

The 1st Meeting of the Austrian - Bosnian-Herzegovinian Joint Commission for scientific and technological co-operation in accordance with Article 5 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina on scientific and technological cooperation of 8 February 2016, took place in Vienna, 24 May 2018.

The Austrian delegation was headed by Christian Autengruber, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria.

The Bosnian-Herzegovinian delegation was headed by Ammar Miraščija, Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The set-up of the two delegations can be found in Annex 1.

The Joint Commission adopted the following agenda:

1. Exchange of information on science and research
2. Discussion and adoption of the Work Programme
3. Next meeting and 1st call for project proposals for the period 2019-2020
4. Effectiveness of the Protocol

Ad 1 Exchange of information on science and research

The sides exchanged information on current developments of their national research policies. The Joint Commission expressed its confidence that the implementation of the bilateral programme will further contribute to the development of beneficial links between scientific institutions and research organizations as well as researchers and scientists of both countries and will enable them to use their scientific potential more efficiently and fruitfully in regional as well as multilateral projects. Both sides reached an understanding to encourage their researchers to jointly participate in EU projects, especially in H2020 and COST.

Ad 2 Adoption of the Work Programme for the years 2018-2020

The Joint Commission discussed and adopted the Work Programme for the years 2018 - 2020.

The Work Programme includes regulations about the forms and aspects of co-operation, general administrative regulations, the administration of the exchange of scientists and experts as well as financial regulations.

A copy of the Work Programme for the years 2018 - 2020 is attached as part of this Protocol as Annex 2.

Ad 3 Next meeting and call for project proposals for the period 2019-2020

The Joint Commission has reached an understanding that upcoming calls for proposals will be published in principal on a biannual basis by the responsible institutions at least six months prior to the meetings of the Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Co-operation.

Both sides agree to send the list of eligible proposals received on their side within 20 working days from the closure of the call.

The call for project proposals will be open from 15 June 2018 to 30 September 2018.

Both sides have reached an understanding to hold the 2nd Meeting of the Joint Commission in Sarajevo in December 2018. The exact date will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

Ad 4 Effectiveness of the Protocol

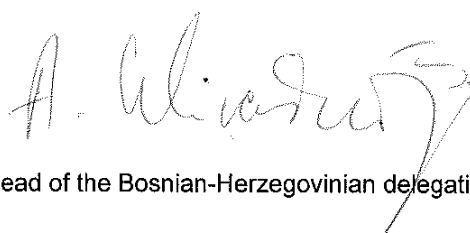
This Protocol will remain effective until 31 December 2020. It will remain effective beyond this date until a new Protocol becomes effective for a maximum period of another year.

Done in Vienna on 24 May 2018 in two English original copies.



Head of the Austrian delegation

Christian Autengruber
Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and
Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria



Head of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian delegation

Ammar Miraščija
Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Work Programme
for the Years 2018-2020**

Adopted on the occasion of the First Meeting of the Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Co-operation, held in Vienna on 24 May 2018, implementing the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina on scientific and technological cooperation, concluded in Sarajevo on 8 February 2016.

Vienna, 24 May 2018

1. Forms of Co-operation
2. Aspects of Co-operation
3. General Administrative Regulations
4. Administration of the Exchange of Scientists and Experts
5. Financial Regulations

1. Forms of Co-operation

- 1.1 According to Article 3 of the Agreement, joint co-operation projects will be carried on between Austrian and Bosnian-Herzegovinian institutions. A joint co-operation project is an agreed activity with clearly defined objectives to be achieved within a specific time frame. Each project will normally be of two years' duration, implemented through exchanges of people and information.
- 1.2 For the preparation and realization of joint co-operation projects financial support is given for mobility of researchers participating in the co-operation projects.

2. Aspects of Co-operation

- 2.1 The delegations agreed to provide mobility funds for co-operation projects from all scientific fields. Co-operation projects with the potential to lead to future multilateral co-operations within Austrian, Bosnian-Herzegovinian, and European research and innovation programmes will be favoured.
- 2.2 The funding of mobility costs within the framework of this Agreement is also particularly intended to support the participation of young scientists and to pay attention to a balanced involvement of female and male researchers (gender equality).

3. General Administrative Regulations

3.1 Responsible Institutions

3.1.1. In Austria:

The implementation of the work programme lies within the responsibility of the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH), ICM - Centre for International Cooperation and Mobility

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The Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH) is an institution commissioned by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research.

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3.1.2. In Bosnia and Herzegovina:

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3.2 Selection procedure of co-operation projects

3.2.1 The upcoming calls for proposals will be published on a biennial basis by the responsible institutions (3.1) at least six months prior to the meetings of the Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Co-operation.

3.2.2 Submitted project applications have to include:

1. Topic
2. Names and addresses of the co-operating Austrian and Bosnian-Herzegovinian institutions, Austrian and Bosnian-Herzegovinian co-ordinators and research team members
3. Description of the proposed research subject and objectives, including the methodological part
4. Work plan, start date and duration of the co-operation project
5. Proof of qualifications of the co-ordinators
6. Involvement of young and female scientists (if applicable)
7. Project budget description
8. Further cooperation perspective

3.2.3 A joint project proposal has to be prepared jointly by the Austrian and Bosnian-Herzegovinian researchers and has to be submitted to the national institutions responsible for implementing the work programme (3.1).

3.2.4 Only project applications received by all respective responsible institutions (3.1) will be eligible for evaluation. The responsible institutions agreed to send the list of eligible proposals received on their side within 20 working days after the closure of the call and the results of national evaluations at least 10 working days before the selection meeting to all participating responsible institutions.

3.2.5. Applications will be considered on the basis of the following evaluation criteria:

- Scientific value of the intended research project
- Feasibility of the joint research plan and adequacy of the scientific method
- Competence and expertise of the scientists/research teams involved
- Added value expected from the bilateral research collaboration
- Potential for further or future international cooperation

- Promotion of young and female research talent

3.2.6 The final list of co-operation projects to be supported will be adopted by the Joint Commission.

3.3. At the end of the second year of the project, the project leaders have to submit a jointly prepared final report on the progress and results of their research activities to the Austrian and Bosnian-Herzegovinian institutions responsible for the implementation of the work programme (3.1).

3.4 The exploitation, possible patent registration and publication of project results are subject to the national laws which are in force in Austria and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

4. Administration of the Exchange of Scientists and Experts

4.1 The co-operating partners have to agree on the date and duration of a stay at the host institution at least three weeks prior to the intended date of visit.

4.1.1 The Austrian project leader will notify the Bosnian-Herzegovinian scientist in question at the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH).

4.1.2 The Bosnian-Herzegovinian project leader will notify the Austrian scientist in question at the Ministry of Civil Affairs, Department for Science.

4.2 Each side will facilitate the access to its scientific institutions, libraries, archives and museum collections for the project partners of the other side that are sent in the framework of the Austrian - Bosnian-Herzegovinian Agreement on scientific and technological co-operation. Furthermore, both sides guarantee the free exchange of scientific information and documentation in conformity with their national laws and financial possibilities.

5. Financial Regulations

- 5.1 For the first call, the Austrian side will cover the travel costs of persons sent and received as well as the accommodation costs of persons hosted in Austria and if necessary in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Bosnian-Herzegovinian side will support Austrian researchers in finding appropriate accommodation.
- 5.2 The financial regulations will be specified in the call text
- 5.3 Bosnian-Herzegovinian scientists will receive payment personally at the local offices of the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH) or directly at the Austrian host institution.
- 5.4 The sending side will assure that the scientists and experts sent have necessary and adequate health insurance coverage.