



Joint Call on Design of Materials with Atomic Precision

CALL TEXT AND NATIONAL AND REGIONAL REGULATIONS

Proposal Submission Period:

https://ptoutline.eu/app/eigjapan_jc2022

(Deadline of Monday, 18 July 2022, 10:00 CEST, i.e. 17:00 Japanese time)

Websites:

<http://www.concert-japan.eu/> (for call text and national/regional regulations)

https://ptoutline.eu/app/eigjapan_jc2022 (for online proposal submission portal)

Contact:

European Interest Group (EIG) CONCERT-Japan Joint Call Secretariat

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)

Ms. Léa Debraux

E-mail: concert-japan-jcs@cnrs.fr

Phone: +33(0)1 44 96 40 11

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PART 1: Call Text

1. Background and Rationale

1.1. EIG CONCERT-Japan

European Interest Group (EIG) CONCERT-Japan (<http://www.concert-japan.eu/>) is an international joint initiative to support and enhance science, technology and innovation (STI) cooperation between European countries and Japan. EIG CONCERT-Japan is flexible and inclusive in nature, able to accommodate a range of forms of collaboration from broad concerted efforts to individual participation among its core members and other interested STI institutions.

CONCERT-Japan began as an ERA-NET project funded by the 7th EU Framework Program for Research and Technical Development (FP7) from 2011 to 2014. As an FP7 project, CONCERT-Japan had a high impact on the coherence and coordination of European collaboration and joint funding activities with Japan as a partner country.

At the end of the period, the success of the program until that point called for its continuation. As a result, the European Interest Group was founded as a flexible successor platform for communication and coordination among STI institutions in Europe and Japan. The collaboration, which began in the FP7 work programme, is now continuing independently of EU support as an activity of the European Interest Group, now under the name of EIG CONCERT-Japan.

The primary function of EIG CONCERT-Japan is to implement multilateral joint funding activities collaboratively, with the objective of enhancing cooperation and promoting transnational mobility between European countries and Japan in various STI fields.

As a collaborative funding initiative of EIG CONCERT-Japan (the eighth of CONCERT-Japan, the sixth as an EIG activity), the core members representing Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Spain and Turkey, together with a funding agency from Switzerland joining as a guest funder, have decided to implement a Joint Call under the title of *Design of Materials with Atomic Precision*.

Incentives for partnering with EIG CONCERT-Japan

The EIG CONCERT-Japan research community, in addition to nurturing links between Europe and Japan, is a close-knit coordinated network supported by common academic interests as well as social and interdisciplinary concerns. The coordinating funding institutions are an independently governed, flexible body continually monitoring current support needs in research as well as science-society engagement. Successful applicants may be invited as speakers at interdisciplinary scoping events, institutional advisory roles and generally looked to as pillars of the EU-Japan cooperative network.

1.2. EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Calls

EIG CONCERT-Japan joint calls aim to support sustainable and multilateral research cooperation, especially promoting the transnational mobility between European and Japanese researchers, through:

- Enhancing inter-regional communication and cooperation
- Increasing and developing opportunities for high quality research networking between researchers
- Developing new partnerships and strengthening existing ones
- Exchanging existing knowledge and creating new knowledge

Previous CONCERT-Japan joint calls have included Efficient Energy and Distribution and Resilience against Disasters (2012), Photonic Manufacturing (2014), Food Crops and Biomass Production Technologies (2016), Efficient Energy Storage and Distribution (2017), Functional Porous Materials (2018), Smart Water Management for Sustainable Society (2019), ICT for Resilient, Safe and Secure Society (2020) and Sustainable Hydrogen Technology as Affordable and Clean Energy (2021) with more than two hundred joint applications received and more than €18,800,000 of funding offered in total.

2. The EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call on Design of Materials with Atomic Precision

2.1 Thematic Area

This EIG CONCERT-Japan joint call is in the thematic area for the Design of Materials with Atomic Precision.

Background

Materials sciences is a field of fundamental research which encompasses a diverse range of research areas with a wide set of applications relevant to our daily lives, society and industry. The development of nano and atomic scale technology, especially (multi-) functional materials design, is key to unlocking the potential of diverse and transversal technologies such as ubiquitous computing, wireless sensors networks with reliable communication protocols, artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning (ML) in order to solve pressing issues related to the environment, resource use, energy production and storage, medicine, preventive and diagnostic care, health, smart manufacturing and other areas.

Materials designed with intrinsic properties specifically tailored to the target application thanks to the deliberate manipulation/modification of their structure and composition at an atomic level, will bring a step forward in the field of multi-functional advanced materials design and development for multiple social and industrial applications.

In the design of (multi-) functional materials, the properties and functions of the resulting materials are determined not only by their composition, but also by how they are arranged on a molecular and atomic level, an area of research which remains relatively unexplored. This call for proposals is focused on this area of research, an area of fundamental research which looks at how materials are constructed

at their molecular and atomic level in order to deliver a certain desired combination of chemical, physical, mechanical, and bioscientific functionalities.

It thus covers (i) the simulation and design of new multi-functional materials, (ii) the synthesis, development, fabrication and advanced characterization of these compounds, and (iii) the integration in relevant device applications.

