

PROTOCOL

of the Austrian - Macedonian Joint Commission
for Scientific and Technological Co-operation implementing the Agreement between the
Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the Government of the Republic of Austria on
Scientific and Technological Co-operation of 23 July 2007

Vienna/Skopje, 27 April 2026

The Austrian - Macedonian Joint Commission for scientific and technological co-operation in accordance with Article 5 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and Technological Co-operation of 23 July 2007 (for the list of delegation members see Annex 1), herewith adopts the following:

1 Adoption of the Work Programme for the Years 2026-2028

The Joint Commission discussed and adopted the Work Programme for the years 2026 – 2028.

The Work Programme includes administrative and financial regulations for the support of bilateral research projects as well as key aspects of future forms of cooperation.

A copy of the Work Programme for the years 2026 – 2028 is attached as part of this Protocol as Annex 2.

2 Selection of projects for the period 2026 – 2028

The Joint Commission agreed upon financing mobility costs of 14 cooperation projects lasting from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2028 listed in Annex 3.

3 Next meeting and call for project proposals for the period 2028 – 2030

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 next call for project proposals will be launched in the second half of 2027.

Both sides have reached an understanding to hold the next Meeting of the Joint Commission in Vienna in the first half of 2028. The exact date will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

4 Effectiveness of the Protocol

This Protocol will remain effective until 30 June 2028. It will remain effective beyond this date until a new Protocol becomes effective for a maximum period of another year.

Done in Vienna/Skopje, on 27 April 2026.

Head of Austrian Delegation
Mr. Christian Gollubits



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

Head of Macedonian Delegation
Ms. Julijana Balevska



Ministry of Education and Science
of the Republic of North Macedonia

Annex 2

Work Programme for the Years 2026 – 2028

Adopted by the Austrian – Macedonian Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Co-operation implementing the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of 23 July 2007.

1. Administrative Regulations
2. Financial Regulations
3. Framework for the next Call for Project Proposals

1. Administrative Regulations

- 1.1 In accordance with Article 2 of the Agreement, joint cooperation projects in the field of science and technology between Macedonian and Austrian researchers will be financially supported by both sides.
- 1.2 Funding will be provided for the mobility of researchers within the project's runtime of two years. In Austria project-related material costs up to EUR 3,000.- will be reimbursed as well.
- 1.3 The costs arising from joint cooperation projects should be balanced between the two sides.
- 1.4 The responsible institutions for the administrative and financial implementation of the projects are

1.4.1 in Austria:

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

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1.4.2 in North Macedonia:

Ministry of Education and Science

Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Str. No.54

1000 Skopje - Republic of North Macedonia

Telephone: +389 3 140 185

Email: andrea.aleksovski@mon.gov.mk

Internet: <http://www.mon.gov.mk>

1.5 Reporting

- 1.5.1 A brief midterm report has to be submitted to and adopted by the respective responsible institutions (1.4) after the first year of the project duration as a precondition for further funding.
- 1.5.2 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 (1.4).
- 1.6 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.

2. **Financial Regulations**

- 2.1 Each side will cover the travel and accommodation costs of their outgoing researchers.
- 2.2 Health insurance
The sending side will assure that outgoing personnel is sufficiently insured for health.

3. **Framework for the next Call for Project Proposals**

- 3.1 The Joint Commission agreed to support cooperation projects in all research fields.
- 3.2 Project applications with the potential for follow-up applications in bilateral and multilateral cooperation programs in Austria, Macedonia and the EU will be favoured.
- 3.3 In Austria, Project applications submitted by early-stage researchers as well as project applications with involvement of PhD/doctoral students and/or female researchers will be prioritized.
- 3.4 Project applications have to include:
 - Topic
 - Names and contact information of the cooperating Austrian and Macedonian institutions, Austrian and Macedonian Principal Investigators and research team members

- Project description (subject, objective and methodology, partner institutions, project tasks of ALL project members)
- Work plan
- Qualifications of the Principal Investigators and research team members
- Detailed budget plan
- Further cooperation perspective
- Brief description: monitoring, exit strategy, added value

3.5 Project applications have to be prepared jointly by the Austrian and Macedonian Principal Investigators and have to be submitted to both respective responsible institutions (1.4) according to the criteria defined in the call text.

3.6 Only project applications received in time by both respective responsible institutions (1.4) 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.

3.7 Evaluation criteria for applications:

- Scientific quality incl.
 - Feasibility of the joint research plan
 - Adequacy of the scientific method
 - Qualification of researchers
- Plausibility of the described further cooperation perspective
- Added value for the institution and Austria, monitoring, exit strategy
- Promotion of young and female research talent (in Austria)

3.8 The responsible institutions (1.4) will provide the Joint Commission with a joint short list of evaluated project applications as a basis for the selection meeting.

3.9 The Joint Commission will take the final funding decision, either at a physical meeting or via exchange of Emails.


