

## Call for Mobility Project Proposals

### Identification information

Partner country:	<b>BULGARIA</b>
Partner organisation:	<b>Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS)</b>
Programme:	<b>Mobility projects</b>
Period:	<b>1 January 2017 – 31 December 2019</b>

### Legal framework

The call is based on the Agreement on Scientific Cooperation between The Czech Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as CAS) and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS), 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 definition

#### Objectives

- Improvement of scientific cooperation between both countries;
- Stimulation of involvement of young 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 institutions.

#### Eligibility criteria

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

Maximum project duration is **3 years; i. m. 36 months**; extension beyond this period is not permitted.

Project proposal can be submitted:

- **On the Czech side** by a CAS institute;
- **On the Bulgarian side** by the institutes of the BAS.

In case applicant submits more than one project proposal within one call, only one of them can be funded.

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.

Research team members are divided into four categories:

- Senior researchers (5 and more years after receiving PhD.);
- Junior researchers – postdocs (less than 5 years after receiving PhD.);
- PhD Students ;
- Other (engineers, technicians).

### **On the Czech side:**

- All members must be employees of the CAS institutes.
- Out of the whole team, at least 1/3 must be junior researchers or PhD students.

### **On the Bulgarian side:**

- Employees of an institute of the BAS within a basic labour contract at a researcher's position, Ph.D. students from Institutes of the BAS

## **Range of exchanges**

**Number and length of exchanges 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 calendar year cannot be transferred to subsequent years of the project.

**Maximum exchange quota** is up to **21 days per research team and year/project** for each of the parties.

## **Financial provisions**

Funding is provided in the form of **financial contribution toward the costs of mobility** (exchanges of Czech and Bulgarian 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 contributors to Czech research team members:**

- a) **For international transportation – the CAS institute** covers the **international transport expenses** from the Czech Republic to the Bulgaria and back inclusive **travel insurance**.
- b) **For subsistence in Bulgaria – the BAS** covers
  - **Accommodation** of up to **25 euro/person/night**;
  - **Daily allowance – 40 BNG/person/day**;
  - **Domestic transport expenses by Bulgarian long-distance public transport (bus, train) in actual amount spent, original ticket receipts required**; the daily transfers between accommodation facility and the workplace are not reimbursable.

### **Financial contributions to partner research team members:**

- a) **For international transportation – the partner organization** covers the **international transport expenses from partner country to the Czech Republic and back**.
- b) **For subsistence - CAS Head office** covers:
  - **Accommodation expenses** of up to **1.600, - CZK/person/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 – for 2016 the maximum amount is **554, - CZK/person/day**;
  - **Domestic transport expenses** by Czech long-distance public transport (bus, train) 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.

### **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/>.
- The project proposal must be submitted to the CAS by the CAS institute within the 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 „Bulharsko/BAS – Mobility Projects 2017-2019“, addressed to the contact person (see below); and simultaneously
  - **electronically** (one file copy - a completed 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 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 Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic](#);
  - [The European Charter and Code for researchers](#);
  - [Recommendations of the International Commission "Self-Control in Science" \(Recommendations of the International Commission on Professional Self-Regulation in Science\)](#).

**On the partner side** (for information only):

The project proposal must be submitted to the BAS. Conditions for submission and relevant form/ s are available from the BAS website.

**Evaluation and Selection**

Consists of two-step process:

- At the national level, each partner organization evaluates submitted proposals based on its internal rules and prepares a ranking list.
- At the international level, both partner organisations exchange their ranking list, 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 use.
- **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

01. 04. 2016	Announcement of the call for project proposals
<b>31. 05. 2016 24:00</b>	Deadline for submission of project proposals
16. 09. 2016	Completion of the assessment at national level
18. 11. 2016	Completion of the joint assessment at international level
Beginning of 12/2016	Approval of the final results by both partner organisations
End of 12/ 2016	Announcement of results

## Contact persons

On the Czech side:

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