funding, see also the <u>Regulations</u> on project funding. Swiss applicants who have not previously obtained a Project Funding grant of the SNSF are encouraged to contact the National Contact Point.

Partners of the international project consortium applying for funding at other funding agencies than the SNSF cannot be declared as project partners in the sense of article 11.2 of the SNSF Funding Regulations. They should be declared as consortium partners instead and apply for their funding at their respective research funding organisation. In case a consortium includes industrial or commercial partners (outside Switzerland), a confirmation of non-commercial goals must be provided in case the project is approved as a condition for the release of funds.

Article 17, cl. a, of the SNSF Funding Regulations applies in the sense that proposals with overlapping funding periods are only approved if the research projects pursue different goals in the context of this European programme than any ongoing projects by the same applicant.

Article 6.3 of the Regulations on project funding applies. Swiss applicants may participate in at most one CHIST-ERA proposal.

Article 13 of the Regulations on project funding applies. In particular, Swiss applicants may receive a maximum of three grants from the SNSF for the same funding period, except for the instruments highlighted <u>here</u>.

Article 7, cl. f applies only in case the Swiss applicant is coordinating the project consortium.

Grants will be managed according to <u>standard SNSF rules</u>; reporting requirements duplicating those of CHIST-ERA will not be enforced. Follow-up applications may not be submitted.

Forms to be submitted

Applicants must provide basic administrative data by submitting an administrative application in <u>mySNF</u> for the same deadline as the consortium application is submitted. Please select the "Programmes/ERA-NET". <u>Prior contact</u> with the National Contact Person is highly recommended if the applicant has never been supported by project funding of the SNSF.

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

Since October 2018, any publication based on research funded by the SNSF must be published in Open Access, with the possibility of adopting the Green Road (maximum embargo of 6 months for articles and 12 months for books/book chapters). The SNSF covers the costs for publishing in Open Access through a dedicated platform. Further details can be found at https://www.snf.ch/en/VyUvGzptStOEpUoC/topic/open-access-publications.

Since 2017 all funded proposals need to submit a DMP before the start of the project. In particular, research data is expected to be archived on FAIR data repositories. No funds will be transferred without submitting a consistent DMP. Further details can be found at https://www.snf.ch/en/dMILj9t4LNk8NwyR/topic/open-research-data.

Taiwan - NSTC

National Science and Technology Council 106, Sec. 2, Heping E. Rd. Taipei 10622 Taiwan R. O. C <u>https://www.nstc.gov.tw/?l=ch</u>

Ching-Mei, Tang Program Director Department of International Cooperation and Science Education +886-2-2737-7557 <u>cmtom@nstc.gov.tw</u>

Funding Criteria and Regulations

Eligibility Criteria

In compliance with the NSTC's regulation 'Operation Guidelines for NSTC Research Grants':

- □ **Applicant institutions** (i.e., research conducting institutions) shall be approved by NSTC to be eligible recipients of subsidisation in accordance with the 'Operation Guidelines for Institutions Applying for NSTC Grants'. The eligible institutions are classified into three categories as follows:
 - 1. Taiwanese public/private colleges and universities.
 - Taiwanese public/private research institutions.
 - 3. Taiwanese Medical institutions.
- □ **Principal Investigator(s)** must meet several qualifications. For more information about the qualifications please refer to:

https://www.nstc.gov.tw/folksonomy/list/f6d5c23c-b3ce-438e-911b-12a705dbac5a?l=ch

□ In principle, the NSTC (Taiwan) does not directly subsidise the industry.

Funding Criteria

Taiwanese project partners shall submit a proposal to the NSTC for national financing after the project has been selected and approved for funding through the CHIST-ERA evaluation and selection process. The proposals are required to be submitted to NSTC for funding as soon as possible as the internal process of the NSTC generally takes 6 months. The max. amount per year per project is €90,000.00, depending on the change of course. The decision regarding the exact amount is subject to the result of the NSTC's internal reviews. For more about the budget requirements of the project based on which applicants can apply to NSTC for funding, please refer to:

https://www.nstc.gov.tw/folksonomy/list/f6d5c23c-b3ce-438e-911b-12a705dbac5a?l=ch

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

NSTC does not have any specific policies concerning OA/OD. Therefore, the decision whether to choose open access over copyright should be made by the beneficiaries themselves. The costs directly related to the project including the publications can be reimbursed by the conducting institutions. Taiwanese PIs are encouraged to follow CHIST-ERA's policy on open access to publications and research data at every stage.

United Kingdom - UKRI

United Kingdom Research and Innovation Polaris House North Star Avenue Swindon SN2 1ET https://www.epsrc.ukri.org

Stephanie Russin Portfolio Manager for Information and Communication Technologies stephanie.russin@epsrc.ukri.org

Funding Criteria and Regulations

For UK applicants, the standard UKRI eligibility criteria apply. See the Funding guide on the EPSRC website: <u>https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/guidance-for-applicants/check-if-you-are-eligible-for-funding/</u>

Only Research organisations that can apply to UKRI (excluding Innovate UK), are eligible to apply.

The maximum amount that can be requested from the UK on one project is €350.000. This is the 80% value that can be requested from EPSRC and should be included as 'requested funding'.

PhD studentships cannot be included.

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

Open Access

The UKRI Policy on Open Access aims to achieve immediate, unrestricted, on-line access to peer-reviewed and published research papers, free of any access charge. Our vision is for all users to be able to read published research papers in an electronic format and to search for and re-use (including download) the content of published research papers, both manually and using automated tools (such as those for text and data mining), provided that any such re-use is subject to full and proper attribution.

From 1st April 2013 the payment of Access Publication Charges and other publication charges related to Research Council-funded research are supported through UKRI Open access block grants provided to eligible research organisations. APCs and other publication charges relating to peer-reviewed research papers can no longer be included within research grant applications. The policy applies to:

- peer-reviewed research articles submitted for publication on or after 1 April 2022
- monographs, book chapters and edited collections published on or after 1 January 2024.

See <u>https://www.ukri.org/manage-your-award/publishing-your-research-findings/making-your-research-publications-open-access/</u> for a summary, <u>https://www.ukri.org/manage-your-award/good-research-resource-hub/open-research/</u> and <u>https://www.ukri.org/publications/ukri-open-access-policy/</u> for full details.

Open Data

UKRI is strongly committed to opening up research data for scrutiny and reuse, to enable high-quality research, drive innovation and increase public trust in research.

UKRI supports the principles in the Concordat on Open Research Data (<u>https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/UKRI-020920-ConcordatonOpenResearchData.pdf</u>) that recognise that research data should wherever possible be made openly available for use by others in a manner consistent with relevant legal, ethical, disciplinary and regulatory frameworks and norms, and with due regard to the cost involved.

The Concordat was developed by a UK multi-stakeholder group to provide expectations of best practice reflecting the needs of the research community.

Please see here for our policy on research data <u>https://www.ukri.org/about-us/epsrc/our-policies-and-standards/policy-framework-on-research-data/#contents-list</u>, and here for additional information around making this data open access <u>https://www.ukri.org/manage-your-award/publishing-your-research-data-open/</u>.