## **PROTOCOL**

of the Montenegrin - Austrian Joint Commission
for Scientific and Technological Co-operation implementing the Agreement between the
Government of Montenegro and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and
Technological Co-operation of 10 June 2009

Podgorica/Vienna, 23 October 2020



The Montenegrin - Austrian Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Co-operation in accordance with Article 5 of the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and Technological Co-operation of 10 June 2009 (for the list of delegation members see Annex 1), herewith adopts the following:

#### 1 Adoption of the Work Programme for the years 2021-2022

The Joint Commission adopts the Work Programme for the Years 2021-2022.

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

A copy of the Work Programme for the Years 2021-2022 is attached as part of this Protocol in Annex 2.

## 2 Selection of projects for the period 2021-2022

The Joint Commission agrees upon financing mobility costs of 11 cooperation projects lasting from 1st January 2021 to 31th December 2022 as listed in Annex 3.

Due to the current health situation in the world, caused by COVID-19 pandemic and related travel restrictions the term can be extended up to one year. The extension has to be confirmed accordingly by the respective agency/ministry.

#### 3 Next meeting and call for project proposals for the period 2023-2024

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

The Sides also decide 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 1 March 2022 to 30 April 2022.

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Both Sides have reached an understanding to hold the 5th Meeting of the Joint Commission in Vienna in the second half of 2022. The exact date will be agreed upon through (diplomatic) notes by e-mail.

#### 4 Effectiveness of the Protocol

This Protocol will remain effective until 31 December 2022. It will remain effective beyond this date until a new Protocol becomes effective for a maximum period of another year.

Done in Podgorica/Vienna on 23.40.2020.

Head of the Montenegrin delegation:

x S. Pocelevic'

Ministry of Science of Montenegro

Head of the Austrian delegation:

Federal Ministry for European and

International Affairs

# Work Programme for the Years 2021-2022

Adopted by the Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Co-operation, implementing the Agreement between the Government of Montenegro and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and Technological Co-operation, concluded in Podgorica, on 10 June 2009.

- 1. Forms of Co-operation
- 2. Aspects of Co-operation
- 3. General Administrative Regulations
- 4. Financial Regulations



## 1. Forms of Co-operation

- 1.1 According to Article 3 of the Agreement, joint co-operation projects in the field of science and technology between Montenegrin and Austrian researchers will be supported by funding the mobility of researchers.
- 1.2 The Joint Commission will select joint research projects for funding on the basis of public calls for project proposals. The project duration will be two years.
- 1.3 The costs arising from joint co-operation projects shall be balanced between the two sides.

## 2. Aspects of Co-operation

- 2.1 The Joint Commission agreed to support co-operation projects in all research fields.
- 2.2 Project applications with the potential for follow-up applications in bilateral and multilateral co-operation programs in Austria, Montenegro and the EU will be favoured.
- 2.3 Project applications by early-stage or mid-career researchers and/or project applications with participation of young and/or female researchers will be favoured.

#### 3. General Administrative Regulations

#### 3.1 Responsible Institutions:

#### 3.1.1 In Austria:

The mobility funding programme will be implemented by the OeAD GmbH - Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research

Ebendorferstrasse 7, 1010 Vienna

Telephone:

+43 1 53408-472

Fax:

+43 1 53408-499

Email:

wtz@oead.at

Internet:

http://www.oead.at/wtz

The OeAD GmbH is an institution commissioned by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research to implement this funding programme.

Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

Department for International Research Co-operation and Science Diplomacy

Rosengasse 2-6, 1014 Vienna

Telephone: +43 53120 7132

Fax:

+43 1 53120 997132

Email:

christian.gollubits@bmbwf.gv.at

Internet:

http://www.bmbwf.gv.at

## 3.1.2 In Montenegro

Ministry of Science

Division for International Co-operation and European Integration

Rimski trg 46, 81102 Podgorica

Telephone: ++ 382 20 405 371

e-mail: ivana.lagator@mna.gov.me

Internet: http://www.mna.gov.me

- Selection procedure of co-operation projects and administration 3.2
- The upcoming calls for proposals for bilateral research projects according to Article 3 3.2.1 of the Agreement 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.
- 3.2.2 Submitted project applications have to include:
  - Topic
  - Names and contact information of the co-operating Austrian and Montenegrin institutions, Austrian and Montenegrin Principal Investigators and research team members
  - Project description (subject, objective and methodology)
  - Work plan
  - Qualifications of the Principal Investigators and research team members
  - Project budget
  - Further cooperation perspective
- 3.2.3 Project applications have to be prepared jointly by the Montenegrin and Austrian Principal Investigators and have to be submitted to both respective responsible institutions (3.1) according to the criteria defined in the call text.

- 3.2.4 Only project applications received in time by all respective responsible institutions (3.1) will be eligible for evaluation. The responsible institutions will exchange the lists of eligible applications received 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.
- 3.2.5 Evaluation criteria for applications:
  - Scientific quality incl.
    - Feasibility of the joint research plan
    - o Adequacy of the scientific method
    - Qualification of the Principal Investigators and research team members
  - Plausibility of the described further cooperation perspective
  - Promotion of young and female research talent
- 3.2.6 The responsible institutions (3.1) will provide the Joint Commission with a joint short list of evaluated project applications as a basis for the selection meeting.
- 3.2.7 The Joint Commission will take the final funding decision, either at a physical meeting or via exchange of Emails.
- 3.2.8 A brief midterm report has to be submitted to and adopted by the respective responsible institutions (3.1) after the first year of the project duration as a precondition for continued funding.
- 3.2.9 A final report about the results of their research activities has to be submitted no more than 3 months after the expiration of the project duration by the Principal Investigators to the respective responsible institutions (3.1).
- 3.2.10 The exploitation, possible patent registration and publication of project results are subject to the respective national and international laws that are applicable to both sides.
- 3.3. Administration of the Exchange of Researchers and Experts
- 3.3.1 The project 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.

- 3.3.2 The Austrian Principal Investigator will notify the Montenegrin researcher in question at the responsible institution in Austria (3.1.1).
- 3.3.3 The Montenegrin Principal Investigator will notify the Austrian researcher in question at the responsible institution in Montenegro (3.1.2).

## 4. Financial Regulations

4.1 Each side will cover the travel costs of their outgoing researchers and the accommodation costs of incoming researchers.

## 4.2 <u>Accommodation grants in Austria</u>

- 4.2.1 EUR 100. per working day for Montenegrin researchers travelling to Austria for up to 14 days OR EUR 1400.- per month for long-term visits between 14 days and 3 months maximum will be granted.
- 4.2.2 EUR 100. per working day for Montenegrin doctoral students travelling to Austria for up to 12 days OR EUR 1,250.- per month for long-term visits between 12 days and 3 months maximum will be granted.
- 4.2.3 Montenegrin researchers 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.

## 4.3 Accommodation grants in Montenegro

- 4.3.1 EUR 100. per working day for Austrian researchers travelling to Montenegro for up to 14 days OR EUR 1,400. per month for long-term visits between 14 days and 3 months maximum will be granted.
- 4.3.2 EUR 100.- per working day for Austrian doctoral students travelling to Montenegro for up to 12 days OR EUR 1,250.- per month for long-term visits between 12 days and 3 months maximum will be granted.
- 4.3.3 Austrian researchers will receive payment directly at the Montenegrin host institution.

#### 4.4 Health insurance:

The sending side will assure that outgoing personnel is sufficiently insured for health.