



9th JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS
by
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye
and
The Slovak Academy of Sciences

The Call is open between 19 February 2024 and 26 April 2024

1. Preamble

In the framework of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Co-operation between The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) and The Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS) followed by the respective Executive Programme, Turkish and Slovak researchers are invited to submit joint proposals for research and development projects.

2. Objectives and the Scope of the Call

The aim of the call is to allow partners to collaborate internationally, and gain access to new research environments, facilities, knowledge, and expertise, in order to enhance the quality of their research and enable them to translate research and innovation into economic and societal benefit. Expected proposals should be tackling basic or applied research.

3. Thematic Areas

Project proposals should address the thematic areas below:

- Inorganic Chemistry
- Experimental Physics
- Molecular Biology
- Plant Science and Biodiversity
- Environmental Studies
- Artificial Intelligence and Digital Humanities

- Economics and management
- History and Oriental Studies

4. Funding Available

Turkish partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 2.000.000 Turkish Liras (excl. overhead and project incentive premium (PIP)) per project. The Slovak partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 120.000 EURO per project (salaries included) per 36 months duration.

TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with the rules of TÜBİTAK 1071 Programme. Detailed information can be achieved [here](#).

Similarly, SAS-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by SAS according to its funding guidelines and procedures.

For the bilateral visits, the Sending Party will meet all related costs of international travel.

Please liaise closely with prospective partners to ensure that both TÜBİTAK and SAS supported elements of the proposal abide by all regulations for both funders.

5. Duration of the Projects

The duration of the projects is **24 or 36 months**. The total duration of international visits for bilateral cooperation from one direction to another should not exceed 60 days per year.

6. Eligibility, Submission and Ethics

6.1. Eligibility

It is a prerequisite that projects include the participation of at least one Slovak SAS research institute and one Turkish institution eligible for TÜBİTAK.

Eligibility conditions for the Turkish team are applicable in the Process Document for Research Projects available [here](#).

SAS eligibility conditions and procedures are available [here](#). Financial rules and eligible costs are detailed [here](#).

6.2. Proposal Submission

The partners should agree with each other using their own means of communication and jointly develop and complete their project proposal before submission. TÜBİTAK and SAS do not match the collaborating partners.

Project proposals must provide detailed information on the objectives and justification of the planned joint research work, the methodology to be followed, the composition of each research team and the intended time schedule.

Turkish and Slovak researchers will prepare one joint project proposal (Application Form). The identical Application Form document must be uploaded to the respective electronic platform.

For the Turkish side

Turkish partner submits the application form to TÜBİTAK via the application system (UIDB-PBS) accessible at <https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr/>. The information concerning supporting documents requested from TÜBİTAK applicants is accessible at the application system. Turkish applicants are expected to submit the online application by **26 April 2024** and sign the e-signatures of relevant documents by **6 May 2024**, otherwise they will be rejected from evaluation and could not apply to this call in the same call period.

For the Slovak side

Slovak partner submits the application form and requested supporting documents in the online module set in SAS Intranet platform by **26 April 2024**. For further information and instructions see the document templates and manuals attached to the call announcement.

6.3 Ethics

Should SAS applicants identify any ethical issues in project proposal, institute ethics committee will evaluate the issue(s) respectively. Ethics committee approval should be attached to the project proposal, if applicable.

Turkish applicants should refer to the Ethics Committee Approval Document, Legal Permission Document and Research and Intellectual Property Right Ownership Protocol available [here](#).

7. The Evaluation Procedure and Criteria

TÜBİTAK and SAS follow their own parallel evaluation procedures. Only projects eligible on both sides will be evaluated. Projects that are submitted online but that did not submit requested supporting documents or e-signature(s) will not be evaluated and thus not considered for funding.

Based on own evaluation outcomes, each funding institution will prepare its own ranking list of proposals with the average score given to each proposal. The final score for each proposal will be an average of points received in both evaluation procedures of TÜBİTAK and SAS. The common ranking list will be established based on these final scores.

Specifically, at the SAS side, 2 step evaluation procedure is followed. In the first step proposals are assessed by at least 2 external reviewers. The successful applicants are invited to present proposals at the meeting of the Committee for International Projects Evaluation (step 2). Further information about the procedure is available [here](#).

The project proposals will be evaluated on both sides according to the following criteria:

- Scientific and Technological Excellence
- Methodology
- Project Management
- Importance of International Collaboration

- Impact

Evaluation scores range from 1.0 to 6.0 for each criterion.

8. Selection and Funding procedures, Feedback to Applicants

The mutual meeting of TÜBİTAK and SAS representatives is organised aiming to consensually select proposals and prepare final list of the projects recommended for funding on both sides. Final funding decision is made by the Presidency of TÜBİTAK and SAS Presidium respectively.

The selection and funding procedures followed by TÜBİTAK are explained in the [National Regulations Document](#).

Slovak coordinators, whose projects are recommended for funding, will be requested to submit the specific form (MVTTS Form) ahead of final funding approval.

At the SAS side, the anonymized external reviewers' reports without the scores are provided to the applicants as an evaluation feedback.

A cooperation agreement is strongly recommended to be concluded to manage the intellectual property rights, publication and exploitation plans, as well as management rules between the project partners.

9. Projects Follow-up and Projects results

The projects will be monitored through progress and financial reports and the final report by both SAS and TÜBİTAK for its content and progress.

The Slovak PI of a funded project submits an annual progress report consisting of a scientific and a financial part. The final report is sent for a review to the International Projects Evaluation Committee.

The Turkish PI has to prepare financial and scientific/technical progress reports at determined dates according to the national regulations of TÜBİTAK.

Continuation of funding will be decided on the basis of this monitoring and is subject to the consent of both research funding organisations.

Any publication of the project results must acknowledge the support received from the SAS and TÜBİTAK.

10. Indicative Call Schedule

One Stage Joint Call

ACTIONS	DATES
Call Announcement	19 February 2024
Deadline for Applications	26 April 2024
Deadline for E-Signature (TÜBİTAK applicants only)	6 May 2024
Projects evaluation	Late May to Mid-October 2024
TÜBİTAK – SAS Joint Committee meeting (final list of projects recommended for funding)	Mid-October 2024
Final funding decision by TÜBİTAK and SAS authorities	November 2024
Feedback sent to applicants	December 2024
Tentative projects start	January 2025

10. Contacts

For Turkish Side:

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