

PROTOCOL
OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNOLOGICAL CO-OPERATION
BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA AND HUNGARY

held by correspondence in June 2021

In accordance with Article 9 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Government of Hungary on Scientific and Technological Co-operation, signed on January 25, 2002, in Zagreb, the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia and the National Research, Development and Innovation Office of Hungary (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties") established the Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Co-operation (hereinafter referred to as "the Joint Committee"), in order to implement the above mentioned Agreement.

The Agreement is coordinated by the Ministry of Science and Education in Croatia and the National Research, Development and Innovation Office in Hungary.

1. Review of project proposals of Croatian and Hungarian research institutions for the period 2021 – 2023

1.1. Selection of projects

The Croatian implementing organization responsible for the overall management of this Protocol, the Ministry of Science and Education received **19** project proposals. After the eligibility check **16** projects were accepted and sent for evaluation.

The Hungarian executive agency being responsible for the overall management of this Protocol, the National Research, Development and Innovation Office received **17** project proposals. After the eligibility check **17** projects were accepted and sent for evaluation.

2 project proposals were submitted only to the Croatian side and were eliminated from further procedure.

1 further project was rejected by the Croatian side for eligibility reasons. Thus **16** matching project proposals were considered for co-funding.

Both Parties ranked the project proposals according to their internal procedures of review. On the basis of the scientific merits of the proposals, as measured by a peer review, and the mutual interest of the Countries, Parties decided to support **10** projects listed in *Annex 1*, which is an integral part of this Protocol, shall be jointly funded for the period of maximum two years.

Since the announcement of the call and consequently the selection of projects was significantly delayed due to measures related to the pandemic of COVID-19 in 2020-2021, the start of projects is postponed to 1st September, 2021. The projects will be funded from 1st September, 2021 to 31st August, 2023.

1.2. Financial conditions

Both Parties will grant financial support to the approved projects. The sending side shall cover the travel costs, the costs for accommodation and daily allowances for the visits of its own scientists who participate in exchanges.

The participants of the exchange visits on the basis of this Protocol should arrange for and cover the costs of their insurance for the time of their stay in the receiving country and for their travels to and from this country.

The implementing organizations responsible for the overall management of this Protocol will cover the costs of the exchange of scientists as follows:

The Croatian Side will provide a maximum of 6.500,00 EUR/project for the Croatian researchers to cover their travel costs, accommodation, daily allowance and other eligible costs for the duration of 2021-2023.

The Hungarian Side will provide a maximum of 2.000.000 HUF/project for the Hungarian researchers to cover their travel costs, accommodation, daily allowance and other eligible costs for the duration of 2021-2023.

1.3. Administrative conditions

At the end of the project a final report on the results achieved shall be submitted to the implementing organizations responsible for the overall management of this Protocol.

The reports might be evaluated by the Joint Committee in its forthcoming session.

2. Preparation of the next Call for Proposals for the period 2023 – 2025

Parties agreed to publish the next call for proposals in the second half of 2022 with the deadline for submission of project proposals not later than December 2022.

The priority fields of cooperation will be agreed by the Parties through correspondence and will be based on the national priorities in the field of science and technology.

The Parties agreed to encourage the cooperation of young scientists especially at postdoctoral level.

Priority will also be given to those project proposals that envisage a broader co-operation in the framework of EU Framework Programmes (Horizon Europe) and other European initiatives (such as EUREKA, COST).

Research projects will be developed jointly by researchers from scientific institutions in the two countries. The researchers will then submit these proposals to the respective executive agencies responsible for the overall management of this Protocol. The deadline for submission will be at least one month after the publication of the call for proposals; the exact date will be agreed by the executive agencies.

The implementing organizations responsible for the overall management of this Protocol will exchange the lists containing the basic data of the project proposals submitted to them. The executive agencies will review and assess the project proposals according to their internal procedures. The Joint Committee will select the projects to be funded during its forthcoming session.

3. Closing Provisions

The implementing organizations responsible for the overall management of this Protocol are
In Croatia:

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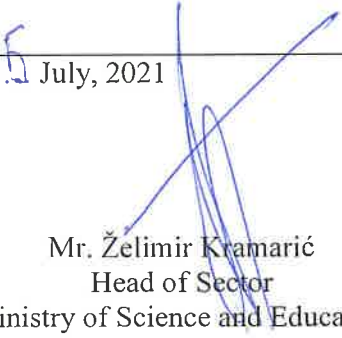
In Hungary:

Ms. Anita Csiszár
National Research, Development and Innovation Office
H-1077, Budapest, Kéthly Anna tér 1.
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Decisions on the utilisation of the results achieved in joint projects and on the possible registration of intellectual property rights (patents, utilisable models, industrial design, etc.) will be made in conformity with the internal laws and regulations of the countries of origin of the researchers, on the basis of mutual agreements reached by the co-operating institutes.

The Parties agree to hold the next meeting of the Joint Committee in Budapest, in the first half of 2023. The exact date of the meeting shall be agreed via correspondence.

The stipulations of this Protocol shall come into force upon its signing and shall prevail until the signing of the next Protocol.

<p>Zagreb, 5 July, 2021</p> <p></p> <p>Mr. Želimir Kramarić Head of Sector Ministry of Science and Education</p>	<p>Budapest, ... July, 2021</p> <p>Csuzdi Szonja</p> <p>Digitálisan aláírta: Csuzdi Szonja Dátum: 2021.07.05 09:14:19 +02'00'</p> <p>Ms. Szonja Csuzdi National Research, Development and Innovation Office</p>
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