

Call 2023 for Transnational Research Proposals

Supporting the topics of

Quantum Phenomena and Resources

and

Applied Quantum Science

Launch of the Call: 26th January 2023

Submission deadline: 11th May 2023, 17:00 CET

Documents and procedures: http://www.quantera.eu

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Call budget: ca. €33 M

History of changes

Date	Changes to the document
01.02.2023	Correction made to the Quantum Delta NL submission information on page 12. Correction made to a link on the DFG annex on page 37.
15.02.2023	 Confirmation of participation of RFO from Italy (NQSTI's): Update on NQSTI's participation (table Funding overview: budget; limits on requested amount; additional forms requirements, contact details) on page 11. Update on NQSTI's National Annex (contact point, funding criteria and regulations) on page 42. Confirmation of participation of RFO from Croatia (HRZZ): Update on HRZZ's participation (table Funding overview: budget; limits on requested amount, submission information, eligibility of industrial partner) on page 11. Update on HRZZ's National Annex (funding criteria and regulations) on page 25. Withdrawal from participation by RFO from Portugal (FCT).

Key Facts & Figures

QuantERA

QuantERA II ERA-NET Cofund in Quantum Technologies (QT) is a consortium of national and regional Research Funding Organisations (RFOs) in Europe supporting research in QT.

The funding organisations of QuantERA II jointly support European multilateral research projects with the potential to initiate or foster new lines of QT through collaborations exploring advanced multidisciplinary science and/or cutting-edge engineering.

call 2023				
Topics	Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR) Applied Quantum Science (AQS)			
Call budget	€33 M			
International consortium	The project consortia must have a minimum of 3 eligible partners requesting funding in at least 3 of the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada (Québec), Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, United Kingdom			
Standard consortium size	Three to six partners			
Evaluation criteria	Excellence, Impact, Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation			
Duration	24 or 36 months			
Eligibility for funding	Each partner of the project consortium must fulfil the conditions of the Research Funding Organisation (RFO) from their respective country, as described in the Annex 1			
imeline				
May 11th, 2023, 17:00 CET	Deadline for the proposal submission			
December 2023	Notification of accepted proposals			
January 2024	Start date for funded projects			

Table of Contents

His	History of changes				
Ke	Key Facts & Figures3				
Tal	Table of Contents				
Lis	List of Abbreviations5				
1.	TARGETED RESEARCH				
	Key principles				
	Target Outcomes				
	Partner Search Tool				
2.	ELIGIBILITY				
	Consortium structure				
	Eligibility of Partners				
	Management of the Call				
3.	FUNDING OVERVIEW	11			
4.	APPLICATION PROCEDURE	. 13			
5.	EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE				
	Evaluation				
	Selection	_			
	MANAGEMENT OF FUNDED PROJECTS				
	Setting up the Consortium	16			
	Reporting and Publications				
	nex 1: Requirements of Research Funding Organisations				
	Austria				
	Belgium				
	Bulgaria				
	Canada (Québec)				
	Croatia				
	Denmark				
	Estonia				
	Finland				
	France	36			
	Germany				
	Germany				
	Hungary				
	Israel				
	Latvia				
	Lithuania				
	Luxembourg				
	Malta				
	Netherlands	48			
	Poland				
	Romania				
	Slovakia				
	Slovenia				
	Spain				
	Switzerland				
	Türkiye				
	United Kingdom				
An	Annex 2: QuantERA Gender Equality Statement				
An	Annex 3: QuantERA Guidelines for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)70				
-		-			

List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full name
AQS	
,	Applied Quantum Science
Call	QuantERA Call 2023 for proposals
СО	Coordination Office
Col	Conflict of Interest
СР	Contact Point
CS	Call Secretariat
CSC	Call Steering Committee
EC	European Commission
EP	Evaluation Panel
ESS	Electronic Submission System
EU	European Union
PI	Principal Investigator – Partner in the project consortium, the leader of the national/regional team
PC	Project Coordinator – Coordinator of the project consortium and the leader of the transnational team
QPR	Quantum Phenomena and Resources
QT	Quantum Technologies
RFO	Research Funding Organisation
SAB	Strategic Advisory Board - Advisory body for QuantERA consisting of prominent scientists and industry representatives of Quantum Technologies (QT)

1. TARGETED RESEARCH

The submitted proposals are expected to be aligned with one of the two QuantERA Call 2023 topics:

Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR)

where the goal is to lay the foundations for the QT of the future. The focus is on basic quantum science and fundamental physics, and the projects should explore novel quantum phenomena, concepts, resources, protocols, algorithms, and/or address major challenges that prevent broad applications of some quantum technologies;

Applied Quantum Science (AQS)

where the goal is to take known quantum effects and established concepts from quantum science, translate them into technological applications and develop new products. These could be novel devices that are based on known quantum effects and that will serve a novel application in QT, or devices and systems that translate known quantum applications into products and industrial applications.

Key principles

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their respective Research Funding Organisations (RFOs) to check their eligibility. Each RFO participating in the Call decides to allocate its budget to the QPR topic, or the AQS topic, or both. The budget table is available in the section Funding: Overview.

- ➤ Through this Call, the RFOs of the QuantERA II consortium support the Quantum Technologies Flagship agenda¹. By launching joint calls for proposals for research projects, RFOs can support diverse research communities, able to tackle the most challenging and novel research directions.
- Projects funded in QuantERA II should contribute to the development of the European research and innovation in QT. The transformative research funded within QuantERA II should explore collaborative advanced interdisciplinary science and/or cutting-edge engineering with the potential to initiate or foster new lines of QT and help Europe grasp leadership in promising future technology areas.
- ➤ To promote equal opportunity and gender balance, QuantERA II encourages the participation of consortia with a fair representation of female researchers as PCs, PIs and in the research team.
- ➤ To spread research excellence throughout Europe, QuantERA II projects are encouraged to include partners from the widening countries² participating in the Call: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Türkiye.
- ➤ To leverage innovation capacity across Europe and connect with industry, QuantERA projects are encouraged to involve key actors that can contribute to development of QT domain in the future, for example excellent early career researchers (in both topics), ambitious high-tech SMEs (in particular in the AQS topic), etc.

¹ See Strategic Research Agenda of the European Quantum Technology community at www.qt.eu

² See the list of wideninig countries in Horizon 2020 at https://www.era-learn.eu/support-for-partnerships/additional-activities/openness-inclusivness-transparency/widening-and-inclusiveness

Target Outcomes

Funded projects in both topics are expected to address one or more of the following areas:

1. Quantum communication

Methods/tools/materials/strategies to deal with the issues of distance, reliability, efficiency, robustness and security in quantum communication; novel protocols for multipartite quantum communication and quantum cryptography; quantum memory and quantum repeater concepts. Novel photonic sources for quantum information and quantum communication, coherent transduction of quantum states between different physical systems; integrated quantum photonics; quantum communication embedded in optical telecommunications systems; other communication protocols with functionality enhanced by quantum effects.

Methods for quantum communications in space, between satellites and Earth.

2. Quantum simulation

Platforms and materials for quantum simulation; development of new measurement and control techniques and of strategies for the verification of quantum simulations.

Application of quantum simulations to condensed matter, chemistry, thermodynamics, biology, high-energy physics, quantum field theories, quantum gravity, cosmology and other fields.

3. Quantum computation

Development of noisy intermediate-scale quantum platforms; devices to realise multiqubit algorithms; demonstration and optimisation of error correction codes; progress towards fault-tolerance; interfaces between quantum computers and communication systems.

Development of novel quantum algorithms and software stacks; demonstration of quantum speed-up; new architectures and programming paradigms for quantum computation, including hybrid approaches.

4. Quantum information sciences

Novel sources of non-classical states and methods to engineer such states. Development of device-independent quantum information processing. Methods for the reconstruction and estimation of complex quantum states or channels and certification of their properties. Development of resource theory for quantum information. Study of topological systems for quantum information purposes. Understanding and control of open quantum systems; development of methods to confine dynamics in controllable decoherence-free subspaces. Study of thermodynamic processes at the quantum scale. Novel ideas and applications in quantum science and technologies, based on e.g. superposition, interference, and entanglement, as means to achieve new or radically enhanced functionalities.

5. Quantum metrology sensing and imaging

Use of quantum properties for time and frequency standards (including precise frequency distribution), light-based calibration and measurement, gravimetry, magnetometry, accelerometry, and other applications. Development of detection schemes that are optimised with respect to extracting relevant information from physical systems; novel solutions for quantum imaging and ranging. Implementation of micro- and nano-quantum sensors, for instance for quantum limited sensitivity in the measurement of magnetic fields at the nanoscale. Extension of the reach of quantum sensing and metrology to other fields of science including e.g. the prospects of offering new medical diagnostic tools.

Expected Impacts

Funded projects are expected to significantly advance the state-of-the-art of quantum sciences and technologies³ by achieving one or more of the following targets:

- Develop a deeper fundamental and practical understanding of systems and protocols/algorithms for manipulating and exploiting quantum information;
- Enhance the robustness and scalability of quantum information technologies in the presence of environmental decoherence, hence facilitating their real-world deployment;
- > Develop reliable technologies for the different components of quantum architectures;
- Identify new opportunities and applications fostered through quantum technologies, and the possible ways to transfer these technologies from laboratories to industries;
- Enhance interdisciplinarity in crossing traditional boundaries between disciplines in order to enlarge the community involved in tackling these new challenges;
- Move towards a gender diverse and inclusive quantum community, in particular targeting PhD students and early-career researchers;
- Foster Responsible Research and Innovation approaches in quantum research;
- Spread excellence throughout Europe by involving partners from the widening countries;
- Build leading innovation capacity across Europe by involvement of key actors that can make a difference in the future, for example excellent early career researchers, ambitious high-tech SMEs or first-time participants.

Partner Search Tool

In order to facilitate the process of forming research consortia, we offer applicants a Partner Search Tool available here: https://ncn.gov.pl/partners/quantera/. This tool can be used by projects looking for partners and partners looking for projects.

³ QuantERA projects shall not duplicate research funded as part of the <u>projects</u> of the Call 2017, Call 2019, and Call 2021, and the projects of the <u>EC Quantum Technologies Flagship Call</u>

2. ELIGIBILITY

Consortium structure

- Each project must comprise at least three eligible partners, based in an entity eligible to Research Funding Organisations (RFOs) participating in the QuantERA Call from at least three countries.
- One partner acts as the Project Coordinator for the entire consortium and is the single point of contact towards the QuantERA Call Secretariat. Each consortium partner is directed by a Principal Investigator (PI), who interacts with the respective RFO. PI may not coordinate more than one proposal.
- The consortium budget must be balanced:
- at most 60% of the total requested funding may be requested by partners from one country;
- at most 40% of the total requested funding may be requested by a single partner.
- The consortium needs to be focused, that is, the proposed research must have a clearly defined goal.
- Each partner can choose only one funding organisation when submitting a proposal.

Project duration

In general, QuantERA projects have a duration of 36 months. Consortia may also propose 24 months, but each member of the consortium is strongly advised to read the national rules of their RFOs (Annex 1), to be aware of the durations authorized by respective RFO.

Eligibility of Partners

- > The consortium as a whole must be eligible with respect to transnational rules.
- Each consortium partner must be eligible with national rules as stated in Research Funding Organisation Information specified in Annex 1.
- If an eligibility issue is detected at the transnational or national level, the proposal's Coordinator will be contacted and asked to provide the solution to the Call Secretariat within one week.
- In order not to jeopardise the whole consortium, partners should ensure that no doubts exist about the eligibility at the national level regarding:
- institution (university, academic institution, industry, end user, standard organisation etc.);
- partners (permanent staff, position secured for the duration of the project, etc.);
- and eligible costs.

Management of the Call

The Call is administered by the Call Secretariat (CS) and the Call Steering Committee (CSC).