The expected output is therefore:

- A deeper understanding of how atomic-level control methods can influence the functional properties of the resulting materials.
- The creation of novel multi-functional materials by atomic precision
- The development of new analysis and characterization technology for functional materials

The research field encompasses a wide range of areas, including research on organic molecules, biomolecules, polymers, metal ions, metal complexes, inorganic compounds and metal clusters, nanocarbons, as well as other atomic and/or molecular hybrid nano-structures consisting in the combination of atoms and molecules.

Call aims and requirements

This call for proposals invites Japan and Europe-based researchers to develop new designs of material with atomic precision. We welcome research proposals taking cross-sectoral approaches, which bring natural and social sciences together. Proposals that involve various non-academic participants, such as practitioners, industry and other individuals and groups of the general public are also encouraged.

Research scope

This call focuses on research around the design of material with atomic precision.

As a part of this call, researchers are envisioned to explore areas of research including, but not limited to:

- Computational methods and simulation of properties at atomic level
- Design of Materials with Atomic precision using AI and Mathematical Analysis, modeling, Simulation
- Developing system/techniques for the synthesis of functional nano-materials
- Developing system/techniques to control the structure (single atom/molecule manipulation system etc.)
- Composition and structure control of materials (inorganic, ceramics, organic, metal, bio, topological, composite material etc.) at atomic level
- Development of novel tools for atomic level analysis, and characterization techniques (Operando-Measurements, ATM, STM, Microscope technologies etc.)
- Integration and validation of the developed nano-technology in relevant applications (high efficient solar cell, chemical sensor, catalysts etc.)

The topics listed above should be considered as examples. This list is non-exhaustive and all researchers are encouraged to explore other topics beyond those listed.

2.2. Participating countries and regions

The following national and regional funding organisations have agreed to participate in this joint call, leveraging their national and regional R&D programs and applying their respective funding regulations:

- **Bulgaria:** Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF)
- **Czech Republic:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS)
- **Czech Republic:** Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)
- **Hungary:** National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH)
- **Japan:** Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
- **Poland:** National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)
- **Slovakia:** Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)
- **Spain:** Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)
- **Turkey:** The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)

Only researchers based in these countries/regions are eligible for funding in this EIG CONCERT-Japan joint call. See the annexes for each of the above funding agencies for details.

2.3. Eligible beneficiaries and composition of the consortia

In general, this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is open to applications from *public and private legal RTD entities, higher education institutions and non-university research establishments*, as well as enterprises and other kinds of organisations (the “beneficiaries”) depending on the individual national/regional regulations and restrictions of the participating funding institutions (see Part 2).

Each project consortium submitting an application should consist of *at least three (3) eligible beneficiaries (project partners), one (1) from Japan and two (2) from two different European countries participating in the Joint Call*. The number of beneficiaries in a project consortium should be appropriate for the aims of the research project and reasonably balanced in terms of multilateral participation. Applications should clearly demonstrate the added value of working together.

Each project consortium should choose *two (2) project leaders, one from the Japanese side and one from the European side*. One of the two project leaders (the “principal project leader”) will be responsible for submitting the proposal on behalf of the whole consortium. Project leaders may participate in only one project proposal. Each beneficiary will be represented by one (and only one) Principal Investigator (PI) and this PI will be the contact person for the relevant national/regional funding organisation.

*Researchers/research teams from countries/regions not participating in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call may participate as additional partners in a project consortium (after satisfying the minimum consortium criteria) if they can prove that they have secured funding from other sources that allows them to fulfil their obligations within the consortium. A *confirmation letter* from the external funding institution has to be submitted at the time of proposal submission.*

2.4. Eligible costs and duration of funding

Within the framework of this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call, costs eligible for funding may be:

- **Research materials and small-scale research equipment:** Consumables, small equipment and subcontracting (for example for the fabrication of samples at a specialised facility) are eligible if their need is listed in detail and duly justified
- **Travel costs:** Only travel costs and associated living expenses incurred in travel to the countries participating in the same project consortium (including additional partners from countries/regions other than those participating in the Joint Call who secure their own funding) are eligible
- **Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events:** Room rent, catering, printing of conference brochures, travel and accommodation of invited external experts (that do not form part of the project consortium but are considered necessary for the success of the event) are eligible
- **Personnel costs:** According to the rules of each agency

The eligibility of all costs for each applicant depends on the relevant national and regional regulations applied by each Joint Call funding institution and should be calculated accordingly (see Part 2).

All project partners are advised to contact their National and Regional Contact Persons (see Part 3) for further information on eligible costs and national and regional specifications.

Funding will be provided for the maximum duration of 3 years. The funding of projects should start in April 2023 and should be concluded by the end of March 2026.

2.5. Call budget and funding principle

This EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call follows the principle that the national and regional financial contributions to a virtual common pot will be assigned to project partners of that respective country or region only, in accordance with national and regional regulations. Cross-border funding is not envisaged.

The overall budget of this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is the sum of the individual budgets allocated by each participating funding institution. If more than one funding institution from a given country participates in the Joint Call, the combined amount from these institutions is considered as the country's overall Joint Call contribution.

