

This is an English translation of the German Call for funding provided for informational purposes only. Only the German text is legally binding.

Federal Ministry of Education and Research

Framework announcement as part of the Federal Government's strategy for the internationalisation of education, science and research

Guideline for the funding of projects in research and innovation cooperation with the countries of the Eastern Partnership and Central Asia

Call for funding

German-Ukrainian research cooperation for sustainable reconstruction

from 01 October 2024

This call for funding is part of the announcement of the Federal Government's strategy for the internationalisation of education, science and research - Guidelines for the funding of projects in research and innovation cooperation with the countries of the Eastern Partnership and Central Asia of 17 August 2023 (BAnz AT 19.10.2023 B4).

The war-related destruction of the research infrastructure as well as flight and displacement are affecting the entire scientific landscape in Ukraine. This is of particular importance, as a modern and efficient science and innovation system is essential for reconstruction and overcoming the consequences of the war. Scientific findings and technological innovations are crucial for the efficient restoration of the economy and infrastructure, improving healthcare and securing a sustainable energy supply.

Germany has established itself as an important partner for Ukraine in the areas of research, development and innovation, both before and during the Russian war of aggression. The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is intensively involved in expanding bilateral German-Ukrainian cooperation and supporting Ukraine in rebuilding its science system. In addition to strengthening research and innovation capacities in Ukraine, bilateral cooperation also aims to support Ukrainian science in its integration into European and international knowledge networks.

The aim of this call is to support the Ukrainian scientific landscape in maintaining its existing scientific potential and expanding its research capacities. This should also reduce emigration from the Ukrainian science system and promote brain circulation between Germany and Ukraine. At the same time, Germany's position as a key partner of Ukraine in the field of research and innovation is to be strengthened and German universities and non-university research institutions are to be given the opportunity to develop new approaches to cooperation with partners from Ukraine.

With this largely open-topic call for funding, pilot projects in which German and Ukrainian partner institutions work together on research and development topics of mutual interest are funded in a competitive process. The research and development projects could, for example, relate to key sectors of the Ukraine Plan that are relevant to reconstruction or to the priority areas of bilateral German-Ukrainian cooperation in research and innovation. This could include, but is not limited to, the following topics:

- Research related to the energy, health, agriculture or transport sectors
- Information-, manufacturing- or biotechnology

- Research into new materials
- Interdisciplinary humanities, social and economic sciences, e.g. in relation to reforms in the areas of politics, law or economics
- Green transition or environmental protection

In addition to working on a joint research project, the aim is to maintain and expand research capacities in Ukraine through the possibility of transferring parts of the funding to the partner institution in Ukraine. The transfer (see [framework announcement](#), point 3, module 7) of expenditure for small equipment, researchers (primarily doctoral students) and open science measures of the Ukrainian partner is particularly welcomed. Researchers in Ukraine should also be given access to research infrastructures and resources in Germany (e.g. through remote and database access). Particular attention is paid to the involvement of young researchers in both Germany and Ukraine.

The research projects should contribute to the establishment or expansion of long-term partnerships between the participating institutions so that they are sustainable and last beyond the end of the funding period. To this end, the thematic programmes of the BMBF, the funding opportunities of German and international foundations, the programmes of the EU and national and international organisations or, if applicable, the national programmes of Ukraine should also be taken into account.

Eligible for funding are international individual or joint projects that have the potential to establish sustainable cooperation with Ukrainian partners in accordance with the funding purpose described above and Module 7 of the [framework announcement](#).

The grants are awarded as project funding as a non-repayable subsidy. At least one partner organisation from Ukraine is required for the measure. Under Module 7, funding is generally up to EUR 300,000 per project for the German side, usually for a period of up to 36 months. Within the scope of this maximum funding amount, it is possible to pass on parts of the grant to the foreign partner as the final grant recipient. For non-commercial research projects at universities and university hospitals, a project lump sum of 20% is granted in addition to the eligible expenditure financed by the BMBF. In addition to at least one Ukrainian partner, the participation of partners from third countries is generally possible without funding.

In the first stage of the procedure, project outlines must first be submitted to the project management organisation in written and/or electronic form via the electronic outline tool "easy-Online" at: https://foerderportal.bund.de/easyonline/reflink.jsf?m=IB-GUS/RUS&b=FF_WIEDERAUFBAU_UKR&t=SKI. The project outlines must be submitted by 31 January 2025 at the latest. The project outline must be submitted by the German applicant or consortium together with at least one or more scientific institutions from Ukraine.

The project outline must be submitted in German or English and should contain the following information:

- Information on the project coordinator and the German and foreign project partners,
- Presentation of the project objective and work plan,
- Information on the state of the art in science and technology at the interested party,
- Assessment of the utilisation/application possibilities,
- Measures to integrate young scientists from Germany and Ukraine,
- Measures for communicating the research process and the research results (if applicable),
- Estimated expenditure/costs (including third-party participation and expected funding requirements and, if applicable, project lump sum)

The project outlines should not exceed 10 pages (plus attachments) DIN A4.

The submission deadlines are not a cut-off deadline. However, project outlines received after the deadline specified above may no longer be considered.

Please address any questions to:

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Further information can be found at:

<https://www.bmbf.de/forschungsperspektiveost>

Notice

This is an informal call for proposals based on the [announcement of](#) the Federal Government's Strategy for the Internationalisation of Education, Science and Research - Guidelines for the funding of projects in research and innovation cooperation with the countries of the Eastern Partnership and Central Asia of 17 August 2023 (Banz AT 19.10.2023 B4). The provisions of this framework announcement apply unchanged to submitted outlines.

Bonn, the 01.10.2024

Federal Ministry of Education and Research

On behalf of

Florian Frank