

PROTOCOL

of the 8th Meeting of the Austrian-Montenegrin Joint Commission
for Scientific and Technological Cooperation implementing the Agreement between the
Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of Montenegro on Scientific and
Technological Cooperation of 10 June 2009

Podgorica, 2 June 2026

The 8th Meeting of the Austrian-Montenegrin Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Cooperation in accordance with Article 5 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of Montenegro on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of 10 June 2009 took place in Podgorica, 2 June 2026.

The Austrian delegation was headed by Christian Gollubits, Federal Ministry of Women, Science and Research of the Republic of Austria.

The Montenegrin delegation was headed by Marko Vukašinović, Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation of Montenegro.

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. Selection of projects for the period 2026-2028;
4. Next meeting and call for project proposals for the period 2028-2030;
5. Adoption and Effectiveness of the Protocol.

Ad 1 Exchange of information on science and research

Both sides supplied 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 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.

Ad 2 Adoption of the Work Programme

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.

Ad 3 Selection of projects for the period 2026-2028

The Joint Commission agreed upon financing mobility costs of 9 cooperation projects lasting from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2028 listed in Annex 3.

The Austrian side supports each bilateral project up to an amount of EUR 10,000.-.

The Montenegrin side supports each bilateral project up to an amount of EUR 10,000.-.

Ad 4 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 principal 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 autumn 2027.

Both sides have reached an understanding to hold the 9th Meeting of the Joint Commission in Vienna in the first half of 2028. The exact date will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

Ad 5 Adoption and 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 Podgorica, on 2 June 2026 in two English original copies.

Head of the Austrian delegation

Mr. Christian Gollubits
Federal Ministry of Women, Science and
Research of the Republic of Austria

Head of the Montenegrin delegation

Mr. Marko Vukašinović
Ministry of Education, Science and
Innovation of Montenegro

**Work Programme
for the years 2026-2028**

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

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

1. Administrative Regulations

- 1.1 In accordance with Article 3 of the Agreement, joint cooperation projects in the field of science and technology between Austrian and Montenegrin 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. Project-related material costs up to EUR 3,000.- in total may 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.

Federal Ministry of Women, Science and Research

Minoritenplatz 5, 1010 Vienna

Telephone: +43 53120 7132

Email: christian.gollubits@bmbwf.gv.at

Internet: <http://www.bmbwf.gv.at>

1.4.2 in Montenegro:

Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation

Division for International Cooperation and EU Funds in the Field of Science and Innovation

Vaka Đurovića bb, Podgorica

E-mail: ivana.lagator@mpni.gov.me

lidija.vukcevic@mpni.gov.me

Internet: <https://www.gov.me/mps>

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 later than 6 weeks in Austria, and no later than 1 month in Montenegro, 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, Montenegro, and the EU will be favoured.
- 3.3 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 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
- 3.5 Project applications have to be prepared jointly by the Austrian and Montenegrin 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;
 - Perspective for further joint cooperation activities
 - Added value for the institution and Austria, monitoring, exit strategy
 - Promotion of early stage researchers, involvement of doctoral students and female research talent
- 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.