Below is an overview of the individual national and regional funding contributions envisaged to this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call budget by each participating funding institution:

Country/funding institution	Amount*
Bulgaria: Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF)	€ 383 468
Czech Republic: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS)	€ 600 000
Czech Republic: Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)	€ 240 000
Hungary: National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH)	€ 300 000
Japan: Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)	€ 900 000
Poland: National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)	€ 800 000
Slovakia: Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)	€ 120 000
Spain: Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)	€ 300 000
Turkey: The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)	€ 300 000
Overall call budget	€ 3 943 468

*Indicative only. The funding amount should be confirmed with the national contact point towards the end of the call. Check Part 2: National and Regional Regulations for details on funding in local currencies

It is expected that six (6) *projects* will be funded in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call.

Some funding institutions may choose to set an upper limit on the amount that can be requested per project partner coming from their country/region. *Applicants should therefore thoroughly check the national and regional regulations (Part 2) and contact their National and Regional Contact Persons (Part 3) for related inquiries.*

3. Proposal Submission

3.1. Project Consortium Submission

Project proposals are to be submitted between 9 May 2022 and 18 July 2022 10:00 CEST electronically using the PT-Outline webtool:

https://ptoutline.eu/app/eigjapan_ic2022

(The server will not accept proposals outside of this application period)

The principal project leader should submit the proposal via the webtool on behalf of the whole consortium. Only one online proposal per project is needed. Proposals sent by post, e-mail, or fax will be rejected. Proposals must be written in English.

3.2. National Funding Institution Submission

Some participating funding institutions may require the project partner applicant from their country or region to submit a *parallel proposal* or project registration in line with the national and regional requirements (see *Part 2*).

The *Japanese project leader* is required to register their project's information on the *e-Rad* website portal according to the national regulations listed in Part 2.

Before the submission of a proposal the national or regional regulations (Part 2) applicable for each consortium partner should be thoroughly checked.

4. Proposal Evaluation and Funding Decisions

A four-step evaluation process will be implemented for proposals submitted within this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call.

4.1. Eligibility check

The Program Secretariat and the National and Regional Contact Persons (see Part 3) will check the eligibility of all submitted proposals taking into consideration the general Joint Call criteria and the individual national and regional criteria respectively. If a partner is found to be ineligible by one of the funding organisations, the entire proposal may be rejected without further review.

The *general eligibility criteria* are:

- Appropriate length and layout of the proposal (maximum number of pages adhered to and use of template for the Project Description)
- Inclusion of all necessary information in English
- Eligibility of all project partners
- Participation of at least three eligible project partners (beneficiaries), from a minimum of two different European countries participating in this Joint Call and Japan
- Eligible thematic focus
- Eligibility of requested funding
- Inclusion of a confirmation letter from the external sponsoring institution in case of additional partners that need to secure their own funding

The *national and regional eligibility criteria* of the participating funding institutions are given in the National and Regional Funding Regulations (Part 2).

Proposals meeting all eligibility criteria will be forwarded to the online evaluation stage.

4.2. Online Evaluation of Proposals

The selection of project proposals to be funded is based on an *international, independent evaluation by scientific peers*. Each proposal is assessed and given a written evaluation by at least two evaluators, nominated by the participating funding institutions.

The following *three evaluation criteria* are used:

1. Scientific excellence (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Sound research concept and quality of objectives
- Ambition, innovative potential and uniqueness of the research idea
- Scientific track–record and potential of the partners (including publications in scientific journals)
- Scientific standing of the organisations the applicants belong to

2. Impact of project results (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Impact of the project on the scientific field and community
- Contribution to enhancing innovation capacity and integration of new knowledge
- Expected exploitation and dissemination of the results

3. Implementation (scoring from 0 to 5 points)

- Quality and effectiveness of the methodology
- Feasibility of the work plan (in relation to governance, adequate budget, resources, time schedule)
- Collaborative interaction and complementarity of project partners
- Added value of each of the partners
- Expected sustainability of the collaboration
- Interdisciplinarity
- Involvement of early-stage researchers and gender balance

The *scoring system* is as follows:

- 5: EXCELLENT** – The proposal fully satisfies all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.
- 4: VERY GOOD** – The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are possible.
- 3: GOOD** – The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but improvements are necessary.
- 2: FAIR** – There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.
- 1: POOR** – The criterion is addressed in an inadequate and unsatisfactory manner.
- 0: FAILS / INCOMPLETE INFORMATION** – The proposal fails to address the criterion in question or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information.

4.3. Meeting of the Scientific Committee

A Scientific Committee, comprising one expert nominated by each participating funding institution and chaired by an independent chairperson, will rank the proposals based on the online evaluations and internal discussion and recommend to the Funding Organisations Forum a list of proposals to be funded.

4.4. Meeting of the Funding Organizations Forum

The Funding Organizations Forum, comprising representatives of each participating funding institution, will take the final decision on the project proposals to be funded on a consensus basis, based on the recommendations of the Scientific Committee and in consideration of available budget. Funding will be administered in accordance with the rules and regulations of the participating national and regional funding institutions.

All applicants will be informed by the Program Secretariat of the outcomes of the evaluation.

5. Project implementation and reporting

Following announcement of the funding decision to successful applicants, the project partners of each proposal to be funded will conclude an individual funding contract with their respective national/regional funding institution. Support to funded projects will be provided on the basis of these funding contracts and in accordance with all applicable national/regional rules and regulations.