The Call Secretariat (CS) is hosted by French Research Agency (ANR, FR), State Research Agency (AEI, ES) and supported by National Science Centre (NCN, PL). The CS assists the EPs and the CSC with the implementation of the evaluation and selection process.

The Call Steering Committee (CSC) is the highest decision-making body of the QuantERA Call 2023 for proposals, being composed of representatives of QuantERA II Research Funding Organisations (RFOs) participating in the Call. The CSC steers all activities of the Call. In particular the CSC nominates the members of each Evaluation Panel (EP) and establishes the final list of projects recommended for funding to the RFOs, based on the ranking lists provided by the EPs. All decisions concerning the Call implementation are taken by the CSC (e.g. management of confidentiality and conflicts of interest).

The Evaluation Panels (EP) are the assessment bodies. The two Evaluation Panels, one for the Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR) topic, and one for the Applied Quantum Science (AQS) topic, are the evaluation bodies of the QuantERA Call 2023, being composed of scientific and industry experts in QT. The EP evaluate each eligible proposal. Each panel establishes a ranking list of proposals which serves as a basis for the CSC funding recommendation.

With the aim of providing as much diversity as possible to the scientific evaluation, gender balance will be actively promoted in the panel formation.

3. FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country	Funding Organisation	QPR budget (M€)	AQS budget (M€)	Expected no of projects	Limits on amount which may be requested (M€)	Contact prior to submission	Additional forms required	Industrial partner eligible for funding	Contact
Austria	FFG	-	1.00	2	Up to 0.50 per project	Recommended	Yes	Yes	Fabienne.Nikowitz@ffg.at
Belgium	FNRS	0.20	-	1	Up to 0.20 per project	Recommended	Yes	No	international@frs-fnrs.be
Belgium	FWO	0.35	-	1	Up to 0.35 per project	Recommended	Yes	No	eranet@fwo.be
Bulgaria	BNSF	().38	2-3	Up to 0.76 per project	Mandatory	Yes	No	Aleksandrova@mon.bg
Canada (Québec)	PRIMA Québec		0.70	1-3	Up to 0.5M\$CAD per project	Mandatory	Yes	No	Michel.Lefevre@prima.ca
Canada (Québec)	PROMPT		0.70	1-3	Up to 0.5M\$CAD per project	Mandatory	Yes	No	JPLourde@promptinnov.com
Croatia	HRZZ	(0.20	1	Up to 0.20 per project	Recommended	Yes	Yes	Jasminka@hrzz.hr
Czechia	MEYS	0.50	-	3-4	-	Mandatory	Yes	Yes	Michal.Vavra@msmt.cz
Czechia	TA CR	-	0.75	2-3	Tbc	Recommended	Yes	Yes	Katerina.Volfova@tacr.cz
Denmark	IFD (tbc)	[2.50]		7-8	Up to 0.30 for one Danish applicant. Up to 0.50 for two or more Danish applicants.	Recommended	Yes	Yes	Michael.Hansen@innofond.dk Jens.Peter.Vittrup@innofond.dk
Estonia	ETAg	().15	1	Up to 0.15 per project	Recommended	No	Yes	Margit.Suuroja@etag.ee
Finland	AKA	1.00		2-4	Up to 0.75 and up to 0.45 per partner	Recommended	No	No	Katrine.Mahlamaki@aka.fi
France	ANR	3.00		-	Up to 0.45 per project and up to 0.30 per partner	Recommended	No	Yes	Serguei.Fedortchenko@anr.fr
Germany	DFG	3.00				Recommended	Yes	No	Andreas.Deschner@dfg.de Michael.Moessle@dfg.de
Germany	BMBF, VDITZ		3.00	-	Minimum 0.10 per German partner in a project	Mandatory	No	Yes	Krug@vdi.de
Hungary	NKFIH	().45	3-4	Up to 0.15 per partner	Recommended	No	Yes	Edina.Nemeth@nkfih.gov.hu
Israel	Inn Auth	0.75		-	Subject to selected Inn Auth benefit track (see national annex). Expected up to 0.20 per partner	Mandatory	Yes	Yes	Dan@iserd.org.il Rachel.L@iserd.org.il
Italy	NQSTI	1.00	0	4-6	Up to 0.20 for each two-year project Subject to verification of consistency with NQSTI programme	Recommended	No	No	pnrr04@gmail.com
Latvia	LZP	().60	2	Up to 0.10 per year per partner	Recommended	No	Yes	Juris.Balodis@lzp.gov.lv; Maija.Bundule@lzp.gov.lv

Country	Funding Organisation	QPR budget (M€)	AQS budget (M€)	Expected no of projects	Limits on amount which may be requested (M€)	Contact prior to submission	Additional forms required	Industrial partner eligible for funding	Contact
Lithuania	LMT	C	0.15		Up to 0.10 per project (for project partner) or up to 0.15 per project (for project coordinator)	Recommended	No	Yes	Saulius.Marcinkonis@Imt.lt
Luxembourg	FNR	C).50	-	Within the limits of the Call budget	Recommended	Yes	No	Christiane.Kaell@fnr.lu Helena.Burg@fnr.lu
Malta	MEYR	C).15	1	Up to 0.15 per project	Mandatory	No	Yes	Antonella.Gatt@gov.mt
Netherlands	Quantum Delta NL	1.75		5-6	0.35	Yes	Yes	No	Julia.Feddersen@quantumdelta.nl
Poland	NCBR	-	1.00	-	-	Recommended	No	Yes	Krystyna.Maciejko@ncbr.gov.pl
Poland	NCN	1.50	-	-	-	Recommended	Yes	Yes	quantera@ncn.gov.pl
Romania	UEFISCDI	C).50	-	Up to 0.20 per project (0.25 if the coordinator is from Romania)	Recommended	No	Yes	Nicoleta.Dumitrache@uefiscdi.ro
Slovakia	SAS	0.12		1	Up to 0.12 per project	Recommended	Yes	No	Mnovak@up.upsav.sk Panisova@up.upsav.sk
Slovenia	MIZS	C	.90	1-3	Max 0.21 (max 0.07 per year)	Recommended	Yes	No	Andrej.Ograjensek@gov.si
Spain	AEI	C).70		Up to 0.20 per project with one AEI applicant; Up to 0.25 per project with two AEI applicants. Additional 0.10 if the coordinator is AEI applicant.	No	No	No	era-ict@aei.gob.es
Sweden	VR	0.75	-		Expected to be in the range from 0.4 to 1.5 MSEK/year (approx. 0.08 to 0.15) per project per year	Recommended	Yes	No	Tomas.Andersson@vr.se
Switzerland	SNSF	1.00		3-5	-	Recommended	Recommen ded	Yes	<u>quantera@snf.ch</u>
Türkiye	TÜBİTAK	C).50	4-6	See national annex.	Mandatory	Yes	Yes	Kivilcim.Koseoglu@tubitak.gov.tr Oncu.Sen@tubitak.gov.tr
United Kingdom	UKRI EPSRC		2.27		Up to £0.25M per partner, up to £0.40M per project	Recommended	No	No	Joseph.Westwood@epsrc.ukri.org
United Kingdom	UKRI Innovate UK		2.27		Up to £0.25M per partner, up to £0.40M per project	Mandatory	Yes	Yes	Chris.Jones@iuk.ukri.org Sam.Johnson@iuk.ukri.org

^{1.}The budget is indicative and represents the committed funding available for all the proposals expected to be funded in this Call.

^{2.} Partners are strongly discouraged from requesting greater budgets than are necessary for the activities being proposed.

^{3.} Please check the RFOs requirements in Annex 1.

4. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Prior to the submission proposers are asked to check if:

- The research is in line with the scope of the Call;
- > The consortium meets transnational eligibility criteria;
- Each partner meets national eligibility criteria.

It is the responsibility of the partners to ensure their <u>eligibility</u>.

The Call follows a **one-stage submission and evaluation procedure**, with each proposal comprising a scientific document (a proposal form typically between 25 and 35 pages) and financial document (a table listing the detailed requested funding and lists of participants).

The Project Coordinator (PC) prepares a joint proposal for the whole consortium, using the templates available on the QuantERA website (http://www.quantera.eu/). The two forms (proposal form and financial form) composing the proposal are submitted via the Electronic Submission System (ESS) for QPR and for AQS.

The ESS will require administrative and financial information to be filled in by the Project Coordinator (PC) when creating the submission on the platform. Once the email addresses of the other partners are filled in by the PC, they receive an automatic email from the platform inviting them to connect to the submission platform and adjust the administrative and financial information already filled in by the PC.

It is crucial that each person involved in a proposal (Project Coordinator, Principal Investigator, permanent staff, non-permanent staff such as postdocs and PhD students) have their first name and last name specified in the financial template as well as in the table appearing in the first page of the proposal form.

Partners whose funding organisation requires submitting forms alongside the joint proposal submission must do so (Annex 1).

We recommend to submit the proposal several days before the deadline in case that unforeseen issues occur. Submitted proposals can be modified until the Call deadline.

The Project Coordinator and all partners must be prepared to diligently answer email queries after the submission.

5. EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

Evaluation

The evaluation relies on international Evaluation Panels of experts (EP), assisted by external experts.

By default, each evaluation criterion is scored 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5.

The scores indicate the following with respect to the criterion under examination (the definitions of scores are taken from the H2020 Guidelines to Applicants⁴):

- **0.** The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information (unless the result of an 'obvious clerical error').
- 1. Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
- 2. Fair. The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
- **3.** Good. The proposal addresses the criterion well, but with a number of shortcomings.
- **4.** Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but with a small number of shortcomings.
- **5.** Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

The eligible proposals recommended by the EPs are those proposals that reach at least a score of 3 in each of the three criteria used for the evaluation and detailed below. While the "Quality" threshold is the same for each criterion and each topic, the weights of the other two criteria differ between the QPR and the AQS topics (see below).

Excellence (weight in QPR: 50%; weight in AQS: 25%)

- i. Clarity and novelty of long-term vision, and ambition and concreteness of the targeted breakthroughs towards that vision
- ii. Novelty, non-incrementality and plausibility of the proposed research for achieving the targeted breakthrough and its foundational character
- iii. Appropriateness of the research methodology and its suitability to address high scientific and technological risks
- iv. Range and added value from interdisciplinarity, including measures for exchange, cross-fertilisation and synergy.

Impact (weight in QPR: 25%; weight in AQS: 50%)

Extent to which the outputs of the project contribute at the European or international level to:

- i. The expected impacts (see Call Announcement)
- ii. The transformation of technology and/or society

Quality of the proposed measures to:

- iii. Exploit and disseminate the project results (incl. management of intellectual property rights), and to manage research data where relevant
- iv. Communicate the project activities to different target audiences, especially considering the need to inspire STEM students and early-career researchers

⁴ See https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/from-evaluation-to-grant-signature/evaluation-of-proposals/elig_eval_criteria_en.htm

Quality and efficiency of the implementation (weight in QPR: 25%; weight in AQS: 25%)

- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, including extent to which the resources assigned to work packages are in line with their objectives and deliverables
- ii. Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management
- iii. Complementarity of the participants and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise
- iv. Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role.

The Evaluation Panels meet to discuss the proposals and each one of them establishes a ranking list of the proposals. The evaluation of each proposal is summarised in a consensus report, which is made available to the applicants at the end of the evaluation and selection process.

Selection

Based on the two ranking lists (AQS, QPR) provided by the Evaluation Panels, a final list of projects selected for funding will be approved by the QuantERA CSC. The CSC will strive to fund as many excellent collaborative projects as possible. If at a given rank in the list not all ex aequo proposals can be selected, the criteria listed below will be applied in the following order:

- The output of the Call, i.e. the overall funding, should be maximised;
- The success rates of both topics should be comparable;
- If possible, each funding organisation should fund at least one proposal;
- The projects involving partners from the widening countries should be prioritised;
- The gender balance among the personnel named in the application who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the research and/or innovation activities will be used as a factor for prioritisation.

