

Call for Mobility Project Proposals

Identification information

Partner country:	Belgium (Flanders)
Partner organisation:	Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO)
Programme:	Mobility Projects
Period:	2017–2018
Call frequency:	Every two years (next call planned for 2018)

Legal framework

The call is based on the **Agreement on scientific cooperation** of the year **1996** between the Czech Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as CAS) and the Research Foundation - Flanders (hereinafter referred to as FWO), and in accordance with art. 2 par. 2 of the **Act No. 283/1992 Coll., on the Czech Academy of Sciences**, as amended, and art. 3 par. 2 of the **Statutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences**.

Basic definitions

Objectives

- Improvement of scientific cooperation between both countries;
- Stimulation of involvement of junior researchers and PhD students;
- Supporting research teams aspiring to cooperate on large international projects in the future;
- Enabling the use of methodology, infrastructure and equipment for the mutual benefit of both research groups.

Eligibility criteria

Project proposals from **all research fields** are accepted.

Maximum project duration is **2 years, i.e. 24 months**; extension beyond this period is not permitted.

Project proposals can be submitted:

- **On the Czech side** by a CAS Institute (<http://new.avcr.cz/en/about-us/cas-structure/research-institutes/>);
- **On the Flemish side**, the applicant needs to hold, throughout the entire period of the project, an appointment of at least 50% at:
 - a university in the Flemish Community (including the academic programmes within the corresponding association), or at
 - a federal or Flemish scientific institute as scientific staff of the Dutch-speaking community of, or at
 - a university hospital in the Flemish Community as scientific staff, or at
 - a hospital with an academic character recognized as research centre in the Flemish Community as scientific staff.

In case the Flemish/Czech Principal Investigator submits more than one project proposal within one call, only one of them can be funded.

Second project proposal might be submitted only after the end of the first project's implementation.

Only two subsequent projects realized by the same research teams can be funded.

Research team

Each research team consists of:

- One Principal Investigator (senior or junior researcher);
- One or more co-investigators.

On the Czech side:

The research team members are divided into four categories:

- Senior researchers (5 or more years after receiving PhD);
- Junior researchers – postdocs (less than 5 years after receiving PhD);
- PhD students;
- Others (engineers, technicians).

All research team members must be affiliated to a CAS Institute.

Out of the whole team, at least 1/3 must be junior researchers or PhD students.

On the Flemish side:

The Principal Investigator (promotor-spokesman), submitting the application, must have obtained a PhD degree.

At least one junior researcher (with less than 6 years of experience after receiving his/her PhD degree) must be included in the project and be involved in the exchanges.

Throughout the entire period of the project, all research team members must be affiliated to:

- a university in the Flemish Community (including the academic programmes within the corresponding association), or to
- a federal or Flemish scientific institute as scientific staff of the Dutch-speaking community, or to
- a university hospital in the Flemish Community as scientific staff, or to
- a hospital with an academic character recognized as research centre in the Flemish Community as scientific staff.

Range of exchanges

Number and length of visits and shares of individual research team members in exchanges must reflect the scope and objectives of the project and planned activities.

Days not used during one year cannot be transferred to subsequent years of the project.

Maximum exchange quota is 21 days per research team and year.

Maximum length of one visit is not assigned.

Financial provisions

Funding is provided in the form of **financial contributions toward the costs of mobility** (exchanges of Czech and Flemish research team members) in direct connection with the implementation of the project.

Financial contributions must be calculated and provided in compliance with the valid national legislation and internal regulations of the partner organisations.

Financial contributions can be provided only in the year of the exchange realisation, i.e. unclaimed requirements for financial contributions cannot be claimed in subsequent years.

Provision of financial contributions by the partner organisations is subject to availability of funds.

Financial contributions to Czech research team members

- **For international transportation: the CAS Institute** covers the international transport expenses from the Czech Republic to Belgium and back and the travel insurance.
- **For subsistence in Belgium: the FWO** pays a living allowance of **EUR 66 per person per day** (or max. **EUR 1,650 per person per month**) to cover accommodation, meals, domestic transport and incidental expenses.