Each project consortium funded in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call is *required to conclude a Consortium Agreement* listing the rights and responsibilities of each project partner. Depending on the nature of the funded project, special regulations should be included in the Consortium Agreement regarding intellectual property rights. Scientific and technological outcomes and any other information derived from the collaborative activities funded in this call can be announced, published or commercially exploited with the agreement of all partners in a funded project and according to the national and regional regulations as well as international agreements concerning intellectual property rights. The Consortium Agreement *must be signed by all project partners and sent to the Program Secretariat by the principal project leader* preferably before the official project start date but *no later than six months* after the official project start date.

The principal project leaders of the funded projects will be requested to send an *interim report (after 18 months of funding)* as well as a *final report (after three years of funding)* to the Program Secretariat. The reports should highlight the main results and outputs of the projects and any problems that have arisen and how they have been solved. Report templates will be prepared to ensure the comparability of information.

Additional reporting to the individual national/regional funding institutions *may also be necessary* depending on national/regional regulations (see Part 2).

Project teams will be expected to attend and reserve budget for two joint workshops to be held within Europe, one mid-term and one final, as shown in 6. *Indicative Timetable*.

In case of any significant changes in the work program or the consortium composition, the principal project leader must inform the Program Secretariat, who will inform the relevant funding organisations, who will decide upon the proper action to be taken.

6. Indicative timetable*

Publication of the Call for Proposals	9 May 2022
Deadline for Proposal Submission	18 July 2022 <i>(10 weeks)</i>
Eligibility Check	18 July – 5 August 2022 <i>(3 weeks)</i>
Online Evaluation	5 August – 16 September 2022 <i>(6 weeks)</i>
Scientific Committee Meeting & Funding Organizations' Forum Meeting	Late October 2022
Publication of Results Online and Notification Letters to Applicants (Principal Project Leader only)	December 2022
Preparation of National and Regional Funding Agreements	December 2022 – February 2023
Start of Projects	April 2023
Joint Midterm Workshop	May/June 2024
Interim Project Reporting	October 2024
Final Joint Workshop	Jan/Feb 2026
Final Project Reporting	April 2026

* This is an approximate implementation schedule and is subject to change

PART 2: National and Regional Funding Regulations

Japan – Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

The official national call announcement for Japan is published on the JST website:

https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/program/announce/announce_material2022.html (Japanese)

https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/english/program_e/announce_e/announce_material2022.html

→ Who can apply?

Any independent researcher personally affiliated with (and actively conducting research at) a domestic Japanese research institution (or who would fulfil this requirement by the start of the research project if not currently affiliated with a research institution in Japan), regardless of nationality, is eligible to apply.

“Domestic Japanese research institution” in Japan refers to universities, independent administrative institutions, national/public testing and Research Institutions, specially authorized corporations, public-service corporations and enterprises, etc. that must satisfy predetermined requirements designated by MEXT. Please refer to the MEXT homepage for more information:

https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kansa/houkoku/1324571.htm (available in Japanese only)

In addition to the joint application process, Japanese applicants will have to register their applications on the Cross-Ministerial R&D Management System (e-Rad):

<https://www.e-rad.go.jp/index.html>

Applicants must complete a research ethics training program conducted by the research institute with which they are affiliated and then declare the completion of the program to JST within 30 days after the deadline of the call for proposals. If it would be difficult for them to undertake a program provided by their own institute, they should contact JST to register for a research ethics program via JST. Unless applicants complete a research ethics program, their application will be deemed ineligible for funding.

Funded researchers will also have to complete a consortium agreement and should consult within their own institutions regarding their regulations. Further guidance can be found on the JST website:

<https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/research/contract/contract.html> (available in Japanese only)

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Japan?

The level of the funding available to Japanese researchers may be up to 6,067,000 Japanese Yen including 30% of indirect costs per year (i.e. overall 18,200,000 Japanese Yen for the three years of funding). Funding will be made in Japanese Yen.

1. Eligible direct costs

In principle, eligible direct costs are those costs directly necessary for accomplishing the research, indicated below from 1.1 to 1.4. Please refer to the guidance documents available at the following link for further details of eligible direct costs (available in Japanese only).

<https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/research/contract/contract.html> (available in Japanese only)

1.1 Research materials and small-scale research equipment

Research equipment, spare parts, prototypes, software (in-line product), and purchase of books, reagents, materials and consumables

1.2 Personnel costs

Personnel costs of the researchers, temporally staff, etc., who are hired for the research, and other costs such as honoraria for invited lecturers

1.3 Travel costs

Travel costs and associated living expenses of the Project Leader as well as research project members registered in the research project plan, and costs of inviting external experts

1.4 Others

Costs for organizing meetings in Japan including rental costs for the venue, food & beverage (excluding alcohol) costs and other costs which are deemed to be necessary for organizing the event. Expenses for creating software, renting or leasing equipment, transporting equipment, etc.