6. MANAGEMENT OF FUNDED PROJECTS

Setting up the Consortium

The administrative and financial management of projects is overseen by the respective funding organisations, according to the respective national/regional rules and guidelines.

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

The project must follow the *European Charter for Researchers* and the *Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers* (https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/charter). The project should bear in mind gender balance, especially at the PhD level and early-career opportunities resulting from the funded projects, and promote equal opportunities between women and men at all levels in the implementation of the research activities.

A consortium agreement managing *inter alia* the ownership and access to key knowledge (including IPR, data management, GDPR etc.) has to be signed by all partners and sent to QuantERA Coordination Office no later than three months after the start of a project. Some funding organisations require that the consortium agreement be signed before the contract can be finalised.

Reporting and Publications

- Consortia must present the status of their project at three follow-up events organised by QuantERA. The related costs are eligible and must be secured by the consortia as part of the project's budget.
- Each Coordinator of a funded project has to submit to QuantERA a mid-term report and a final report. Any publications resulting from QuantERA projects must acknowledge QuantERA⁵, and an electronic copy must be sent to QuantERA. Open Access publications are encouraged.

⁵ An example of acknowledgement:

[&]quot;This work was supported by the QuantERA grant [insert project acronym], by [insert the funding organisation and the grant number for that funding organisation], [insert the next funding organisation and the grant number for that funding organisation]".

Annex 1: Requirements of Research Funding Organisations

Austria

FFG – Austrian Research Promotion Agency

Contact point

Fabienne Nikowitz

Programme Leader

+43 5 7755 5081 - fabienne.nikowitz@ffg.at

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment:

Maximum funding for the QuantERA Call 2023: 1 M€.

Funding regulations

For Austrian proposers, the same regulations hold as for cooperation projects, see the application guidelines and regulations available at the FFG website (available 27 January 2023):

https://www.ffg.at/2023-ausschreibung-qfte-transnational

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Funding of Austrian participants is available for TRLs 2 till 7:

- -) For companies;
- -) For universities and research institutes/organisations only in cooperation with at least one Austrian company.

All Austrian applicants are encouraged to contact FFG prior to submission.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applications must be submitted in electronic form following these links:

https://ecall.ffg.at/Cockpit/Cockpit.aspx

Mandatory are:

- -) QuantERA proposal application form and financial form as requested by QuantERA;
- -) Costs and requested funding.

No application will be considered after the final submission date.

Additional requirements

Consortium requirement: at least one Austrian industry partner.

Maximum funding: 500.000€ per project

Further information and requirements can be found at the FFG website (available 27 January 2023):

https://www.ffg.at/2023-ausschreibung-qfte-transnational

Belgium

Contact point

Dr. Florence Quist

Scientific officer

+32 (0)2 504 9351 - international@frs-fnrs.be

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment:

Maximum funding for the QuantERA Call 2023: 200 k€

Maximum funding per project: 200 k€/3 years. If the project involves the recruitment of a PhD student, project duration of the F.R.S.-FNRS sub-project could be up to 4 years (cf. <u>PINT-MULTI regulations</u>).

Funding regulations

PINT-MULTI regulations

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

F.R.S.-FNRS funds only basic research (low Technology Readiness Level) carried out in a research institution from the "Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles". The F.R.S.-FNRS will not fund industrial partners. All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the PINT-MULTI regulations.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applicants to F.R.S.-FNRS funding must provide basic administrative data by submitting an administrative application on e-space within 5 working days after the general deadline of QuantERA to be eligible. Please select the "PINT-MULTI" funding instrument when creating the administrative application.

General rules and regulations of FNRS apply: www.frs-fnrs.be

See also: http://www.ncp.fnrs.be/index.php/appels/era-nets

Additional requirements

F.R.S.-FNRS only participates in the Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR) topic.

Belgium (Flanders)	FWO – Research Foundation Flanders
Contact point	
Toon Monbaliu (FO)	Kristien Peeters (SBO)
Advisor European Programmes	Science Policy Advisor
+32 (0)2 550 15 70 – <u>eranet@fwo.be</u>	+32 (0)2 550 15 95 – <u>eranet@fwo.be</u>

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment:

Funding commitment: € 0,35 m

Maximum funding per awarded project: € 0,35 m (overhead included)

Anticipated number of projects with Belgian (FWO) partners: 1

In essence, the FWO only funds projects within the <u>Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR)</u> topic, unless duly justified that the tasks performed by a researcher from Flanders within an Applied Quantum Science (AQS) project/consortium fit the FWO funding channels (i.e. including basic research).

Funding regulations

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

The FWO integrates two of its national funding channels within this multilateral framework. The choice of funding channel depends on the <u>type of project</u> the researchers from Flanders wish to undertake, being more explorative research, or research with strong valorization potential.

The eligibility of institutions and its researchers can be verified in the relevant and respective chosen funding channels regulations, which can be consulted on the FWO website:

- FWO Research Projects (FO)
- Strategic Basic Research (SBO)

Additional conditions for FWO funding:

- Participation in this call does not interfere with the 'regular/national' project submission framework, and is consequently not taken into account for calculating the max. available number of new applications and running projects combined. However, researchers can only participate within 2 different international consortia in this call (and only once if they act as coordinator in one of the proposals).
- Projects aiming at the development of a spin-off company are not eligible in this context.
- The project duration is limited to 36 months, which implies the funding has to be budgeted
 and spent accordingly. An automatic prolongation and using positive (financial) balances after
 the end date is not applicable in this framework. As such article 28 of the FWO Research
 Projects and article 14 of the Strategic Basic Research (SBO) regulations do not apply in this
 context.
- The PI, for each of the participating institutions applying for FWO funds, must hold an appointment that fully covers the duration of the research project. Linked to this, and when

it comes to the <u>FWO research project regulations (FO)</u>: article 10, §7 is not applicable in this framework. I.e. supervisors (-spokespersons), or coordinators/consortium partners who are granted **emeritus** status during the calendar year of submission of the project application or during the duration of the project are **not eligible**.

Eligibility of costs

The respective funding channel regulations apply (see links to national rules above), and both are capped at max. 350.000 EUR per project/consortium (incl. overhead, for which the calculation method diverges per funding channel).

The FWO foresees a budget of 350.000 EUR, which allows for the funding of at least 1 project.

For the overhead calculation, the fundamental (FO) and strategic research projects (SBO) entail the same approach: a structural overhead rate should be applied on the total project costs, with an overhead rate of 6% for 'FO' projects, and a 17% overhead rate for 'SBO' projects. Some practical examples:

- **FO:** the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 12.000 EUR (6% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested cost is 212.000 EUR. This total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR.
- **SBO:** the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 34.000 EUR (17% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested cost is 234.000 EUR. This total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

No national project submission is required.

However, when the FWO SBO project route is chosen, the researchers are asked to provide proactively, and before the pre-proposal submission deadline (preferably one week in advance), a concise – but to the point – valorisation plan to the FWO (no fixed format, max. two A4-pages), which:

- i) clarifies the economic and/or societal valorisation context within, and added value for Flanders (and also internationally preferably);
- ii) mentions the involved and specific actors from Flanders.

This document can be sent towards the eranet@fwo.be email address.

Failure to comply with this requirement can lead to ineligibility. It is always strongly advised to contact the FWO before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects/research consortia.

Bulgaria

Contact point

Milena Aleksandrova

Function ERA-NET Programmes Officer

Telephone number - +359 884 171 363

email: aleksandrova@mon.bg

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment: 383 468 €

Funding regulations

Applicants under this procedure shall be directly responsible for the implementation of the activities under the project proposal and shall not act as intermediaries, but they shall carry out activities under the project proposal on their behalf and at their expense.

Applicants to this procedure must be entities:

- Carrying out fundamental research studies; and
- Whose activities are entirely of a non-profit nature; or
- Whose activities are of both for-profit and not-for-profit nature, but these activities are clearly distinguished and their organization allows tracking of revenue and expenditures connected with their implementation, including by keeping analytical accounting. In the event that an applicant is involved in both for-profit and not-for-profit activities, the funding, expenditures and revenues shall be taken into account separately for each type of activity and on the basis of consistently applied principles of accounting of expenditures being justifiable.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

- 1) Accredited universities as defined in Art.85 para.1, p. 7 of the Higher Education Act;
- 2) Research organizations as defined in Art. 47, para 1 of the Higher Education Act. http://lll.mon.bg/uploaded_files/zkn_visseto_obr_01.03.2016_EN.pdf

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applicants have to submit an application form for national eligibility when submitting the proposals. The form, entitled "Administrative description of the project" should be filled in both Bulgarian and in English and signed. Application forms can be obtained at:

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

They have to be sent it back by post or in person to BNSF Registry Office before the deadline of 1stage proposal submission.

Canada (Québec)

PRIMA Québec – Pôle de recherche et d'innovation en matériaux avancés du Québec

Contact point

Michel Lefèvre

Director – programs & international collaborations

Tel +1 514-284-0211 #227

Michel.Lefevre@prima.ca

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment:

1 M\$ CAD, max 500 000 \$CAD per project

The CAD\$500,000 amount will include direct research costs, MEI management fees (2%), as well as indirect research costs, where applicable.

Funding regulations

PRIMA fund project on collaborative research between industries and academics on advanced material concerning

In accordance with its strategic plan, PRIMA Québec encourages the submission of projects concerning the development of advanced materials applied to Quebec's key sectors, such as transportation and infrastructure, energy, environment, textiles, electronics and health.

The technologies targeted by this call for projects concern all types of application sectors:

We support the formulation and development of advanced materials, the integration of these materials into finished or semi-finished products, the advanced processes and the characterization instruments for advanced materials

We support project from TRL 1 to 9

It is necessary to have at least one company (primarily an SME) with a presence in Quebec (production or R&D). Businesses outside Quebec are not eligible in the Quebec application.

The financing of the project is based on cost sharing:

- 1. Min 20% from the industrial partner
- 2. Max 50% form PRIMA Quebec
- 3. 30% of complementary funding: other public money (Federal, Provincial, Municipal) that doesn't came from The Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Energie. The applicant can go to the PRIMA website (https://www.prima.ca/) to download the guideline of the program for more information.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Applications must be submitted by Québec research establishments.

Universities, CCTTs or public research centers are eligible (If the research center is not on the list please contact a PRIMA advisor to check the status (public or private) with the MEI). They must allow the training of highly qualified personnel (HQP).

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applicants have to submit an application form for national eligibility when submitting the proposals. The form is going to available on request at PRIMA Québec. Contact Michel.Lefevre@prima.ca for more information.

Additional requirements

It's obligatory to contact an advisor at PRIMA Québec before any application.

Canada (Québec) PROMPT

Contact point

Jinny Plourde

Director, Quantum Technology Program

(418) 802-3337

jplourde@promptinnov.com

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment:

1 M\$ CAD, max 500 000 \$CAD per project

The CAD\$500,000 amount will include direct research costs, MEI management fees (2%), as well as indirect research costs, where applicable.

Funding regulations

Prompt's core sector is information and communication technologies (ICT) and digital, from hardware to software, but also at the component, network and application level. This allows PROMPT to finance numerous projects within specific vertical markets such as health, security, transportation, etc. The impact of these projects is then considerable enough to change practices, research and applications.

We support project from TRL 1 to 9

It is necessary to have at least one company (primarily an SME) with a presence in Quebec (production or R&D). Businesses outside Quebec are not eligible in the Quebec application.

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- Max 50% form PRIMA Quebec
- 30% of complementary funding: other public money (Federal, Provincial, Municipal) that doesn't came from The Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Energie. The applicant can go to the Prompt website (https://promptinnov.com/) to download the guideline of the program for more information.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Applications must be submitted by Québec research establishments.