Financial contributions to Flemish research team members

- **For international transportation: the FWO** covers the international transport expenses from Belgium to the Czech Republic and back. During their travel and stay abroad, all researchers involved in CAS-FWO projects and independent of nationality, can rely on a travel and assistance insurance and repatriation covered by FWO. This insurance is not a health insurance.
- **For subsistence in the Czech Republic: the CAS Head Office** covers following:
 - Accommodation expenses up to CZK 1,600 per person per night;**
 - Meal allowance and pocket money** in accordance with applicable legislation (Part VII. Act No. 262/2006 Coll., the Labour Code, as amended) and in accordance with the internal rules – **in 2017, up to CZK 554 per person per day;**
 - Domestic transport expenses** by Czech long-distance public transport (bus, train; economy class) **in actual amount spent**, original ticket receipts required; the daily transfers between accommodation facility and the workplace are not reimbursable.

The above stated amounts are valid on the date of the call for proposals and are meant for the purposes of calculation of the project budget. In the event of significant changes in price levels or a change in legislation in the field of travel expenses, partner organizations reserve the right to make appropriate modifications to the above stated amounts and/or the method of calculation.

Project proposal submission

Project proposals must be submitted in parallel to both partner organisations whereas the names of Czech and Flemish submitting institutions, applying Principal Investigators and other research team members, project title, project description, methodology, work plan of activities and outputs etc. must be identical.

All members of the Czech and Flemish research teams should have or create an account on the FWO e-portal (<http://www.fwo-eloket.be/FWO.ELoket.WebUI/Login.aspx>) and keep their publication list up to date.

On the Czech side:

- The form of project proposal is available for download on the CAS website in the International cooperation section (http://int.avcr.cz/sd/novinky/hlavni-stranka/news_0008.html).
- The project proposal must be submitted in English to the CAS Head Office by the CAS Institute within the below stated deadline (the date of posting is decisive), namely:
 - By mail in one copy (printed single sided in the A4 format, signed, stamped and unbound), envelope labelled „FWO – Mobility Projects“, addressed to the contact person (see below); and simultaneously
 - Electronically (one file copy - a completed Word form for administrative purposes) to the e-mail address of the contact person (see below).
- Proposals submitted in other than the above described way may be rejected on formal grounds.

By submitting a project proposal, the applicant:

- Agrees to processing of personal data within the meaning of the Act No. 101/2000 Coll., On Personal Data Protection, as amended;
- Declares that the information he/she stated is accurate, true and complete and that he/she is aware that if otherwise they will face all the legal consequences;
- Declares that, if approved, he/she will during the realization of the project follow:
 - The Code of Ethics of researchers at the Czech Academy of Sciences (<http://www.avcr.cz/en/about-us/legal-regulations/code-of-ethics-for-researchers-of-the-czech-academy-of-sciences/>);
 - The European Charter and Code for researchers (http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/pdf/brochure_rights/kina21620b1c_cs.pdf);
 - Recommendations of the International Commission "Self-Control in Science" - Recommendations of the International Commission on Professional Self-Regulation in Science (http://www.dfg.de/download/pdf/dfg_im_profil/reden_stellungnahmen/download/empfehlung_wiss_praxis_1310.pdf).

On the Flemish side:

The project proposal must be submitted simultaneously to the FWO. Conditions for submission and relevant forms are available from its website (<http://www.fwo.be/en/fellowships-funding/international-collaboration/scientific-cooperation/cooperation-with-the-czech-republic/>).

Evaluation and Selection

Consists of a two-step process:

- At the national level, each partner organisation evaluates submitted proposals based on its internal rules and prepares a ranking list.
- At the international level, both partner organisations exchange their ranking lists, merge them, negotiate the final ranking and approve the proposals selected for funding. Total number of projects approved for funding is dependent on the financial possibilities of both partner organizations.

Criteria for evaluation of project proposals

- **Quality of the project:**
 - Scientific relevance (concept, innovative character in relation to the state-of-the art, quality of objectives);
 - Methodology, work plan of activities and outputs;
 - Impact of project results, their dissemination and exploitation.
- **Quality of research teams:**
 - Composition and expertise of research teams;
 - Complementarity, methodology and equipment; previous cooperation and outputs;
 - Justification of collaboration needs.
- **Active involvement of junior researchers and PhD students.**
- **Added value and broader impact of bilateral cooperation.**

Schedule

15.06.2016	Announcement of the call for project proposals
08.09.2016	Deadline for submission of project proposals
1 st half of 11/2016	Completion of the assessment at national level
11/2016	Completion of the joint selection at international level
11-12/2016	Approval of the final results by both partner organisations
2 nd half of 12/2016	Announcement of results

Contact persons

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