#### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

by

the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) and

the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia (NITRA)

The Call is open between 1 September 2025 and 12 November 2025

#### **Preamble**

In the framework of the Protocol on Cooperation in Science and Technology between the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) and the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia (NITRA), this call is launched to enhance the cooperative activities in the field of research between two countries.

Within this Call, the project proposals that contribute to the current state of the art by producing new knowledge, making new scientific interpretations or solving technological problems are aimed to be funded.

TÜBİTAK and NITRA will fund project partners as funding institutions of the respective partner countries (Türkiye and Republic of Serbia). The projects will be supported with grants from the national budget in accordance with the respective national funding regulations of each partner country.

### 1. Objectives of this Call

The objectives of this call are to allow partners to collaborate internationally and gain access to new research environments, facilities, knowledge, and expertise in order to enhance the quality of their research.

# 2. Main Thematic Areas:

This call is open to applications in all areas of science and technology.

## 3. Financial Issues

TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with the rules of <u>TÜBİTAK 1071 Programme</u>. Similarly, NITRA-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia according to its funding guidelines and procedures.

The costs of exchange of experts, scientists and other specialists will be covered on the following basis:

• The sending Party will meet all related costs connected with travel, lodging and allowances according to their own regulations and allowances

### 3.1. On Turkish Side:

As a rule, Turkish partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 1.600.000 Turkish Liras per project. Overhead and Project Incentive Premium will not be paid for projects.

In the framework of this call, these budget items stated below will be funded by TÜBİTAK:

- Travel Expenses
  - Travel expenses for domestic field work
  - Domestic or foreign travel expenses for non-field activities
  - Travel expenses under bilateral cooperation
- Representation and Promotion Expenses (Up to 57.500 Turkish Liras)
- Scholarship Expenses

For Turkish team, the daily allowance will be paid in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 6245 along with the economy class flight tickets for the scientific visits from Türkiye to Republic of Serbia.

**3.2. On Serbian Side:** The planned project budget intended for financing mutual visits of researchers is **1.080.000 Serbian Dinars per project**.

The Serbian Party will provide financial support on domestic and foreign business trips for the Serbian research team members of the applicant's organization in accordance with the national regulations as follows:

- travel expenses to/from Türkiye for Serbian researchers up to the level of return air ticket price economy class
- accommodation and daily allowances up to 100 €/night for Serbian researchers in Türkiye and local travel costs, for a short term visits of a maximum of 7 days.
- accommodation and daily allowances up to 1200 € for Serbian researchers in Türkiye for a maximum of 30 days in one year for long term visits.
- travel health insurance for Serbian researchers during their stay in Türkiye
- possible relevant extra costs for Serbian researchers who accompany Turkish researchers in the Republic of Serbia (conference fees, travel, daily allowances, accommodation costs, etc.)

# 4. Duration of the Projects

The duration of the projects should not exceed 24 months and the total duration of international visits in one direction should not exceed two months (60 days) per year for the each supported joint research project.

The projects will be monitored through progress reports and the final report by both TÜBİTAK and NITRA for its content and progress.

# 5. Proposal Submission

The Joint Call will be open for applications between 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2025 and 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2025 through online application systems of TÜBİTAK and NITRA. While Turkish partners will submit their joint online application via TÜBİTAK's online system, <u>uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr</u>; Serbian partners will fill in the electronic application located on the website: <a href="https://bilateral-turkey.nitra.gov.rs/">https://bilateral-turkey.nitra.gov.rs/</a>.

- The partners should come to an agreement with each other using their own means of communication and jointly develop and complete their project proposal before submitting it to TÜBİTAK and NITRA. TÜBİTAK and NITRA do not match the collaborating partners.
- Project proposals must provide detailed information on the objectives and justification of the planned joint research work, the methodology to be followed, the composition of each research team and the intended time schedule.
- Project proposals must be submitted in parallel to both Partner organizations.

