### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

by

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK)

and

National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation of Albania (NASRI)

The Call is open between 17 December 2025 and 6 March 2026

### 1. Preamble

The Call for Scientific & Technological Cooperation is carried out in the frame of the Protocol on Cooperation in Science and Technology between The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Albania, signed in Ankara on 6 April 2010.

Universities, private sector and research centers and institutes can submit joint proposals for scientific and technological research and development (R&D) projects.

The project proposals which will 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.

# 2. Objectives and Aims of the Call

The objective of the call is 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.

Aims of the Call are **funding researchers' mobility** in the frame of joint research projects to stimulate international research cooperation, providing an opportunity for researchers to cooperate in an international setting and to develop their scientific careers.

### 3. Main Thematic Areas:

Research projects are supported within the scope of this call. Successful projects prepared in the fields below will be supported within the scope of the program. Proposals submitted in other fields will not be accepted.

- Health
  - o Epidemiological Studies, Pharmaceuticals
- Food, Agriculture and Livestock Breeding
  - Animal Nutrition, Animal Breeding and Breeding Diseases, Innovative Livestock Products,
    Sustainable Agriculture
- Environment
  - Treatment Technologies, Environment and Biodiversity
- Social Sciences
  - Circular Economy
  - o Sustainable Urbanization, Urban Planning
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
  - Artificial Intelligence
  - Internet of Goods

#### 4. Financial Issues

Both Parties mutually agree to cover the costs of exchange of experts, scientists and other specialists in the following way:

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

## 4.1 On the Turkish Side

As a rule, **Turkish partners** that are eligible for funding can receive up to **2.000.000 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
  - o Domestic or Foreign Travel Expenses for Non-Field Activities
  - o Travel Expenses under Bilateral Cooperation
- **Representation and Promotion Expenses** (Maximum 57.500 Turkish Liras)
- Scholarship Student 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 Albania.

TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with the rules of TÜBİTAK 1071 Programme.

## 4.2. On the Albanian Side:

Albanian partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 20.000 EUR per project. In the framework of this call, these budget items stated below will be funded by NASRI:

## Mobility

- o Travel and Per/Diem
- o Accommodation
- o Transport within the territory and abroad

#### Publications

- Fee for publication of scientific articles (project product) in scientific journals at home and abroad.
- Scientific publications as well as payment for ISBN ISSN
- Documents produced within the scientific conferences foreseen in the project (summary of abstracts, summary of articles, etc.)
- o Presentation posters in the framework of the project
- Scientific translations within the project

## • Administrative expenses

Office expenses (materials for conference participants, kits, reagents, etc.)

NASRI will be issuing the funds according to its funding guidelines and procedures.

# 5. 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 NASRI individually for its content and progress in both countries independently.

# 6. Proposal Submission

The Joint Call will be open for applications between **17 December 2025 and 6 March 2026** through online application systems of TÜBİTAK, concerning the Turkish counterpart and via hard copy application concerning the Albanian counterpart.

Turkish partners will make their online application via TÜBİTAK's online system, <a href="https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr/">https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr/</a>.

Albanian partners will submit their applications in hardcopy to NASRI. In regard to the Albanian counterpart the entire application for the research project must be submitted both in Albanian and in English, and will have to be submitted in hardcopy in the premises of The National Agency of Scientific Research and Innovation. Address: Str. "Naim Frasheri" No.37, Tirana, 1049.

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 NASRI. TÜBİTAK and NASRI are not responsible to find and/or 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.

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> There is no need to send any hard copy to TÜBİTAK. Submission of proposals by fax or e-mail will not be accepted for Turkish side.

# 7. Eligibility Criteria

Turkish team will receive funding through TÜBİTAK 1071 Program. All Turkish researchers who apply for this Call should be registered to TÜBİTAK ARBIS (Researcher Information system) through the following link: https://arbis.tubitak.gov.tr/

For detailed information on the eligibility for Turkish team, please visit <a href="https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/2024-08/1071\_arastirma\_projeleri\_surec\_dokumani.pdf">https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/2024-08/1071\_arastirma\_projeleri\_surec\_dokumani.pdf</a>

The researchers from Albania participating in this Call, should be researchers that are part of a research institution; early-stage or mid-career researchers as well as project proposals with involvement of PhD/doctoral students, early stage and/or female researchers.

All of the Albanian researchers should find ground of support based on the Law No. 80/2015 and subsequent legislation in force on higher education and scientific research in the Republic of Albania.