2. Eligible indirect costs

Please refer to the following link for the provisions regarding indirect costs:

https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/compefund/kansetsu_sikkou.pdf (available in Japanese only)

Participating organisation: Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) – State Research Agency

Indicative Budget: 300.000€

Juan Climent (technical and administrative issues)

Tel.: +34 916037242

E-Mail: CONCERT-Japan@aei.gob.es

Name of & link to the funding programme(s) and other relevant information:

Programa Estatal de Investigación, Desarrollo e Innovación Orientada a los Retos de la Sociedad, [Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica y Técnica y de Innovación 2021-2023](#)

The instrument for funding the Spanish groups will be the Spanish national call on International Joint Programming or its equivalent (**Programación Conjunta Internacional, PCI**), which is expected to be launched in 2021/2022. As a reference, the beneficiaries are advised to read the call [PCI 2020](#).

Concert Japan 2022 Call on *Design of Materials with Atomic Precision* will be managed by the [Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia](#)

Project duration: from 24 to 36 months (preferable 36 months)

Maximum funding per project:

The following funding limits are considered eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared ineligible.

- Maximum amount of funding per proposal eligible for AEI should not exceed €120,000, independently of the number of Spanish partners in the project.
- Additional 30,000€ can be granted if the applicant is the Coordinator of the transnational project.

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

Institutional eligibility criteria:

The eligible entities for the State Research Agency funding are: Non-profit research organizations according to the PCI 2020.

Spanish Principal Investigators must demonstrate experience as investigators in projects funded by the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2013- 2016, the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2017-2020, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant national or international programmes.

Additional eligibility criteria:

Incompatibilities: These must be taken into account when participating in different international calls or other international initiatives.

- Principal Investigators will not be eligible for funding if applying for more than one proposal of this 9th Concert Japan call.
- Principal Investigators will be declared ineligible if applying for more than one proposal in the same PCI call or in two PCI calls in consecutive years.
- Principal Investigators should have a minimum employment relationship with the institution marked by the duration of the projects and must remain unchanged between the proposal to this transnational call and the PCI call.

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

Eligible costs:

- Personnel costs for temporary employment contracts.
- Current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.
- Indirect costs (overheads) up to 15%.

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

Who can apply?

Higher education institutions, training and research hospitals, public research centers and institutes, companies established in Turkey (private organizations) can apply for funding under TÜBİTAK 1071-The Support Programme for Increasing the Capacity to use International Research Funds and to Join International R&D Cooperations.

Funding Rates

The maximum funding per project is 720.000 TL (total for three years) to be shared between participating Turkish partners. This amount includes the scholarship payments, However, it excludes overhead and payments to the Project Incentive Premium (PTİ) and institution shares.

Higher education institutions, training and research hospitals and public research centers and institutes will be supported by 100% support rate. In private organizations, the support rate is applied to 60% of the budget of large-scale organizations and 75% of the budget of SMEs.

Eligible Costs

The personnel costs, travel costs, consultancy and service purchase costs, equipment, machinery, software and publication expenses and material/consumable purchase costs. . Please see the detailed information at <https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>.

The online national application is compulsory and will be received online **until 18 July 2022** (in parallel to the one on PT-Outline) Please see the detailed information at <https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>

Important Note: National applications to TÜBİTAK can only be made by using electronic signature. The persons who are included in the project team and all executive / participant institutions should have qualified electronic certificate (e-signature).

Further information relevant to national applicants/regulations please visit <https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>

For more information please contact:

EIG CONCERT-Japan Call National Contact Point

Elif DOĞAN-ARSLAN

e-mail: concertjapan@tubitak.gov.tr

Tel.: +90 312 298 14 16

Contact Person for TÜBİTAK 1071 Programme

E. Burcu YAMAK

e-mail: burcu.yamak@tubitak.gov.tr

Phone: + 90 312 298 18 12

Information about call announcement will be published on the MEYS website: <http://www.msmt.cz>

→ **Who can apply?**

Universities, research organizations and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) can apply in the Czech Republic. For universities and research institutes, up to 100% of eligible cost can be funded. For SMEs, up to 50% of eligible cost can be funded (according to the Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014).

→ **What types of funding are eligible for researchers in the Czech Republic?**

The level of the funding available to Czech researchers may be up to 200 000 euros per year (i.e. overall around 600 000 euros for the three years of funding) and maximum 150 000 euros per collaborative project for the entire duration of the project.

1. Eligible direct costs

National rules will be applied in accordance with the Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 (in line with articles No. 107 and 108 Agreement) and Act. No. 130/2002 Coll. Costs eligible for funding needs to be listed in details and duly justified.

1.1 Research materials and small-scale research equipment

Research equipment, spare parts, software, reagents, materials and consumables.

1.2 Subcontracting

The beneficiary is entitled to use this financial tool but only if it is unable to perform the activity of its own capacity and this fact justifies in the project proposal.

1.3 Personnel costs

Personnel costs of the researchers, temporally staff, etc., who are hired for the research, in accordance with the internal regulations of the applicant. Max. 40 % of total budget of a Czech participant.

1.4 Travel costs

Travel costs (economy class flight / train ride 2nd class) are eligible) and associated living expenses of research project members on the daily allowance basis (in accordance with the national legislation) and accommodation costs of the members of the participating Czech team are eligible.

2. Eligible indirect costs

Eligible indirect costs are eligible as per HORIZON EUROPE rules.