Universities, CCTTs or public research centers are eligible (If the research center is not on the list please contact a PRIMA advisor to check the status (public or private) with the MEI). They must allow the training of highly qualified personnel (HQP).

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applicants have to submit an application form for national eligibility when submitting the proposals. The form is going to available on request at Prompt. Contact Jinny Plourde for more information.

Additional requirements

It's obligatory to contact an advisor at Prompt before any application.

Croatia

Contact point

Jasminka Boljević

Head of International Cooperation Department

Croatian Science Foundation

email: jasminka@hrzz.hr

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment:

Max. funding per project: 200.000,00 EUR

Principal Investigators are not allowed to apply for funding in more than one proposal within this call. 1 project can be funded.

Funding regulations

Croatian applicants (Principal Investigators) are recommended to contact HRZZ prior to the submission of the proposal for the purpose of checking the national funding terms and conditions.

The Croatian applicant may have the status of a Principal Investigator (PI) and/or team member or PI and a co-PI on a maximum two HRZZ projects: as a PI of one project and a team member or co-PI on another project or as a team member and co-PI on two projects. This does not include the role of PI and team members in HRZZ projects ending on 31 December 2023.

Co-PIs on projects are PIs of Croatian research groups in Cooperability programme, Swiss-Croatian research projects and projects in bilateral programmes.

Applicant can participate in only one project consortium in one ERA-NET Cofund Call.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Eligible applicants are public research organisations. higher education institution, scientific institutes, And other legal entities that have employees with an PhD degree and are registered to perform scientific activities.

The Applicant can submit a project proposal only in the area for which the scientific organisation in which he/she is employed and where the project will be implemented has been accredited (if it is an organization subject to the conditions for accreditation).

The document "Upute za prijavitelje na natječaje Hrvatske zaklade za znanost za 2023" presenting the modalities of participation of the Croatian applicants, eligibility of the organizations and eligible costs will be available at www.hrzz.hr.

Following the conclusion of the consortium agreement between the consortium partners, the Croatian applicant in the project consortium will be required to sign a grant agreement with HRZZ for the portion of the budget provided by HRZZ.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

The HRZZ requests the Croatian applicants to send the following documentation, not later than 2 days after the submission of the proposal:

- 1. Financial Plan for the Croatian applicant (the part to be financed by the HRZZ), extracted from the
- Financial Form submitted by the project consortium;
- 2. proposal (in PDF format, sealed on the date of Call deadline);
- 3. Letter of Support in Croatian, i.e. a written commitment of the Croatian applicant's organization, accepting the proposed research and committing to its administration (signed and certified by the authorized person of the Croatian applicant's organization);
- 4. Signed letter of commitment for the participation in the projects for all associates not employed at the applicant's organisation.

Contact point

Michal Vávra

Department of Research and Development

+420 234 812 853 - michal.vavra@msmt.cz

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment:

The funding commitment of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic is 500 000 EUR for the call Quantum Phenomena and Resources (QPR).

Funding regulations

Eligible costs for a Czech participant involved in a project consortium are defined by *the Act*No. 130/2002 Coll. on Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation from Public

Funds and on Amendment to Some Related Acts. The maximum indirect costs set for the present call are 25% (flat rate) of direct costs without the sub-contracting.

The *aid intensity* for activities carried out by a research organisation might be at the level of *100%* provided that the research organisation complies entirely with requirements stipulated by the Article 2.1.1 "Public funding of non-economic activities" of the <u>Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2014/C 198/03)</u> and proves it by means of the above-mentioned *Statutory Declaration*.

Should the above-stated criteria not be fulfilled by the Czech participant, funding rates will be adjusted appropriately by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and will reach the level of 100% for fundamental/basic research activities, 50% for applied research activities and 25% for experimental development activities.

Each Czech participant in a project consortium is also requested to specify the costs related to the envisaged R&D activities in detail by using the *Eligible Costs Specification* template available on websites of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports: http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/quantera.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

The participants from the Czech Republic in the projects' consortia must meet the criteria of *the research and knowledge-dissemination organization* (hereinafter referred to as "research organisation") in accordance with the Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2014/C 198/03). These might be public universities, public research institutes and/or other entities classified as research organizations.

It is obligatory that the Czech participants involved in the projects' consortia prove compliance with the eligibility criteria and fulfillment of the conditions set by § 18 of the Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation from Public Funds and on Amendment to Some Related Acts by means of a Statutory Declaration. The required procedure is described and Statutory Declaration form will be available on website of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports: http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/quantera.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

The Full Project Proposal form and all the other requested documentation (Statutory Declaration and Eligible Costs Specification) shall be sent by each Czech participant in a project consortium to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports no later than 12th May 2023 via means specified at the website of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports: http://www.msmt.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/quantera.

In the case that project with Czech participants is recommended for funding based on the international evaluation outcomes and is approved by the Call Steering Committee, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports may ask the successful Czech applicants to submit additional documents in order to issue the Grant Agreement needed for providing the national financial support according to the rules stipulated by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Contact point

Kateřina Volfová

Coordinator for International Cooperation

+420 778 463 138 - katerina.volfova@tacr.cz

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment:

Funding available: 750 000 €.

Czech applicants will be financed from the <u>EPSILON</u> Programme for the support of applied research and experimental development and the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility - Czech National Recovery Plan (Národní plán obnovy)

Funding regulations

Type of research funded

Applied research, i.e. industrial research and experimental development.

Eligible costs

- personnel costs (including scholarships)
- subcontracting costs (max. 20% of total eligible costs throughout the whole project period)
- other direct costs (write-offs, protection of intellectual property, operating expenses, travel costs, consumables)
- indirect costs (overheads) full cost/flat rate 25% (indirect costs in the respective year are calculated as 25% of the sum of the personnel costs and other direct costs in the same year)

VAT is not an eligible cost.

Specific categories of eligible costs are defined under Article 18 of the General Terms & Conditions.

Funding rates

The aid intensity for each Czech applicant in the project is determined based on the type of entity and type of research according to the Regulation and at the same time must not exceed the maximum permissible aid intensity for the Czech part of the project, which is 85% of the total eligible costs.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Eligible applicants

- 1. Enterprises (according to Annex 1 of the Regulation)
- 2. Enterprises who act as natural persons according to Annex 1 of the Regulation engaged in an economic activity pursuant to Act no. 455/1991 coll. on Trades (Trade Act).
- 3. Research organizations (according to Article 2 paragraph 83 of the Regulation)

TACR excludes the disbursement of individual aid to an enterprise:

- against which a recovery order has been issued which is unpaid
- meeting the definition of an "undertaking in difficulty"
- which has not met the obligation to publish the financial statements for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 in the respective register - the so-called "Veřejný rejstřík"
- which has not disclose its ownership structure in the so-called "Evidence skutečných majitelů"

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Mandatory forms to be submitted:

- A Sworn statement of the applicant
- Completed "TACR Application Form" Excel file (submitted by the main Czech applicant only)*
- if the applicant plans to achieve "Nmet" type of result, the mandatory form for Nmet result needs to be attached*
- if the applicant plans to achieve the "Patent" type of result, patent search must be substantiated*
- Sworn statement of the composition of the consortium (only if Czech enterprise is part of the project consortium; submitted by the main Czech applicant only)
- "Do no significant harm" declaration (submitted by the main Czech applicant only)

All mandatory documents to be found on <u>TA CR website</u>. Deadline for submitting all documents is the same as the deadline for submitting project proposals. All documents proving the eligibility of the Czech partner stated above shall be submitted via the TACR data box (TACR data box ID: **afth9xp**).

*Applicants who will not submit this mandatory form (if relevant) via databox <u>before the deadline</u> will be considered as **not eligible** for TA CR funding.

TA CR will check following eligibility criteria at national level:

- the project meets the definition of applied research
- the research results correspond to the national rules and are applicable / exploitable. (The project proposal has to include a clear description of the exploitation plan and results.)
- the aim of the project has to be relevant to the overall aim of the funding programme EPSILON
- the declared share of industrial research and experimental development corresponds to the activities of the Czech partner described in the project proposal
- the requested funding meets the national regulations for aid intensity
- submission of the project proposal and its implementation will not give rise to a conflict of interest within the meaning of Article 61 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018
- the project adheres to the "Do no significant harm" principle
- the project meets at least one of the objectives of digitalisation

Additional requirements

Supported results

Projects that achieve at least one of the following types of results can be supported in this Call. The type of the result has to be clearly described in the project proposal:

- P Patent;
- G Technically realized results prototype, function sample;
- Z Pilot plant, proven technology;
- R Software:
- F Results with legal protection utility model, industrial design;
- N Certified methodologies and practices, treatment, conservation methods, procedures and specialized maps with professional expert content;
- O Other results.

Results not to be recognized only in combination with at least one other result listed above, i.e. not as a single result of a given project:

H - results reflected in non-legislative directives and regulations binding within the competence of the respective provider and results reflected in the approved strategic and conceptual documents of the state or public administration.

Intellectual property rights

Czech candidates are obliged to sign an agreement with their foreign partners (i.e. Consortium Agreement), which will define the modalities of cooperation on the project and the distribution of intellectual property rights.

Project start and end

Please note that following the national legislation, Czech applicants shall start within 120 days from the funding decision being communicated by the Call Management (60-day period to make a contract + 60-day period to start the project).

Czech applicants can only be funded until June 2026; further involvement in the project is possible without funding until December 2026. Czech partners must contribute to the final project report (even if they finish their project activities earlier than other project partners).

Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national/regional level

Czech beneficiaries must follow the rules of TA CR for reporting on the project (i.e. submission of interim and final reports and reports on the implementation of the results).

Publicity obligations

While promoting the project and its results Czech beneficiaries must follow the <u>publicity rules of TA CR</u>. In addition, Czech beneficiaries in this Call must also follow the publicity rules of Národní plán obnovy (described in *Metodický pokyn pro publicitu a komunikaci pro Národní plán obnovy na období 2021-2026*).

Guide for Czech applicants and all mandatory forms will be available on TA CR website (in Czech).

Denmark	IFD – Innovation Fund Denmark					
Contact point						
Jens Peter Vittrup, National Contact Point,	Michael Hansen, Investment Officer					
Phone: +45 6190 5023	Phone: +45 6190 5037					
E-mail: jens.peter.vittrup@innofond.dk	E-mail: michael.hansen@innofond.dk					

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment: [2,5 M€.]

The indicated budget depends of whether Innovation Fund Denmark's Board of Directors (BoD) will allocate the required budget to the Quantum technology call. BoD's decision is awaiting the Governments approval of the National budget for 2023.

Funding regulations:

Maximum funding budget for a Danish partner is € 300,000. If two or more Danish partners participate in a project the maximum funding budget is € 500,000.

Eligible cost-categories for Danish partners: Salary, Travel, Subcontracting, Materials, Communication and knowledge sharing. Other expenses (overhead) depends on the type of organization.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution:

IFD can fund all types of partners within in both Basic research (QPR) and Applied Quantum Science (AQS). Applications to AQS must include Danish Industrial partners or user organizations and are recommended to also include research partners. Applications to QPR can be single universities or research organizations without any Danish industrial partners.

Submission of the proposal at the national level:

It is mandatory for each Danish partner to individually upload the application and national declarations on their e-grant file. IFD will provide each Danish applicant with an individual e-grant file.

Additional requirements

For further information on the national call criteria please consult our national call homepage: www.innofond.dk or read IFDs guidelines for international programmes here: https://innovationsfonden.dk/sites/default/files/2022-03/Guidelines%20for%20international%20programmes%202.%20marts%202022%20.pdf

ETAg - Estonian Research Council

Estonia

Contact points

Margit Suuroja

Senior Adviser

+372 731 7360 - margit.suuroja@etag.ee

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment: 150 000 EUR

Funding regulations

Research expenses consist of direct costs (personnel costs incl. scholarships, travel costs and other direct costs) and subcontracting costs. The research expenses must be used to carry out the project and be respectively identifiable.