# Bilateral cooperation projects will be supported within the framework of this Call, unilateral applications will not be accepted.

For Albanian researchers, follow-up proposals with the same research partners will not be eligible for funding if they have already been funded under previous TÜBİTAK-NASRI Call.

#### 8. Evaluation Method

The proposals that will be considered eligible will be evaluated by TÜBİTAK and NASRI, in line with their own rules and regulations.

Following the scientific evaluation, TÜBİTAK and NASRI will inform each other on the result list which will include the information about approved and rejected project proposals.

# Only the project proposals, which will be approved by TÜBİTAK and NASRI will be supported.

Following the closing date of the call indicated below, applications will be submitted to recognized national experts in the various fields of research represented by the proposals received.

#### 8.1. On the Turkish Side:

The proposals will be reviewed according to a certain set of <u>evaluation criteria</u>:

- Scientific/Technological Excellence
- Methodology
- Project Management
- Structure and Contribution of International Collaboration
- Impact

# 8.2. On the Albanian Side:

## 8.2.1 Project proposal submission form

- Has the draft proposal been drawn up in accordance with the model defined by NASRI.
- Is the draft proposal written clearly and correctly?

# 8.2.2 Project Description

Scientific Argumentation

- Is the conception of the project based on an in-depth analysis of the problems of the relevant field and is the problem to be solved well identified?
- Is this problem specific to our country, the field, the relevant sector, or is a specific solution to a general and well-known problem required?
- Has the project strategy (paths to be followed) been drawn up based on the analysis of problem solving alternatives?

- Is the hypothesis/research question on which the treatment and solution of the posed problem is based correctly specified?
- Does the title fit the content of the project?
- Are the purpose, objective, specific objectives and expected results properly formulated?
- Has the impact of the project results on the environment, community, region, etc. been determined?
- Do the research methods and instruments fit the purpose and objectives?
- Does the project idea constitute innovation in the priority area in which it will be applied or is it a continuation of a previous research?
- Is the dissemination of project results to the scientific, professional and social community affected by them foreseen?
- Are the beneficiaries of the project clearly identified: those direct (who benefit directly from the project) and those indirect (who benefit from its results)? Are the planned activities specified and are they convincing and/or sufficient to make the project results known to their potential users?
- Compliance with the national strategic objectives and policies of the institution
- Are the objectives of the project compatible with the objectives of the Strategy of the relevant field?
- Is the field in which it is applied correctly specified in the project-proposal?

# 8.2.3 Institutional arrangement and project personnel

- Does the project-proposal come as collaboration with the private sector or between HEIs?
- Is the profile of the members of the working group compatible with the realization of the project?
- Is the inclusion of doctoral students foreseen in the project proposal?

## 8.2.4. Project deadline and its monitoring

• Has the calendar of project activities been drawn up correctly, with time forecasts in accordance with the phases of its realization?

### 8.2.5 Evaluation of the financial components of the project

- Has the budget form been filled out correctly and according to the NASRI. model?
- Are the expenses for genuine research activity in a fair ratio with the expenses for mobility?
- Are the requests made in the framework of the project for the study such as: travel expenses, basic services, transportation expenses, other operating expenses, etc, justifiable?
- Are the fund's spending requirements described in detail?
- Does the project-proposal come as co-financing with other institutions or with the applying institution itself?

# 9. Key Dates

Application Announcement	17 December 2025
Deadline for Applications	6 March 2026, 23:59 (IST Time)
Deadline for E-Signatures for TÜBİTAK	13 March 2026, 23:59 (IST Time)

## 10. Contact Persons

# For TÜBİTAK:

**International Cooperation Directorate** 

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK)

Bilateral and Multilateral Relations Division

Phone : +90 312 298 1471

Address: TÜBİTAK, Tunus Caddesi No: 80 Kavaklidere – Ankara/Türkiye

E-mail : <u>burcu.kaptan@tubitak.gov.tr</u>

# For NASRI:

Mrs. Mirela MUÇA

General Director

National Agency of Scientific Research and Innovation

Address: Rruga "Naim Frasheri", Nr 37, Tiranë, Shqipëri, Albania

Phone: +355 4 2222 409

E-mail: mirela.muca@nasri.gov.al

# Other contact points for Albanian Side:

Mr. Robert DUMI

**Director of International Relations** 

Robert.dumi@nasri.gov.al

Ms. Alba Domi

Specialist / Expert

Alba.domi@nasri.gov.al