→ **Projects funded from other national or EU sources will not be supported.**

→ **Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?**

There is no need for an additional/parallel application to the Ministry of Education Youth and Sports. A copy of the application sent to the call secretary should be sent to the Ministry of Education Youth and Sports through data box **vidaawt** according to following rules:

- Data message cannot exceed 20 MB
- In data message in the field „Věc“ fill in „EIG CONCERT JAPAN“
- In data message in the field „K rukám“ fill in „Oddělení 33“
- In data message must be tickled the field „Do vlastních rukou“

After announcement the EIG CONCERT JAPAN call results the MEYS will administer the institutional support in line with national regulations: Act. No. 130/2002 Coll., §7, article 8.

→ **Who can apply?**

Only teams from the CAS institutes are eligible to apply. SMEs and/or industries may participate on the condition that they secure their own funding. Universities and other research organisations are eligible to apply to MEYS (see MEYS's guidelines and conditions).

→ **What types of funding are eligible for CAS teams participating in consortia?**

The level of funding for the CAS teams may be up to 120,000.00 Euro per project (3 years), in case two or more project partners in a proposal are from the CAS institutes, they may together request up to 120,000.00 Euro per project proposal.

1. Eligible direct costs

Mobility costs. All mobility costs may only be related to networking events and secondments within the project.

Transport costs of the members of the participating Czech team (economy class flight / train ride 2nd class) are eligible.

Living expenses on the daily allowance basis (in accordance with the national legislation) and accommodation costs of the members of the participating Czech team are eligible.

Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events related to the project in the Czech Republic are eligible. The upper limit of 20% of the project budget should not be exceeded.

Costs for consumables and small equipment, only on a limited scale and if its need is demonstrated, are eligible.

Personnel costs for young researchers (PhD students and postdocs) participating in the project are eligible. The upper limit of 20% of the project budget should not be exceeded.

2. Eligible indirect costs

There are no eligible indirect costs.

→ **Is an additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?**

Yes. Basic information about project and project team must be submitted on a special form available for download at <https://era.avcr.cz/cs/multilateralni-spoluprace/EIG-CONCERT-Japan/> to the Contact point at the CAS. Following information will be required:

1. Identification of the project: Project title, Name of the principal project coordinator and List of all project partners and their affiliations;
2. Abstract of the project (1 100 characters incl. spaces);
3. Summary of Research Plans of the Czech Project Partner(s), their Implementation and Justification of Proposed Collaboration (1/2 page);
4. Description of the Czech Project Team – Involvement of Young Researchers is Mandatory (1/2 page);
5. CV of the Czech Principal Investigator (1 page).

→ **For more information please contact EIG CONCERT-Japan Call CAS Contact Point:**

Dr. Alena Žochová

Division of International Cooperation, CAS

E-mail: zochova@kav.cas.cz

Phone: +420 221 403 566

The official national call announcement for Bulgaria is published on the BNSF website:

<https://www.fni.bg/>

→ Who can apply?

Eligible applicants under the present call are Bulgarian entities, which are:

- 1) Accredited universities under Art. 85 Para. 1 item 7 of the Law on Higher Education
- 2) Science organizations under Art . 47 Para. 1 of the Law on Higher Education.

Applicants under items 1 and 2 must comply with the definition for “research and knowledge distribution organization” under item 15 “b” of the Framework for State Aid for research and development and innovation.

Applicants under the present procedure must be directly responsible for the implementation of the activities of the project proposal, and not act as intermediaries; they must perform the proposed project activities on their own behalf and at their own expense.

Call applicants must be persons:

- performing research;
and
- whose activities are fully not-for-profit or
- whose activities are both for-profit and not-for-profit, but they are clearly separated and are organized in a way to allow tracking of expenses and revenues related to their performance, including through analytical accounting. When the applicant performs both for-profit and not-for-profit activities, the financing, expenses and revenues about each type of activity are considered separately on the basis of consistently applied accounting principles for costs that can be objectively justified.

In addition to the joint application process, Bulgarian applicants will have to submit in Bulgarian and English following documents: Administrative description of the project and Declarations

<https://www.fni.bg/?q=node/578>

→ What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Bulgaria?

The level of the funding available to Bulgarian researchers may be up to 127 822€ per project over 3 years.

Funding will be made in Bulgarian Leva.

National rules and BNSF internal processes will apply.

1. Eligible direct costs

In principle, eligible direct costs are those costs directly necessary for accomplishing the research, indicated below from 1.1 to 1.4.

1.1 Research materials and small-scale research equipment

Research equipment, spare parts, prototypes, software (in-line product), and purchase of books, reagents, materials and consumables.

1.2 Personnel costs

Personnel costs of the researchers, temporally staff, etc., who are hired for the research, and other costs such as honoraria for invited lecturers

1.3 Travel costs

Travel costs and associated living expenses of the Bulgarian Project Team Members registered in the research project plan.

1.4 Expenses for the organisation of small scientific events in Bulgaria

In general, all costs directly related to the preparation and the implementation of events like international workshops, conferences, etc. in relation with the project are eligible.

→ Room rent, catering, printing of conference brochures, travel and accommodation of invited external experts (that do not form part of the project consortium but are considered necessary for the success of the event), translation.