Direct costs

- 1. Personnel costs are monthly salaries with social security charges and all the other statutory costs of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution.
- 2. Travel costs may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel insurance.
- 3. Other direct costs are: consumables and minor equipment related to the project; publication and dissemination of project results; organising meetings, seminars or conferences (room rent, catering); fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events 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 comply with the eligible costs.
- 4. Subcontracting costs should cover only the 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.

Indirect costs

are overhead from the personnel costs only, which may not exceed 15% and should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution. Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (a copy machine or a printer that is publicly used, phone bills, copy service, etc.) should be covered from the overhead.

Double funding of activities is not acceptable.

EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding from the Estonian Research Council (ETAg).

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Participants of the project

1. The Host Institution is the institution to which the grant will be allocated. The Host Institution must be a legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia.

The Host Institution must declare that the project can be carried out within their premises and that it will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding.

If the Host Institution is an undertaking, then State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account.

If the support is State aid or de minimis aid, then support will not be granted to a Host Institution who is subject to a support withdrawal decision pursuant to a previous European Commission decision deeming the aid illegal and incompatible with the common market, if that decision has not been complied with.

2. The Principal Investigator is the researcher who acts as the Estonian team leader in the project proposal. The Principal Investigator will be responsible for how the grant is used and how Estonia's part in the project is executed.

The Principal Investigator:

- 2.1 must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline;
- 2.2 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;
- 2.3 must have published at least three articles which comply with the requirements of clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles which comply with the requirements of clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five years prior to the proposal submission deadline. International patents are equalled with publications of clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications mentioned in clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or less. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or in the compulsory military service, or has other serious grounds, the publication period requirement will be extended by the respective time.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

No needed

Additional requirements

Grant Agreement

In case of a positive funding decision, the Estonian Research Council shall enter into a grant agreement with the Host Institution. The transnational project must be entered into the ETIS.

Research involving human subjects or animal tests

If human research or animal tests are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorization Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Estonian Research Council by the start of the relevant activities.

Nagoya protocol

By applying for funding by the Estonian Research Council the applicants agree to consider the relevance of Nagoya protocol for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration if applicable.

AKA - Academy of Finland

Finland

Contact point

Katrine Mahlamäki

Science adviser

+358 295 33 5062 - Katrine.Mahlamaki@aka.fi

Funding criteria and regulations

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

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 Academy of Finland may not participate in more than two proposals.

The Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering plans to grant a maximum of 750 k€ per project (250,000 euros per year) and up to 450 k€ per partner (150,000 euros per year). In general, the conditions and restrictions on Academy Projects apply to the funding. Funding is granted to sites of research in Finland (usually universities or research institutes). The Academy applies the full cost model in its funding, and the Academy's funding contribution for a project can come to no more the 70% of the total project costs. Funding can be granted to research teams for 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 PI's salary costs must not be significant in relation to the project's total costs. For example, a three-year research project must not include more than 4.5 months of the PI's effective working hours.

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

Guidelines for research project funding granted by the Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering: https://www.aka.fi/en/about-us/decision-making-bodies/research-councils/research-council-for-natural-sciences-and-engineering/

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Finnish partners of projects that have been successful at the call will be invited to submit national application forms.

France

Contact point

Sergueï Fedortchenko

International Scientific Project Officer

+33 1 78 09 80 37 - <u>Serguei.Fedortchenko@anr.fr</u>

Funding criteria and regulations

The document presenting the modalities of participation of the French applicants will be available in February 2023 at http://www.anr.fr/AAPProjetsOuverts.

Germany	DFG – German Research Foundation
(QPR)	

Contact point

Andreas Deschner Michael Mößle

Programme Director Programme Director

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Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment

3 M€ for the proposals of the topic QPR. No funds are allocated for the topic AQS.

Funding regulations

- Eligible cost categories (related to specific *Programme Modules*) are specified in DFG forms 52.01 52.07 and 52.14) available on the DFG website at:
 http://www.dfg.de/foerderung/programme/einzelfoerderung/sachbeihilfe/formulare_merkblaetter/index.jsp
- The standard module that fits most needs is the *Basic Module* (form 52.01).
- The DFG grants 22% of the direct costs as overhead (Programmpauschale). Please choose 22% of the direct costs as the overhead for the submission to QuantERA II.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

- The general DFG rules and conditions as defined in the current DFG form 50.01 "Guidelines Research Grants Programme" (www.dfg.de/formulare/50 01/) apply.
- The guidelines regarding the Duty to Cooperate (<u>www.dfg.de/formulare/55_01/</u>) do not apply.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

The deadlines for submission to the DFG are the same as the deadline for submission to QuantERA II.

- For each project, a copy of the proposal, the financial form and accompanying
 documentation has to be submitted via the DFG's elan Portal (https://elan.dfg.de/). If you
 do not have an elan-account, you must register on the elan portal before submitting your
 proposal. Confirmation is usually provided within three working days. It is not possible to
 submit a proposal without prior registration.
- Regardless of the number of PIs requesting funding from the DFG, the proposal has to be submitted to the DFG only once. The person uploading the documents enters the relevant data for all PIs requesting funding from the DFG.
- First steps on elan: Log-In > Proposal Submission > New Project / Draft proposal > Individual Grants Programme > "Proposal for a Research Grant" > Start online form.
- Please select the Call "QuantERA 2023 (QPR)".

- Overheads will be calculated automatically by elan.
- Please enclose a document in which you address the points 4.1.1. to 4.1.5. of the DFG proposal guidelines for Research Grants (www.dfg.de/formulare/54 01/).

Good scientific practice

In submitting a proposal for a research grant to the DFG, applicants agree to adhere to the rules of good scientific practice

(http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/principles_dfg_funding/good_scientific_practice/). The DFG expects that the results of funded projects will be made available to the public.

Please note that according to a resolution of the DFG General Assembly, since 1 August 2019, DFG funding may only be granted to institutions that have implemented the guidelines laid down in the Code of Conduct for Safeguarding Good Research Practice in their own regulations in a legally binding manner.

For international proposals, this means that funding from the DFG can only be granted if the guidelines for ensuring good research practice (https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3923602) have been implemented. If you have any questions on this subject, please contact the Scientific Integrity team at the DFG Head Office at gwp@dfg.de. Further information regarding the implementation can be found at https://wissenschaftliche-integritaet.de/en/code-of-conduct/implementation-of-the-guidelines/.

Data protection notice

Please note the DFG's data protection notice on research funding, which can be viewed and downloaded at www.dfg.de/privacy_policy. If necessary, please also forward this information to those individuals whose data will be processed by the DFG due to their involvement in your project.

Germany BMBF – Federal Ministry of Education and Research

VDI TZ – VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH

(AQS)

Contact point

VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH (VDI TZ) - funding agency on behalf of the BMBF

Sebastian Krug Dr. Bastian Hiltscher

Procedural contact person Scientific contact person

+49 211 6214 472 - krug@vdi.de +49 211 6214 441 - hiltscher@vdi.de

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment

BMBF budget earmarked for the funding of German participants in projects under the AQS topic:

3 M€

Funding regulations

Project proposals involving German participants requesting funding from the BMBF must:

- 1. clearly address and be fully covered by the Applied Quantum Science (AQS) topic;
- be in line with the BMBF research programme 'Quantensysteme' which can be downloaded via the link Forschungsprogramm Quantensysteme - BMBF or from the website https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/de/forschung/forschung-fuer-arbeit/quantensysteme/quantensysteme.html#searchFacets (both in German only).

Funding for German applicants under this call will be granted based on §§ 23 and 44 BHO ('Bundeshaushaltsordnung') and the related administrative regulations and BMBF guidelines. An entitlement to funding cannot be derived.

In particular, the national regulations *NABF*, *NKBF 2017* and *BNBest-mittelbarer Abruf-BMBF* apply. The documents can be found at: foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy_index.php

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

BMBF funding of German participants is available:

- For universities and research institutes/organisations (funding up to 100% of the total eligible costs/expenditures; while overhead is not eligible for universities, they will receive an additional lump sum ('Projektpauschale') equivalent to 20 % of the eligible expenditures);
- For companies (funding up to 50% of the total eligible costs; SMEs may receive an additional bonus).

Submission of the proposal at the national level

No additional national forms need to be submitted during the QuantERA application process. However, previous registration with the funding agency (VDI TZ) is mandatory (see section *additional requirements* below).

Successful German participants must submit complete BMBF application forms (AZA/AZK including annexes) within three months after the official notification of the project selection. Non-compliance may result in exclusion.

Additional requirements

Extending the stipulations of the call announcement, the following requirements apply to German participants respectively to project proposals involving German participants:

- Mandatory registration: German applicants are required to contact and to register with the
 responsible BMBF funding agency ('Projektträger' VDI TZ) prior to the submission of a project
 proposal they are involved in.
- **Industry involvement:** Due to the application orientation of the AQS topic, the involvement of at least one company in the project is mandatory.
- **Exploitation plan:** Each proposal shall include a scheme towards subsequent application and/or future commercial use of the expected results. As a minimum requirement, a concrete description of the subsequent innovatory steps must be included, clearly demonstrating the contribution of the expected results to the realisation of such an application. In this context, the term application does not imply the utilisation of the results for merely scientific purposes.
- Additional benefit: In order to be eligible for BMBF funding project proposals must demonstrate an additional benefit due to the transnational cooperation.
- Funding limits: The requested BMBF funding must amount to at least 100 k€ per German partner over the entire duration of a project. Moreover, at least 50 % of the total eligible costs/expenses on the part of the German participant(s) in a project must be personnel costs/expenses.

NKFIH – National Research, Development and Innovation Office

Hungary

Contact point

Edina Nemeth

National Contact Point for ICT & FET

+36-70-221-0387 - edina.nemeth@nkfih.gov.hu

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment

The total indicative national funding for this call is € 450 000.

Funding regulations

The specific call for proposals for applicants from Hungary participating in ERA-NETs is available on the website of NKFIH https://nkfih.gov.hu/.

The conditions for the call for ERA-NET COFUNDs (2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET) are applicable. For details see:

https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/era-net-ejp-cofund-2019-217-era-net/palyazati-felhivas-2019-217-era-net

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

The conditions for the call for ERA-NET COFUNDs (2019-2.1.7-ERA-NET) are applicable. For details see:

 $\frac{https://nkfih.gov.hu/palyazoknak/nkfi-alap/era-net-ejp-cofund-2019-217-era-net/palyazati-felhivas-2019-217-era-net$

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Not required prior to the QuantERA call submission.

Following the international selection of the projects to be funded, a proposal should be formally submitted to NKFI Hivatal.

Israel

Inn Auth – National Technological Innovation Authority

Contact point

Mr. Danny Seker

Director: Digital, Industry and Space; Civil Security

for Society; ECSEL

+972-3-5118121 - dan@iserd.org.il

Funding criteria and regulations

Israel Innovation authority is working on updating the internal call procedures. The work will be completed and adopted in several weeks.

Please contact - Rachel Loutaty <u>rachel.l@iserd.org.il</u> or Dan Seker <u>Dan@iserd.org.il</u> before submitting your proposal.

The budget for the call will be 750,000 Euros.

Italy

NQSTI - National Quantum Science and Technology Institute

Contact point

NQSTI

Emilia BELFIORE

Head of Technical Assistance Unit

email: pnrr04@gmail.com

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment

Maximum funding committed is 1M€

Funding regulations

Proposals must be in line with the NQSTI scientific programme that can be requested to pnrr04@gmail.com

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Public and private non-profit research bodies can participate to the Quantum Phenomena and Resources call.

