

Call for Proposals

Legal framework

The call is based on the Agreement on Scientific Cooperation of the year 2019 between the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (hereinafter referred to as “TÜBİTAK”) and Czech Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as “CAS”).

Basic definitions

Objectives

- Improvement of scientific cooperation between both Parties;
- Stimulation of involvement of early career 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 **3 years, i.e. 36 months**
- **On the Czech side** extension beyond this period is not permitted.

Project proposals can be submitted:

- **On the Czech side** by the [CAS Institute](#);
 - In case applicant submits more than one project proposal within one call, only one of them can be funded.
 - Only two subsequent projects realized by the same research teams can be funded.
- **On the Türkiye side** by [TÜBİTAK](#);

Applicant submitting a project proposal following a running project with the same team shall justify the need for a continuing project and describe outcomes of the running project. This shall be stated in the Project Proposal form in the part “Description of the project”.

Research team

On the Czech side:

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 (8 or more years after receiving PhD at the time of submission of the project proposal);

- Junior researchers – postdocs (less than 8 years after receiving PhD at the time of submission of the project proposal);
- PhD students;
- Others (e.g. undergraduate students, engineers, technicians).
- All members shall be employees of the CAS Institutes.
- Out of the whole team, at least 1/3 shall be junior researchers or PhD students.

On the Turkish side:

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

Financial provisions

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

- **Up to three (3)** year mobility projects shall be selected for funding.
- The size of the grant may vary depending of the needs of each project and must be fully justified.
- A balanced distribution between the project items is required.

On the Czech side:

- Financial contribution shall be provided by the CAS towards the costs of the Czech research team.
- The maximum financial contribution shall be **CZK 200,000** per project per year.
- Eligible costs:
 - **Mobility costs** (travel and living expenses);
 - **Research costs** directly related to the project implementation (consumables, services, small equipment, and networking – workshops, conferences etc.).
- **Min. 50 % of the requested financial contribution shall be used to cover mobility costs and shall be maintained on the project level as well as yearly.**
- Non-eligible costs: personnel, large equipment (exceeding CZK 80,000), overheads.
- The course of project implementation will be monitored through annual and final reports including use of financial means, justification of costs and possible transfers between categories.

On the Turkish side:

- TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant shall be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with the rules of TÜBİTAK 1071 Program.
- As a rule, Turkish team, either from academy, public or private sector, which is eligible for funding can receive up to **600.000 Turkish Liras** (in the scope in this call there will not be overhead and Project Incentive Premiums (PIP)).

- The funding shall cover the expenses of travel, dissemination and scholarship expenses.
- For Turkish team, the daily allowances shall be paid in accordance with the provision of the per diem Law No-6245 along with the economy class flight tickets for the scientific visits from Türkiye to Czech Republic
- The total duration of visits in one direction of a specific project for Turkish researchers cannot be more than three months a year. It is possible to exceed **90 days** a year provided that it is justified and deemed appropriate.

Project proposal submission

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

On the Czech side:

- Project proposals in Czech or English shall be complete and submitted within the stated deadline exclusively via the “KIS” online application.
- The applicant is requested to register in the KIS online application using the following link <https://kis.avcr.cz/kis2/oms/register> and fill in a project proposal. After finishing the proposal, the applicant shall forward it through his KIS account to the Director of the respective CAS Institute for approval. The Director shall approve the proposal by submitting the project proposal to OMS KAV ČR (Division of International Cooperation, Head Office of the CAS) via his KIS account. **Bear in mind that all project proposals shall be submitted by the CAS Institute Directors by 12 June 2023.**
- Proposals submitted in any other way may be rejected on formal grounds.

By submitting project proposal, the applicant:

- Agrees to processing of personal data contained in the project proposal pursuant to the relevant Czech legislation;
- Declares that the information he/she stated is accurate, true and complete and that he/she is aware that if otherwise they will face all the legal consequences;
- Declares that, if approved, he/she will during the realization of the project follow:
 - [The Code of Ethics for Researchers of the Czech Academy of Sciences;](#)
 - [The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity;](#)

On the Turkish side:

- Turkish partners shall make their online application via TÜBİTAK’s online application system: <http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>
- Turkish partners shall use E-signature for their applications. Detailed information can be achieved via: http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/281/ardeb_e-imza_yardim_dokumani.pdf
- Submission of proposals by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.
- For detailed information, see: https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/1071_arastirma_projeleri_surec_dokumani.pdf

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 organisations.

On the Czech side:

Criteria for evaluation of project proposals

- **Scientific and formal quality:**
 - Quality of project implementation (concept, approach, methodology, time schedule, outcomes);
 - State-of-the-art;
 - Innovation potential and perspective to broaden knowledge;
 - Expected mutual benefits for both research institutes;
 - Potential of project results and its possible outreach.
- **Quality of research teams:**
 - Justification of collaboration needs;
 - Competence and qualification of research team members;
 - Level of involvement of junior researchers and PhD students;
 - Research teams' complementarity;
 - Previous cooperation.
- **Appropriate project budget.**

Evaluation of the final report

The project results and outputs will be evaluated. For definition of results see the [Methodology for Evaluating Research Organisations and R&D&I Purpose-tied Aid Programmes \(2017+\)](#).

On the Turkish side:

The evaluation and selection process starts after the deadline of the call for proposal. The project proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

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

Schedule

11 April 2023	Announcement of the call for project proposals
12 June 2023, 17:00	Deadline for submission of project proposals (e-signature deadline: <u>19 June 2023 17:00</u>)
Sept./Oct. 2023	Completion of the assessment at national level
November 2023	Completion of the joint assessment at international level
Nov./Dec.2023	Approval of the final results by both partner organisations
December 2023	Announcement of results

Contact persons

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