### 5.1. On Turkish Side:

- Turkish partners will make their joint online application via TÜBİTAK's online system, <u>uidb-</u> <u>pbs.tubitak.gov.tr</u>
- Turkish partners will use e-signature for their applications. Detailed information can be achieved via <a href="http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/281/ardeb\_e-imza\_yardim\_dokumani.pdf">http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/281/ardeb\_e-imza\_yardim\_dokumani.pdf</a>
- The final deadline to complete e-signature process is 19<sup>th</sup> of November (23:59 Turkish time). For Turkish side, in case there are two or more institutions within the same project, Turkish institutions should submit a single joint proposal.
- For Turkish side, the submissions of proposals by post, fax or e-mail will not be accepted.
- All Turkish researchers who apply for this Program should be registered to TÜBİTAK ARBIS

### 5.2. On Serbian Side:

- First step is to log on the site <a href="https://bilateral-turkey.nitra.gov.rs">https://bilateral-turkey.nitra.gov.rs</a> in order to receive the code for on-line filling in the project application.
- During the period when this Call is open, it is possible to upgrade and correct the project proposal/application on-line.
- Send the completed project application to the e-mail address: <u>prijava.turska@nitra.gov.rs</u>

#### **6.** The Evaluation Procedure

# 6.1. Eligibility Criteria

## **6.1.1** For Turkish Team

 Detailed information about eligibility rules can be found at: <a href="https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/2024-">https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/2024-</a>

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#### 6.1.2 For Serbian Team

- Serbian research team should follow the national rules and requirements, in accordance with relevant decision of NITRA.
- The right to participate have:
  - Persons performing scientific research activities (researchers), as well as teachers and associates employed at Higher Education institutions and Scientific research organizations in accordance with the Law on Science and Research ("Official Gazette of the RS, No. 49/19, hereinafter: the Law)
  - o Serbian research team of the bilateral project should participate in the implementation of the Institutional Financing Program and other programs of general interest in accordance with the Law.

#### **6.2. Evaluation Method**

- The final selection shall be based upon the mutual decision by the funding institutions. The
  applicable awarding institution will base its decision on the national evaluation procedure of
  proposals and within the scope of the available budget.
- The proposals that are deemed eligible will be evaluated by TÜBİTAK and NITRA in line with their own rules, regulations and decisions.

- At the international level, both partner organizations 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.
- Only the project proposals, which are approved both by TÜBİTAK and by NITRA, will be supported.

# 6.2.1 Criteria for evaluation of project proposals for Turkish Team:

- The proposals will be reviewed according to a certain set of evaluation criteria.
  - Scientific/Technological Excellence
  - Methodology
  - Project Management
  - Structure and Contribution of International Collaboration
  - Impact
- Awarded proposals will go through a pre-award stage, which starts after the announcement of results. During pre-award period, the awarded institution will be notified about the requirements.

# 6.2.2. Criteria for evaluation of project proposals for Serbian Team:

• The proposals will be reviewed according to a certain set of evaluation criteria.

## - Quality of the Project

- 1.1 The importance of scientific objectives for the development of scientific cooperation between the two countries
- 1.2. Complementarity of research groups
- 1.3. Participation of young researchers
- 1.4. Actuality of the proposed research (project content)

#### Innovation

Assess the degree of innovation project (which includes the expected industrial and practical use of project results)

## Additional objectives pursued in the project

Objectives such as: joint applications for EU projects, broader cooperation and exchange

- Assessment of scientific biography of the Serbian research group

# 7. Key Dates

ACTIONS	PERIODS
Application Announcement	1st of September 2025
Deadline for Applications	12 <sup>th</sup> of November 2025
Deadline for E-Signatures for TÜBİTAK	19 <sup>th</sup> of November 2025
Eligibility Check and Sharing the Proposal List between TÜBİTAK and NITRA	9 <sup>th</sup> of January 2026
Scientific evaluation Period	15 <sup>th</sup> of January-30 <sup>th</sup> of April 2026
Sharing of the Evaluation Results between TÜBİTAK and NITRA	June 2026
Joint Committee Meeting	June 2026
Announcement of the Results	July 2026

### 8. Contact

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