
COST – EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Issued: January 2019

Objectives and Funding:

COST brings together international research teams who work on specific topics in order to make use of existing pan-European knowledge, technical facilities, and financial resources, as well as to create lasting networks. The programme aims to foster networking by providing funding for meetings of work groups, training seminars, summer schools, exchange between (young) researchers, as well as publications/public relations. COST does not fund research itself. The main objective of COST is to create incentives for new, innovative, interdisciplinary networks of researchers in Europe. Moreover, COST assumes a pioneering role for topics, for which coordination on a European scale is not yet sufficiently established or for which there is no capacity in EU community programmes due to their narrow thematic scope. Financial support in the form of a grant amounts to approximately 130,000 euros per year over a maximum funding period of 4 years.

Proposal Procedure:

The proposal procedure takes place in a single stage. Thus, participants must submit a 15-page proposal, which will then be evaluated in a multi-stage process. (Approximately 25 new COST actions will receive funding per submission deadline.) Proposals should include participating researchers from at least seven COST member states (average number of partners: approximately 15-25 in ongoing COST actions). A work plan must be prepared detailing the involvement of working groups, as well as individual measures (such as meetings or public relations).

Participation is open to researchers from universities, research institutions, and businesses.

Participating States: 37 participating states are currently involved in COST: the 28 EU member states, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Norway, Switzerland, Serbia, and Turkey. Israel is involved as a cooperating state. Furthermore, institutions from "Near Neighbour Countries" and international partner countries may also participate in COST actions.

Submission deadline:

Currently, there are up to two submission deadlines per year. The current submission deadline can be found on the COST website http://www.cost.eu/participate/open_call.

Overview of ongoing COST actions:

The search function on the COST website provides an overview of all past or ongoing COST actions (<https://www.cost.eu/browse-actions/>). Further information on each action is available by clicking the respective link. Below the description and the main contacts the contents and work plans for each action can be found under "Action documents" in the "Memorandum of Understanding". All involved members can be found under the tab "Management Committee". It is possible to join an existing COST action (http://www.cost.eu/participate/join_action).

Online information:

COST website: <http://www.cost.eu>

COST office in Germany: <http://www.cost.dlr.de>

COST experts: http://www.cost.eu/participate/external_experts

Contact person at the EU Liaison Office

Dr Heike Gernns, Tel.: 0511 / 762-2701 Email: heike.gernns@zuv.uni-hannover.de