1.5. Expenses for dissemination of the project results

All costs related to participation in seminars, conferences and congresses related to the topic of the Project and presenting its results (travel, accommodation, daily subsistence) of Bulgarian Project Team Members. These costs have to be based on the National Regulation, respectively Ordinance for business trips abroad.

2. Eligible indirect costs

There are no eligible indirect costs.

→ Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?

In addition to the joint application process, Bulgarian applicants will have to submit in Bulgarian and English following documents: Administrative description of the project and Declarations

The official national call announcement for Hungarian participants is published on the NKFIH website: <https://www.nkfi.gov.hu/>

→ **Who can apply?**

Eligible applicants from Hungary are entities falling under any of the following GFO codes:

- budgetary units and other entities falling under the budgetary rule (e.g. higher education institutions, municipalities; etc.) (GFO code: 311, 312, 322, 341 342, 381, 382)
- enterprise with legal entity and other non-profit enterprise (GFO code: 113, 114, 141, 572, 573)
- non-profit organisation with legal entity (GFO code: 551, 552, 559, 562, 563, 569 599, 931)
- enterprise with a registered office in the European Economic Area and a branch in Hungary (GFO: 226).

→ **What types of funding are eligible for researchers in Hungary?**

The level of funding of Hungarian participants may be up to around **EUR 100 000 – 150 000** per project over 3 years.

→ **Eligible activities and costs**

All research-related costs in accordance with government decree 380/2014 (XII.31) are eligible. In case a partner is subject to State Aid rules, funding intensity shall be set at a level that complies with the State Aid rules in force at the time of the funding decision.

The detailed eligible costs and funding rules of the national 2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET call shall apply.

2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET Call for proposal & Guide for applicants:

PÁLYÁZAT AZ ERA-NET COFUND és EJP COFUND PROGRAMOK KÖZÖS NEMZETKÖZI PÁLYÁZATI FELHÍVÁSAIBAN SIKERESEN SZEREPLŐ MAGYAR SZERVEZETEK TÁMOGATÁSÁRA, 2019

<https://nkfi.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/era-net-ejp-cofund-2019-217-era-net>

→ **Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?**

There is no need for an additional/parallel application for the proposal evaluation phase. After the announcement of the EIG CONCERT JAPAN call results, the Hungarian member of the supported international consortia will have to submit a grant application to NKFIH in order to prepare the contracts in line with the national regulations, as described in the 2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET Call for proposal & Guide for applicants.

→ **For more information please contact EIG CONCERT-Japan Call National Contact Point:**

Ms Györgyi Juhász

gyorgyi.juhasz@nkfi.gov.hu

Information about call announcement will be published on the NCBR website:

<https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/platforma-konkursowa>

Who can apply?

- **Research organisations**
- **Enterprises** (micro, small, medium or large)
- **Groups of entities** (scientific consortia)

The scope of support:

- **Basic research** (only research organisations)
- **Applied research**
- **Experimental development**

What types of funding are eligible for the Polish researchers?

The NCBR's total allocation for the current EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call for Proposals is **800.000 EUR**. The level of funding for Polish participants is limited up to the maximum **of 200.000 EUR per project** for up to 3 years (36 months).

What types of costs are eligible for funding?

1. Personnel costs (W) - researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the research project;

2. Costs of subcontracting (E) - i.e. costs based on agreements with third parties to perform a portion of the project without a direct supervision of the project participant and without a relationship of subordination the subcontracting can be obtained from consortium partner only in justified case, this need will be verified by a national experts panel; Costs of subcontracting cannot exceed 70% of all eligible costs of the project.

3. Other costs (Op):

- Costs of instruments, equipment and intangible assets (such as patents, certificates etc.) to the extent and for the period used for the research project; if they are not used for their full life for the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;
- Purchase of land and real estate to the extent and for the period used for the research project; if such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;
- Other costs including costs of support services, materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity, travel costs (costs of delegations, costs of participation in conferences), costs of maintaining a separate bank account, costs of promoting the project.

4. Overheads (O) - incurred indirectly as a result of the research project; Overheads must be calculated according to the formula: $O = (W + Op) \times 25\%$ *

*percentage 25% estimated by the Applicant himself (the same percentage for every task in the project)

For the funding granted by the NCBR, the following regulations apply:

1. The Act of 20 July 2018 on the Law of Higher Education and Science, published in Journal of Laws item 1668, 2018, as amended;
2. The Act of 30 April 2010 on the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 1770, 2019;
3. The Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 1456, 2020.

Maximum level of funding:

- For research organisations – up to 100% of eligible costs
- For enterprises – up to the level submitted in the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 19 August 2020 on granting state aid by the National Centre for Research and Development, published in Journal of Laws item 1456, 2020.

	Large Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Micro/Small Enterprises	Research Organizations
Basic Research	0%	0%	0%	Up to 100 %
Applied Research	Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)	Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)	Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)	Up to 100 %
Experimental development	Up to 25+15 (max 40 %)	Up to 25+10+15 (max 50 %)	Up to 25+20+15 (max 60 %)	Up to 100 %

National phase of the applying procedure:

After international evaluation has been completed and the ranking list established, Polish participants from consortia recommended for funding will be invited to submit the National Application Form (NAF). All eligible entities invited to submit NAF are obliged to use the rate of exchange of the European Central Bank dated on the day of opening of the call.