If proponents are NQSTI participants they will use the funding already attributed to them to participate to the QuantERA with proposals synergistic to their research program within NQSTI. If the proponents are not NQSTI participants they will receive funding as part of the "open call" scheme within NQSTI programme in the case of research activities in line with NQSTI scientific objectives.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

The proposal must be submitted to NQSTI that will establish the coherence of the proposal with NQSTI scientific objectives.

Latvia	LZP – Latvian Council of Science

Contact point

Juris Balodis
Senior Expert,
Research Funding Programme Department,
International Research Programme Unit
+371 29 451 344
juris.balodis@lzp.gov.lv

Maija Bundule
Head of Unit,
Research Funding Programme Department,
International Research Programme Unit
+371 67 785423
maija.bundule@lzp.gov.lv

Funding criteria and regulations

For project coordinator or partner a maximum of 100 000 Euros can be requested per project year. The grant can be used to cover all project-related costs, which include salaries (corresponding to the level of activity in the project), travels, purchase of materials, publication costs, minor equipment and depreciations, etc. Overhead costs must not exceed 25% of eligible costs excl. subcontracting.

Funding commitment

For QuantERA II 2023 Call: 600 000 Euro

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Following legal persons are eligible for funding:

- (1) R&D institutions -research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, their institutes and research centres. R&D institution (research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, research centres etc.) must be listed in the Registry of Research Institutions operated by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia.
- (2) Enterprises. Enterprise must be registered in the Registry of Enterprises of the Republic of Latvia and most of its R&D&I activities must be carried out in the Republic of Latvia.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Not requested.

Contact point

Saulius Marcinkonis
Chief officer
+370 676 17256, saulius.marcinkonis@lmt.lt

Funding criteria and regulations

Up to € 100.000 per project (for project partner) or up to € 150.000 per project (for project coordinator)

Funding commitment

Up to € 150.000 in total

Funding regulations

National funding will be provided according to the <u>General Rules of the Research Council of</u>
<u>Lithuania for the competitive funding of the Research and Dissemination Projects</u> approved by the Order No V-176 of the Council Chairman on 4 April , 2019.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

The general funding rules of Research Council of Lithuania (LMT) apply:

the applicant is Lithuanian higher education and research institution (which is listed in the Register of Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Lithuania);

SME eligible to apply only in collaboration with Lithuanian higher education and research institution.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Applicants not requested to submit any national forms during proposal submission.

Additional requirements

The general funding rules of Research Council of Lithuania (LMT) apply:

The applicant who intends to act as a project leader (PL) or principal investigator (PI) has to be a scientist (researcher holding at least a Ph.D. degree);

A person, acting as a PL, PI or a core group member can participate only in one proposal per Call;

The workload of the core members of project team (PL and PI) must be ≥20 hours multiplied by the duration of the project in months.

Luxembourg

Contact point

Christiane Kaell

Head of Research Programmes

email: christiane.kaell@fnr.lu

Funding criteria and regulations

The <u>FNR financial regulations</u> specify the different costs categories and expenses eligible for reimbursement by the FNR.

Funding commitment

500.000 EUR

Funding regulations

https://www.fnr.lu/funding-instruments/inter/

See **INTER Application guidelines**

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

• Public institutions performing research

https://www.fnr.lu/fnr-beneficiaries/

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Additional documentation must be submitted the FNR no later than 7 working days after the QUANTERA II deadlines. Submissions to the FNR must be done FNR Online Grant Management System.

Applicants will need to provide basic information and attach the proposal (including all further relevant documents) based on the form provided by the lead agency/ organising network.

Additional requirements

A principal investigator may act in one proposal only. A consortium leader from a Luxembourg-based public research institution should be a researcher with solid experience of managing collaborative research projects.

MEYR – Ministry of Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation

Malta

Contact point

Antonella Gatt

Director, International Relations and Programme Implementation Directorate

+35620953740 - <u>antonella.gatt@gov.mt</u>

Funding criteria and regulations

The following legal persons are eligible for funding:

- Research institutes, universities, higher education establishments, their institutes and research centres etc.
- Enterprises and companies.

Entities must be registered in Malta.

Funding commitment

150,000 EUR

Funding regulations

Yes

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Yes

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Mandatory

Contact point

Dr. Julia Feddersen Senior Advisor EU programs

+31-6-81110955 - julia.feddersen@quantumdelta.nl

Funding criteria and regulations

Budget

1.75 M€

Maximum number of fundable research groups

5-6

Eligibility of project duration

3 years

Maximum funding per the awarded project

350.000€

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Full, associate, and assistant professors and other researchers with a comparable position may submit an application if they have a tenured position (and therefore a paid position for an indefinite period) or a tenure track agreement at Dutch universities, or NWO institutes, or at other research organisations, that -at least in part- are funded by the Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science.

SMEs are eligible to join a project together with of one of the eligible organisations mentioned above. SMEs cannot however request funding within this call.

Individuals who, in the framework of a tenure-track position, -do not yet have a permanent appointment can also be (co-) applicant. The employing institution, thus the dean or director of the institute, has to ensure a full 4-year PhD position employment contract.

Eligibility of costs, types and their caps

One Postdoctoral researcher and/or non-scientific personnel (up to a max of 3 years) and/or PhD student, material costs, traveling costs, network and consortium costs. With a maximum project duration for three years, only funding for 3 years can be granted. However, in case of a 4-year PhD employment contract, this may be indicated and included in the project budget.

For all eligible applicants standard tariffs for personal costs apply (see https://www.nwo.nl/en/salary-tables).

A standard material budget can be requested up to a maximum of €15.000 per year. This budget covers third party costs (related to external services such as consulting- provided by companies or freelancers, capped at a rate of € 125 per hour), costs for consumables, small instruments and aids, cost for travel and lodging, costs for buying the rights to patents necessary for the project, for the duration of the project, miscellaneous costs directly related to the project. Costs for cleanroom (access to NanoLabNL) can be claimed, additionally.

Eligibility and assessment criteria are accessible on the website of QDNL (http://quantumdelta.nl/quantera).

Other

Applicants must fit one of the themes of the NAQT (National Agenda of Quantum Technology), or the CAT (Catalyst) themes of QDNL. Therefore, pre-announcements (max. 1 page A4) must be submitted to the QDNL AL1 programme committee. The pre-announcement should be handed in by 15th March 2023 at the National contact point for QuantERA within QDNL to be eligible to funding. The format will be published on the website of QDNL. With this, specific contribution to the project, the consortium composition and partners and the desired impact have to be outlined.

The committee will assess whether the proposed project is within scope of the mentioned themes, or if the proposed project must alter the focus somewhat to fit within the themes, or that the proposed project does not fit, and is therefore not eligible for submission.

Projects that are selected for funding are required to complete a financial form and submit this to QDNL.

Submission of financial and scientific reports

Yes. Submission of financial and scientific reports at national level is required in accordance with the rules of QDNL.

Poland

NCBR – National Centre for Research and Development

Contact point

Krystyna Maciejko

Department of International Cooperation

+48 22 39 07 489 - krystyna.maciejko@ncbr.gov.pl

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment

Maximum funding for the Call 2023: 1 M€.

Funding regulations

Detailed information (e.g. eligibility of the costs and funding rates) can be found at: https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/platforma-konkursowa

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Universities and research institutes/organisations;

Enterprises (micro, small, medium or large).

NCBR supports only applied research and experimental development.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

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.

Po	

NCN - National Science Centre

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

Contact point

Dr. Eng Ewelina Szymańska-Skolimowska Sylwia Kostka

Coordinator for Physical Sciences and Engineering Deputy Head, International Cooperation

Department

Funding Criteria and Regulations

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

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 post-doc(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; Please note that if the principal investigator is also the coordinator of an international consortium submitting a joint proposal a budget for additional remuneration can be increased.
- salaries and scholarships for students and PhD students. Please note: if the principal investigator 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 Annex to NCN Council's Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral collaboration UNISONO.

EURO exchange rate: 1 EUR = 4,8468 PLN

Please note:

- Applicants are obliged to adhere to the rules included in the Annex to NCN Council's
 Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international
 calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral collaboration:
 UNISONO.
- The rules for awarding NCN scholarships are laid down in the <u>Regulations on awarding scholarships</u>.
- Up to 7 days from the full proposal submission deadline Polish applicants <u>must submit their</u> <u>national applications in the ZSUN/OSF submission system</u>. The application will include a budget that should be calculated according to the Annex to NCN Council's Resolution on awarding funding for research tasks funded or co-funded under international calls launched by the National Science Centre and carried out as multilateral collaboration (<u>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 the course of 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 have to be covered from overheads.
- Personal Data Processing at the NCN

Open Access to Publications and Research Data

• Open Access Policy at the NCN

Romania

UEFISCDI - Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding

Contact point

Nicoleta Dumitrache

Telephone number: +40 2 1302 3886

Email: nicoleta.dumitrache@uefiscdi.ro

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment: 500.000 EUR

Funding regulations:

- 250.000 euro in case a Romanian institution is the Coordinator (together with other Romanian partner(s) if it is the case);
- 200.000 for one/all Romanian partner(s) participating in a proposal.

Eligible costs:

- a. Staff costs;
- b. Logistics expenses
 - Capital expenditure;
 - Expenditure on stocks supplies and inventory items;
 - Expenditure on services performed by third parties cannot exceed 25 % of the funding from the public budget. The subcontracted parts should not be core/substantial parts of the project work;
- c. Travel expenses;
- d. Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs and cost for subcontracting) and travel expenses. Indirect costs will not exceed 20 % of direct costs

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution: Universities, national institutes, SMEs, other institutions with R&D activity

Submission of the proposal at the national level – the proposal will not be submitted at national level

Additional requirements:

Funding rates vary in accordance with state aid legislation.

For more information : http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/articole/4536/Pachet-de-informatii-ERANETERANET-Cofund.html

Slovakia

SAS - Slovak Academy of Sciences

Contact point

Martin Novak, PhD. International Cooperation

Dpt.,SAS

Phone: +421257510119

Email: mnovak@up.upsav.sk

Zuzana Panisova,

International Cooperation

Dpt.,SAS

Phone: +421257510245

Email: panisova@up.upsav.sk

Funding commitment

120,000€

Overheads

Up to 20% of the direct costs

Anticipated number of fundable research partners

2

Maximum funding per grant awarded to a partner

120,000€

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Only research institutes and/or centres of the Slovak Academy of Sciences are eligible organisations for funding by SAS (up to 100%). The main applicant must have, at the time of submission, a contract(s) with one or several of the institutes/centres equivalent to at least 1 full-time employment valid for the whole duration of the project. Each member of the applicant's team must also have an employment contract or a fellowship with the same or another SAS institute/centre.

Applicants from other Slovak R&D centres (universities and/or other organisations from Slovakia) can join project consortia only as collaborators that have to secure their own funding.

Eligibility of costs, types and their caps

Funding available for eligible 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. 1103, of which 45,000 EUR is an in-kind contribution (spoluúčasť) of the respective SAS institute or centre. 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 www.sav.sk in the International Cooperation section (Medzinárodná spolupráca).

1. Eligible direct costs

1.1. Personnel costs

- Must accurately reflect the work on the project;
- May be used only to cover the costs (including health and social insurance) related to work agreements performed outside of employment;
- Up to 15 % of all direct costs excluding the institute's/centre's in-kind contribution or up to 30% of all direct costs excluding the institute's/centre's in-kind contribution, if the Slovak team is the consortium's coordinator.

