

PROTOCOL

of the 9th Meeting of the Slovenian – Austrian Joint Committee
for Scientific and Technological Cooperation implementing the Agreement between the
Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Austria on
Scientific and Technological Cooperation of 8 May 1998
as amended by the Protocol of Amendment of 30 June 2009

Ljubljana and Vienna, 13 December 2022

The Slovenian – Austrian Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation in accordance with Article 5 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of 8 May 1998 as amended by the Protocol of Amendment of 30 June 2009 (for the list of delegation members see Annex 1), herewith adopts the following:

1 Adoption of the Work Programme for the Years 2023 - 2024

The Joint Committee discussed and adopted the Work Programme for the Years 2023 - 2024.

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

A copy of the Work Programme for the Years 2023 - 2024 is attached as part of this Protocol as Annex 2.

2 Selection of projects for the period 2023-2024

The Slovenian and Austrian side received 35 applications, all 35 project proposals were considered for co-funding.

The Joint Committee agreed upon financing mobility costs of 34 cooperation projects lasting from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024 listed in Annex 3.

The Slovenian side will cover costs of up to EUR 3.000 per project for the whole duration of the project.

3 Next meeting and call for project proposals for the period 2025-2026

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

The Parties also agreed to send the list of proposals received on their side within 20 working days from the closure of the call.

The call for project proposals will be opened in spring 2024.

Both parties have reached an understanding to hold the 10th Meeting of the Joint Committee in Slovenia in the second half of 2024. The exact date will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

4 Adoption and Effectiveness of the Protocol

This Protocol will remain effective until 31 December 2024. It will remain effective beyond this date until a new Protocol becomes effective for a maximum period of another year.

Done in Ljubljana and Vienna, on 13 December 2019 in two English original copies.


Head of the Slovenian delegation



Ms. Tina Vuga

Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the
Republic of Slovenia

Head of the Austrian delegation



Mr. Christian Gollubits

Federal Ministry of Education, Science and
Research of the Republic of Austria

**Work Programme
for the Years 2023-2024**

Adopted by the Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, implementing the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of 8 May 1998 as amended by the Protocol of Amendment of 30 June 2009.

Ljubljana and Vienna, 13 December 2022

1. Forms of Co-operation
2. Aspects of Co-operation
3. General Administrative Regulations
4. Administration of the Exchange of Researchers 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 out between Austrian researchers and Slovenian research organizations. 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 realization of joint co-operation projects financial support is given for mobility of researchers as well as experts participating in the co-operation projects.
- 1.3 The costs arising from joint co-operation projects should be balanced between the two sides.

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 the European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation shall be favoured in order to stimulate the joint participation of Austrian and Slovenian researchers in European research programmes.
- 2.2 The financing of mobility costs within the framework of this Agreement is also particularly intended to support early career researchers 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 OeAD - Austria's Agency for Education and Internationalisation

Ebendorferstrasse 7, 1010 Vienna

Telephone: +43 1 53408-472

Email: wtz@oead.at

Internet: <http://www.oead.at/wtz>

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.

Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research
Department for International Research Co-operation
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 Slovenia

The implementation of the work programme lies within the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, EU and International Cooperation Office, Masarykova cesta 16, 1000 Ljubljana and the Slovenian Research Agency, Bleiweisova cesta 30, 1000 Ljubljana.

Ministry of Education, Science and Sport
EU and International Cooperation Office
Telephone: +386 1 400 53 94
Fax: +386 1 400 53 21
Email: slavi.krusic@gov.si
Internet: <http://www.mizs.gov.si/>

After reorganization of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia the new Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation will be responsible for international scientific cooperation.

Slovenian Research Agency
Department of Research Infrastructure and International Cooperation
Telephone: +386 1 400 59 50
Fax: +386 1 400 59 57
Email: fani.rozic-novak@arrs.si
Internet: <https://www.arrs.gov.si/>

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 Committee for Scientific and Technological Co-operation.

3.2.2 Submitted project applications in Austria have to include:

1. Topic
2. Names and addresses of the co-operating Austrian and Slovenian research institutions, Austrian and Slovenian 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 researchers (if applicable)
7. Project budget description
8. Further cooperation perspective

Submitted project applications in Slovenia have to be completed according to the call for proposals and application form.

3.2.3 A joint project proposal has to be prepared jointly by the Austrian and Slovenian 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 will exchange the lists 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.

3.2.5. Applications will be considered on the basis of evaluation criteria valid in each of the countries;

In Slovenia we are in the process of adopting new rules for evaluation of mobility projects, based on the following main criteria:

- Scientific excellence of the proposed project
- Social and economic impact of the proposed project
- Feasibility and efficiency of realization of the proposed project in terms of international cooperation

Evaluation criteria for applications in Austria:

- Scientific quality incl.

- Feasibility of the joint research plan
 - 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 final list of co-operation projects to be supported will be provided by the respective responsible institutions (3.1) and adopted by the Joint Committee.
- 3.3 Project progress reports have to be submitted as a precondition for further funding according to the national regulations.
- 3.4 At the end of the second year of the project, the project leaders have to submit a final report on the progress and results of their research activities to the Austrian institutions responsible for the implementation of the work programme and to the Slovenian institutions responsible for the implementation of the work programme after the projects are completed (3.1).
- 3.5 The exploitation, possible patent registration and publication of project results are subject to the national laws which are in force in Austria and Slovenia.
- 4. Administration of the Exchange of Researchers 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 Principal Investigator will notify the Slovenian scientist in question at the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH).
- 4.1.2 The Slovenian project leader autonomously plans and conducts visits from and to Austria.
- 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 Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. Furthermore, both sides guarantee free exchange of scientific

information and documentation in conformity with their national laws and financial possibilities.

5. Financial Regulations

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

5.2 Austrian Side:

5.2.1 EUR 100.- per working day for Slovenian researchers travelling to Austria 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.

5.2.2 EUR 100.- per working day for Slovenian 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.

5.2.3 Slovenian researchers will receive payment personally at the local offices of the Austria's Agency for Education and Internationalisation (OeAD) or directly at the Austrian host institution.

5.3 Slovenian Side:

5.3.1 For stays of Austrian researchers and experts in Slovenia the accommodation costs will be covered by the hosting institution that will also provide per-diems according to national regulations.

For short-term stays of up to 14 days the following rate in Euro (€) will be granted:

- paid accommodation up to 100,-€ per day and daily allowance in accordance with the Slovenian regulations on reimbursement of travel expenses (currently 21,39€).

For stays longer than 15 days the following rate in Euro (€) will be granted:

- paid accommodation up to 1250,-€ monthly and daily allowance in accordance with the Slovenian regulations on reimbursement of travel expenses (currently 21,39€).

5.4 The sending side (in Slovenia the sending institution) will assure that its outgoing researchers and experts have necessary and adequate health insurance coverage.