NAFs will be then examined by the interdisciplinary panel of experts for international projects for the appropriateness of funding requested. Based on recommendations of the panel, the Director of NCBR issues a funding decision/rejection decision.

Contact Person:

Mrs. Krystyna Maciejko
National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)
Department of International Cooperation
E-mail: krystyna.maciejko@ncbr.gov.pl
Phone: +48 22 39 07 489

→ **Who can apply?**

Only research institutes and/or centres of the Slovak Academy of Sciences are eligible organisations for funding by the SAS. The main applicant must have an employment contract with the SAS institute/centre on behalf of which the application is being submitted. If his/her contract is on a part-time basis, it must be for more than 50% of standard working time. All members of the applicant's team except doctoral students must, too, have employment contracts with the same or another SAS institute/centre.

Individuals involved in preparation of the Call, the evaluation process or the funding decision process are eligible neither as PIs nor as team members

→ **What types of funding are eligible for Slovak researchers?**

Funding available for Slovak researchers is up to 120 000 EUR per project (i.e. 40 000 EUR per year) in accordance with the SAS Presidium's resolution no. 233 (of 10 February 2022), of which 45 000 EUR is an in-kind personnel contribution (spoluúcast) of the applicant's organisation. This must be declared in a Letter of Commitment sent to the national contact point by the application deadline. A template will be published alongside the Call announcement at <https://oms.sav.sk/en/news/open-calls/>.

Project funding (excluding the in-kind personnel contribution) is regulated by the [Financial Rules for awarding SAS grants for international research projects](#) -EN ([Finančné pravidlá na udeľovanie grantov SAV na medzinárodné výskumné projekty](#) - SK), which include detailed information on eligible costs and specific limits. Applicants are strongly encouraged to read this document carefully and to contact their national contact point before submission in order to ensure compliance.

→ **Is additional/parallel application requested to the funding organisation?**

Yes. Submission of an application at the national level (MVTs A form) will be required once the international evaluation and the ranking list have been performed and endorsed by the Funding Organisations Forum. Only the Slovak partners of the projects recommended for funding will be invited to submit the national-level application. The final decision on funding of the Slovak partners must be approved by the SAS Presidium.

Further guidance

- www.oms.sav.sk
- [Finančné pravidlá na udeľovanie grantov SAV na medzinárodné výskumné projekty](#)

Before submitting the proposal, Slovak applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their EIG CONCERT-Japan National Contact Point:

Ms Silvia Kecerová
kecerova@up.upsav.sk

+421 2 5751 0 118

PART 3: Contact information of the EIG CONCERT-Japan Program Secretariat and National and Regional Contact Persons

The EIG CONCERT-Japan Program Secretariat (PS) is entrusted with the overall operational management of this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call. It is the general contact point for questions related to the Joint Call, the application process and the use of the PT-Outline webtool.

The *National and Regional Contact Persons (NRCs)* are located in each country/region participating in this EIG CONCERT-Japan Joint Call. One of their main tasks is to advise potential applicants from their countries/regions on the applicable national/regional regulations during the proposal submission process.

CONCERT-Japan Program Secretariat Ms. Léa Debraux National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) E-mail: concert-japan-jcs@cnrs.fr Phone: +33 (0) 1 44 96 40 11
Contact Person for Japan - JST Ms. Shiho Hashimoto, Dr. Junko Katayama, Mr. Oscar Rudenstam Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) E-mail: concert@jst.go.jp Phone: + 81 3 5214 7375
Contact Person for Bulgaria - BNSF Ms. Milena Aleksandrova Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF) Email: aleksandrova@mon.bg Phone: +359 884 171 363
Contact Person for Czech Republic - MEYS Ms. Jana Kolaříková and Ms. Veronicka Konečná Ministry of Education Youth and Sports Email: jana.kolarikova@msmt.cz ; veronicka.konecna@msmt.cz Phone: +420 234 811 188 ; +420 234 811 189
Contact Person for Czech Republic - CAS Dr. Alena Žochová Czech Academy of Science Email: zochova@kav.cas.cz Phone: +420 221 403 566
Contact Person for Hungary – NKFIH Dr. Györgyi Juhász National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH) E-Mail: gyorgyi.juhasz@nkfih.gov.hu Phone: +36 1 795 2115

<p>Contact Person for Poland – NCBR</p> <p>Ms. Krystyna Maciejko National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR) E-mail: krystyna.maciejko@ncbr.gov.pl Phone: +48 22 39 07 489</p>
<p>Contact Person for Slovakia - SAS</p> <p>Ms Silvia Kecerová Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS) Email: kecerova@up.upsav.sk Phone: +421 2 5751 0 118</p>
<p>Contact Person for Spain - AEI</p> <p>Mr. Juan Climent Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) - State Research Agency E-mail: concert-japan@aei.gob.es Phone: 916037242</p>
<p>Contact Person for Turkey – TUBITAK</p> <p>Ms. Elif Doğan Arslan The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) E-mail: concertjapan@tubitak.gov.tr Phone: +90 312 2981416</p>