1.2. Material costs and expenditures

- Consumables: minor equipment and instruments, small-scale office and laboratory material (no basic equipment of the workplace; essential computer equipment is an exception);
- Costs and expenditures for services directly related to the project: contracts, consultations, publication of project results, conference fees;
- Travel costs and living expenses: limits for travel costs and daily subsistence allowance vary depending on destination country;
- Capital expenditures: up to 40% of all direct costs excluding the institute's/centre's in-kind contribution.

2. Indirect Costs

- Administration, energy and infrastructure;
- Up to 20% of all direct costs excluding the institute's/centre's in-kind contribution.

Further information on eligible costs can be found in the <u>Financial rules for awarding SAS grants for international research projects</u> approved by the SAS Presidium on 1 July 2018. **Applicants are strongly encouraged to read this document carefully and to contact the national contact point before submission in order to ensure compliance**

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Submission of the proposal at the national level will be required in parallel to the international evaluation. The submission will be carried out once the international evaluation and the ranking list have been performed and endorsed by the Call Steering Committee and the Slovak partner has been informed about recommendation for funding by the project consortium's coordinator. S/he will be invited by SAS to submit the proposal to it. The final decision on funding of selected projects is made by the SAS Presidium.

Further guidance

- www.sav.sk
- 133 Act of February 19, 2002 on the Slovak Academy of Sciences

Financial rules for awarding SAS grants for international research projects

Slovenia

Contact point

Andrej Ograjensek

Senior Advisor

andrej.ograjensek@gov.si, +386 1 478 4634

Eligible entities

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution: Research organizations as defined in the national Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act (Zakon o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski dejavnosti (Uradni list RS, št. 186/21)). All participating institutions have to be registered in the Slovenian Research Agency register of research institutions (Informacijski sistem o raziskovalni dejavnosti v Sloveniji -SICRIS).

Eligibility of principal investigator and other research team members: The project activities of the Slovenian partner have to be under the supervision of the <u>primary investigator/primary researcher</u> who fulfills the requirements for project leader as defined in Art. 63 of the national Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act (<u>Zakon o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski dejavnosti</u> (Uradni list RS, št. 186/21)). The criteria are further determined in the Rules on the Criteria for Establishing Compliance with the Conditions for being the Head of a Research Project (<u>Kriteriji za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja izkazovanja mednarodno primerljivih raziskovalnih rezultatov in obdobje zajema mednarodno primerljivih raziskovalnih rezultatov za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta in programa</u>). All participating researchers have to be registered in the Slovenian Research Agency register of researchers (Sicris) and must have available research hours.

Eligible topics: All

Eligible type of research and TRL

Basic research or applied research. The type of research conducted by Slovenian researchers must be defined and explained in the project proposal (e.g. in the Comments on budget section).

TRL 1-6

Additional eligibility criteria

All Slovenian applicants must refer to the guidelines for Slovenian applicants published on the webpage https://www.gov.si/drzavni-organi/ministrstva/ministrstva-za-izobrazevanje-znanost-in-sport/javne-objave.

Legal basis – national regulation

State Administration Act (Zakon o državni upravi (Uradni list RS, št. 113/05 - UPB4, 89/07 - Odl.US, 126/07 - ZUP-E, 48/09, 8/10 - ZUP-G, 8/12 - ZVRS-F, 21/12, 47/13, 12/14, 90/14,51/16, 36/21, 82/21in 189/21)) - Article 16 and 39; Public Finance Act (Zakon o javnih financah (Uradni list RS, št. 11/11 - uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 14/13, 110/11 - ZDIU12, 46/13 - ZIPRS1314-A, 101/13, 101/13 - ZIPRS1415, 38/14 - ZIPRS1415-A, 14/15 - ZIPRS1415-D, 55/15 - ZFisP, 96/15 - ZIPRS1617, 80/16 - ZIPRS1718, 71/17 - ZIPRS1819, 13/18, 75/19 - ZIPRS2021, 36/20 - ZIUJP, 61/20 - ZDLGPE, 89/20, 195/20 -odl. US, 203/20 - ZIUPOPDVE, 174/20 - ZIPRS2122, 15/21 - ZDUOP, 187/21 - ZIPRS2223 in 29/2022 - ZUOPDCE))) - Article 106. j; Regulation on the procedure of standards and manners to allocate means for the promotion of the evolutional programme and the preferential tasks (Uredba

o postopku, merilih in načinih dodeljevanja sredstev za spodbujanje razvojnih programov in prednostnih nalog (Uradni list RS, št. 56/11)); Implementation of the Republic of Slovenia's Budget for 2022 and 2023 Act (Zakon o izvrševanju proračunov Republike Slovenije za leti 2022 in 2023 (Uradni list RS, št. 187/21, 206/21 – ZDUPŠOP, 129/22in 144/22 ZSDH-1A)); Intergrity and Prevention of Corruption Act (Zakon o integriteti in preprečevanju korupcije (Uradni list RS, št. 69/11 – uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 158/20 in 3/22 – ZDeb)); Resolution on the Slovenian Scientific Research and Innovation Strategy 2030 (Resolucija o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski strategiji Slovenije 2030 (Uradni list RS, št. 49/22)); Decree on the scientific research funding from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia (Uredba o financiranju znanstevnoraziskovalne dejavnosti iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije (Uradni list RS, št. 35/22 in 144/22)), Rules on criteria for establishing compliance with the conditions for being the head of a research project (Pravilnik o kriterijih za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja pogojev za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta, Uradni list RS št. 53/16 in 186/21 – ZZrID); Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and 108 Innovation the provisions of the Community

Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ EU C 198, 27. 6. 2014) (Okvir za državno pomoč za raziskave in razvoj ter inovacije (2014/C 198/01)); National scheme for state aid in Research and

Development (<u>Program za spodbujanje raziskav in razvoja Ministrstva za izobraževanje, znanost in šport na področju znanosti 2016-2020</u>, št. 631-

1/2016-1 z dne 8. 1. 2016); National strategy of open access to scientific publications and research data in Slovenia 2015-2020 (<u>Nacionalna strategije odprtega dostopa do znanstvenih objav in raziskovalnih podatkov v Sloveniji 2015-2020</u>, št. 60300-5/2015/5 z dne 3. 9. 2015).

National contracting negotiations will commence after the projects are selected for funding on the level of the transnational call. National documentation, including evidence of the starting date of the transnational project (in the form of a Consortia Agreement or statement on the starting date by the transnational project coordinator), will be a prerequisite for signing the contract on national level. All Slovenian applicants are strongly advised to contact the Slovenian National Contact Person.

Eligible costs

Total national funding: max. 900.000,00 EUR including VAT

Total requested funding per project: for all Slovenian partners within one consortium must not exceed 100.000,00 EUR per year (300.000,00 EUR for the total project duration of 36 months).

Eligibility of costs: MIZS will fund all eligible costs of successful Slovenian transnational projects, recommended for funding, in accordance with the Decree on the scientific research funding from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia (<u>Uredba o financiranju znanstvenoraziskovalne dejavnosti iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije</u> (Uradni list RS, št. 35/22 in 144/22))._Providing the stipulated conditions are met, the Public Procurement Act (<u>Zakon o javnem naročanju</u> (Uradni list RS, št. 91/15, 14/18, 121/21, 10/22, 74/22 – odl. US in 100/22 – ZNUZSZS)) applies._This call is suitable for implementing Article 64 of the Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act (<u>Zakon o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski dejavnosti (ZZrID)</u> (Uradni list RS, št. 186/21)).

Period of eligibility of public expenditures: as of budgetary year 2024 until the end of the budgetary year 2027.

Period of eligibility of expenditures on the project: From the starting date of the transnational project stipulated in the consortium agreement for a period of 36 months, with a prescribed additional 30 day period for the payment of invoices related to the project costs. The period of eligibility of expenditures on the project can only start <u>from the date the national contract enters into effect</u>. The exact duration of the project will be defined in the contract between MIZS and the selected Slovenian partner, after the consortium agreement between the selected consortium partners enters into force.

Spain

AEI- State Research Agency

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

Contact Point

Administrative and technical issues: Watse Castelein +34 9160 38876 era-ict@aei.gob.es

Representative: Severino Falcon

Funding Criteria and Regulations

Funding Programme:

Funding Programme: The framework for this funding action is the <u>Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica, Técnica e Innovación 2021-2023</u>. On a national level, the Call will be managed by the <u>Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia (STRAN) of the AEI.</u>

Instrument for funding the Spanish groups

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

The applicants are strongly advised to read the call text of the <u>PCI 2022-2</u> ("Resolución de 14 de octubre de 2022") and especially the <u>PCI Requirements</u> document

The projects granted under this call must comply with the Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) criteria (see Article 6.5 of the PCI 2022-2)

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 QuantERA Call 2023: 700.000 €.

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 document</u>. 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 and the PCI Requirements document
- 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 or other international initiatives.

- PIs 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.
- PIs must remain unchanged between the proposal to this transnational call and the corresponding PCI call should the proposal be recommended for funding.

Important: The applicants should include the PI's full name and the full name of their institution in the original

Eligible costs

- Research and innovation activities are eligible. Mere dissemination, communication or other similar activities will not be eligible
- Personnel costs for new temporary employment contracts are eligible. The costs of permanent staff linked to the beneficiary entity or members of the research team will not be considered eligible costs.
- Direct costs such as current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses, coordination costs and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.
- Overheads (at least 21% of all direct costs, including the subcontracting costs).
- <u>Subcontracting special tasks to EU and non-EU countries</u> (i.e. IT services, etc) is allowed within the limits legally established.

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

IMPORTANT: a maximum of two Spanish Partners requesting funding to the AEI in the same Proposal are allowed.

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

Type of participation	Max Direct Cost (€)	21% Indirect Costs (€)	Max Total Costs (€)
Only one AEI- applicant in the proposal (no coordinator)	170 000,00	35 700,00	205 700,00
Two AEI-applicants in the proposal (no coordinator)	215 000,00	45 150,00	260 150,00
Only one AEI- applicant in the proposal acting as coordinator	250 000,00	52 500,00	302 500,00
Two AEI-applicants in the proposal and one of them is acting as coordinator	295 000,00	61 950,00	356 950,00

IMPORTANT:

- a maximum of two AEI-applicants in the same proposal are allowed;
- the direct costs in the application must be rounded to the thousands;
- 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 following the rules of the PCI call and according to AEI's web <u>guidelines</u>: "Project (reference nº XX) funded by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación through the XXX call (or its equivalent)".)".

Contact point

Tomas Andersson,

+46 8 546 441 73,

tomas.andersson@vr.se

Funding commitment	VR has committed in total 8 400 000 SEK for the subcall Quantum phenomena and resources.
Anticipated number of fundable research groups	2-4
Eligibility of project duration	3 years
Maximum funding per awarded project	Maximum 1.5 MSEK per year for three years for the Swedish partner (Total 4.5 MSEK). Exchange rate by the deadline of the call will be used.
Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution	 SRC funds Swedish partners within the sub-call Quantum phenomena and resources. SRC funds basic research of the highest scientific quality, and promotes research collaboration and the exchange of experience. The investigators need to hold a PhD at the time of application. The grants distributed by the SRC must be administrated by a Swedish university, higher education institution (HEI) or other public organisation that fulfils the Swedish Research Councils criteria for an administrating organisation: https://vr.se/english/calls-and-decisions/apply-for-a-grant/who-can-apply.html A researcher may only apply for funds from the SRC in one application in the QuantERA JTC 2023. A researcher who already has an ongoing project from SRC in the QuantERA JTC 2021 is not eligible to apply.
Eligibility of costs, types and their caps	The project grant may be used to fund all types of project-related costs, such as salaries (including your own salary, however no more than corresponding to the person's activity level in the project), running costs (such as consumables, travel including stays at research facilities, publication costs and minor equipment), premises and depreciation costs. Grants may not be used for scholarships. If a doctoral student participates, project funds may not be paid out as salary during teaching or other departmental duties. The minimum amount for which you may apply is SEK 400 000 per year, including indirect costs.
Submission of the full proposal at the national level	Yes. See below under other information.
Submission of financial and scientific reports at the national level	Yes, according to the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.
Information available at	See national call texts in <u>Swedish</u> and <u>English</u> for all national requirements.

Swedish applicants are encouraged to communicate with the national contact person regarding their intention to participate in the call, before submission of the consortium application.

OTHER

All Swedish project leaders participating in the call for support from the Swedish Research Council shall also submit a parallel application using the Swedish Research Council's application system Prisma. The application form in Prisma can be reached from the call text at the Council's website.

Parallel application is a mandatory eligibility criterion. Failure to submit the parallel application to the Swedish Research Council before the deadline of the Prisma call will result in the Swedish partner being declared ineligible.

Switzerland

Contact point

Dr. Ahmad Zein Assi

Scientific Officer

+41 31 308 21 83 - quantera@snf.ch

Funding criteria and regulations

There are no restrictions on the participation of researchers in Switzerland in this QuantERA Call. They can coordinate consortia and are even encouraged to do so.

Projects must comply with SNSF Project Funding regulations and practices.

In particular, all applicants and co-applicants in Switzerland must be eligible for the Project Funding scheme, see also the <u>Regulations on project funding</u>. Applicants in Switzerland who have not previously obtained a grant in project funding are encouraged to contact the national contact point.

Partners of an international project consortium located in a country of the QuantERA transnational consortium cannot be declared as project partners in the sense of article 11.2 of the SNSF Funding Regulations. They should be declared as consortium partner instead and apply for their funding at their respective research funding organisation. In case a consortium includes industrial or commercial partners (in or 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 only 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 7.3 of the Regulations on project funding applies. Swiss applicants may participate in at most one QuantERA proposal.

Overhead costs cannot be requested since those are settled at the institutional level and do not count towards the overall budget.

Grants will be managed according to <u>standard SNSF rules</u>; reporting requirements duplicating those of QuantERA will not be enforced.

Forms to be submitted

Applicants must provide basic administrative data by submitting administrative applications via the online submission system mysne for the same deadlines as the consortium applications. Please select the instrument "Programmes/ERA-NET + EJP".

New CV format

In order to comply with the DORA principles, the SNSF defined a new structure for the CV and requests a standardised set of information from all applicants. Specifically, applicants in Switzerland will have to compile their CV according to a new template on the SNSF Portal and subsequently upload a PDF in the application on mySNF.

<u>Prior contact is highly recommended if the applicant has never been supported by reference funding scheme.</u>

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/research-policies.

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/research-policies.

Türkiye	TÜBİTAK – The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye
Contact point	
Dr. Kıvılcım KÖSEOĞLU	Dr. K. Öncü ŞEN
Scientific Expert	Scientific Expert
0090 312 298 1185 – kivilcim.koseoglu@tubitak.gov.tr	0090 312 298 1809 – <u>oncu.sen@tubitak.gov.tr</u>

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment

500.000€

Funding regulations

https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/1071 arge ve yenilik projeleri surec dokumani.pdf

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

No.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Yes. To be announced on TUBITAK web-site.

Additional requirements

Successful projects will be funded under program - .1071 Programme - Support Programme for Increasing Capacity to Benefit from International Research Funds and Participation in International R&D Cooperation..

United Kingdom

UKRI EPSRC – United Kingdom Research and Innovation, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

Contact point

Joe Westwood Quantum Technologies Senior Manager

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joseph.westwood@epsrc.ukri.org

quantumtechnologies@epsrc.ukri.org

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment

Up to £2M is available to support projects within the Applied Quantum Science call only involving researchers based in UK Higher Education Institutions or eligible research organisations.

Funding regulations

Funding is available for a maximum of £400,000 per consortium, £250,000 per partner at 80% full economic costs (fEC). All research grant proposals submitted must be costed on the basis fEC. If a grant is awarded, research councils will provide funding at 80% of the fEC. The applying organisation must agree to find the balance of fEC for the project from other resources.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

Before preparing a proposal, prospective applicants should familiarise themselves with:

- 1). The eligibility of investigators for EPSRC funding: https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/guidance-for-applicants/check-if-you-are-eligible-for-funding/
- 2). The eligibility of organisations for EPSRC funding: https://www.ukri.org/apply-for-funding/eligibility-for-funding/eligibility-as-an-organisation/#contents-list
- 3). The eligibility requirements relating to resources: https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/guidance-for-applicants/costs-you-can-apply-for/

All consortium 'partners' (research groups) that request funding from EPSRC must be represented by a Principle Investigator. The Principle Investigator must fulfil EPSRC's standard eligibility requirements (see above). Eligible Investigators can only request EPSRC funding on one proposal submitted to this call.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

Principle Investigators of UK partners are strongly advised to register their intention to submit by emailing EPSRC at: quantumtechnologies@epsrc.ukri.org before the submission deadline. Principle Investigators of successful UK partners will be invited to make a submission following the notification of successful proposals.

A Consortium Agreement must be signed before the EPSRC funding award can be made.

Additional requirements

Target outcomes open for UK funding as described in the QuantERA call document are; Quantum Communications, Quantum Simulation, Quantum computation and Quantum metrology, sensing and imaging. We are expecting this research to align with the research priorities of the UKRI EPSRC Quantum Technology theme. Only proposals in the call topic "Applied Quantum Science" will be accepted.

Contact point

Chris Jones
Deputy Challenge Director

Quantum ISCF

+44 (0)7827 233954

Chris.Jones@iuk.ukri.org

Sam Johnson

Innovation Lead - Quantum

Technologies

Innovate UK

sam.johnson@iuk.ukri.org

Funding criteria and regulations

Funding commitment

Up to £2M is available to support projects within the Applied Quantum Science call only involving a UK registered business of any size.

Funding regulations

Funding is available to support total eligible project costs of maximum £400,000 per consortium, £250,000 per partner. You could get grant funding to support your eligible project costs of:

- up to 70% if you are a micro or small organisation
- up to 60% if you are a medium sized organisation
- up to 50% if you are a large organisation

For more information on company sizes, please refer to the <u>company accounts guidance</u>. This is a change from the <u>EU definition</u> unless you are applying under State aid (see below).

Eligible project costs are outlined in the Innovate UK <u>costs guidance for non-academic organisations</u>. The cost of subcontractors is limited to no more than 20% of your organisation's total eligible costs.

Innovate UK will support feasibility studies or industrial research projects as defined in our <u>guidance</u> on categories of research and development.

Subsidy control regulations (and State aid where applicable)

- Innovate UK provides funding in line with the Subsidy Control Act 2022. Further information about the Subsidy requirements can be found within the <u>Subsidy Control Act 2022</u> (legislation.gov.uk)
- Innovate UK is unable to award organisations that are considered to be in financial difficulty. We will conduct financial viability and eligibility tests to confirm this is not the case following the application stage.
- EU State aid rules now only apply in limited circumstances. Please see our general guidance to check if these rules apply to your organisation.

Further Information

- If you are unsure about your obligations under the Subsidy Control Act 2022 or the State aid rules, you should take independent legal advice. We are unable to advise on individual eligibility or legal obligations.
- You must always make sure that the funding awarded to you is compliant with all current Subsidy Control legislation applicable in the United Kingdom.

• This aims to regulate any advantage granted by a public sector body which threatens to, or actually distorts competition in the United Kingdom or any other country or countries.

Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution

UK businesses partnering in proposals must carry out all of their project work in the UK.

Before preparing a proposal, prospective applicants should familiarise themselves with the Innovate UK <u>funding rules</u>.

Submission of the proposal at the national level

UK businesses are required to notify the Innovate UK contact point of their intention to submit as soon as possible, at least three weeks in advance of the submission deadline. Businesses will be expected to submit an individual application through Innovate UK in parallel to support funding eligibility checks. Specific guidance on this will be provided upon contact with the Innovate UK contact point.

A Consortium Agreement must be signed before the Innovate UK funding award can be made.

Additional requirements

Target outcomes open for UK funding as described in the QuantERA call document are; Quantum Communications, Quantum Simulation, Quantum computation and Quantum metrology, sensing and imaging. Only proposals in the call topic "Applied Quantum Science" will be accepted.

Annex 2: QuantERA Gender Equality Statement

TOWARDS A MORE GENDER-BALANCED RESEARCH IN QUANTUM TECHNOLOGIES

Since its inception, the QuantERA II Consortium has been committed to addressing the gender imbalance in Quantum Technologies (QT) research and spreading the research excellence across the European Research Area (ERA). In order to move the gender balance issue into the spotlight, QuantERA II decided to improve the gender equality measures at both the consortium as well as the project level, thus becoming an active agent of the changes encouraged and promoted by the European Commission, research performing institutions and Research Funding Organisations, moving towards achieving gender equality in R&I across Europe.

Considering that:

- There is a particular imbalance in the STEM fields, 39% women among graduates at doctoral level, 35% at postdoctoral level, 28% at mid-career and 15% at senior level (*She Figures*, 2018⁶);
- The promotion of STEM vocations free from gender stereotypes should start at the level of schools, since this is a societal issue and constitutes a long-term objective;

But aware of the impact that our research funding organisations can have in the quantum field, we encourage physics institutes and departments as well as researchers in physics and in Quantum Technologies:

- To create a gender-sensitive environment and organisational culture in the physics field that promotes equal opportunities between women and men <u>at all levels</u>;
- To create an equality standard regarding the management structure of their organisations;
- To acknowledge that diversity is beneficial for science and strengthens the quality of science;
- To encourage all women PhDs in physics and in Quantum Technologies and provide them with the adequate career support services and fair chances in promotion process;
- To acquaint STEM students with role models of women researchers in Quantum Technologies;

And thus, help us to have a more gender-balanced research in Quantum Technologies in the coming years. The QuantERA II evaluation process will consider gender balance in the evaluation panels as much as possible and will provide gender-sensitive peer review guidelines for our evaluators. The success rates of this Call will be monitored by the QuantERA consortium.

Please visit our **Call for proposals** (link) and **join us in our desire to reinforce the participation of fairly composed consortia of researchers.**

The QuantERA Call 2023 Call Steering Committee

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⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/she-figures-2018 en

Annex 3: QuantERA Guidelines for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)

The QuantERA consortium has developed a guideline for Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in proposals to QuantERA.

What is RRI?

Responsible Research and Innovation is an approach that anticipates and assesses potential implications and societal expectations regarding research and innovation, with the aim to foster the design of inclusive and sustainable research and innovation.

Responsible Research and Innovation implies that societal actors (researchers, citizens, policy makers, business, third sector organisations, etc.) work together during the whole research and innovation process in order to better align both the process and its outcomes with the values, needs and expectations of society.

RRI is a cross-cutting issue that is generally articulated around 5 main dimensions:

- public engagement
- open access
- gender
- ethics
- science education

<u>RRI-Tools</u> provides more information about RRI and examples of integration of its dimension in research.

QuantERA and RRI

Provided below is a non-exhaustive list of possible actions that can be put in place to make RRI and integral part of your research. You may choose those that are relevant to your project.

- Involve all partners and participants in ongoing considerations of RRI throughout the project life.
- > Draft and regularly update your data management plan to ensure the sustainability of your research (consider the use of open access data storage platforms).
- Disseminate results/outcomes of your research on open access platforms (ex. <u>arXiv</u>, <u>Github</u>, etc.).
- Disseminate your research results/outcomes towards the general public (scientific outreach).
- Reflect on your research with regards to ethical issues, in particular with regards to privacy and data protection issues, IP protection, etc..
- Encourage the implication of early career researchers in your research projects.
- Provide equal opportunities for researchers of all genders (see annex 2).
- Involve relevant stakeholders in your project at the earliest possible stage and consider the involvement of RRI experts in your project implementation.