

INFORMATION – GA ČR 2026

Standard projects

LA grants (Austria, Croatia, Germany, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovenia, Switzerland, USA) International projects (South Korea, Taiwan)

19/02/2025

Zdenka Žampachová (updated by the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Science)

GA ČR has announced calls for proposals for the Standard projects, Restart grants, JUNIOR STAR, PIF, and International bilateral and Lead Agency projects. <u>Below is an overview of the basic parameters of</u> <u>Standard projects</u>, <u>International bilateral projects and LA grants</u> (other Calls see separate document). <u>Changes are highlighted in red</u>.

1 CALL INFORMATION - ELIGIBILTY

The Calls are open to project proposals within all disciplines and topics of basic research (except for cooperation with USA, where <u>supported areas are defined</u>).

ONE PERSON can apply a max. of 3 proposals in all Calls with project start in 2026 (all possible options):

- 1. one project proposal as
 - Restart grant applicant OR
 - POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP applicant **OR**
 - JUNIOR STAR applicant
- 2. one project proposal as <u>applicant</u> in all other Calls (Standard Call, International Call, LA grants Calls)
- 3. one project proposal as <u>co-applicant</u> in all other Calls (Standard Call, International Call, LA grants Calls)

In case of not following the rules above, all projects of the applicant/co-applicant can be excluded from the evaluation!

In case of success in all Calls, one person may participate only in:

- 1. Restart grant, OR
- 2. POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWHIP project, OR
- 3. JUNIOR STAR project, OR
- 4. max. 2 projects that were submitted in Standard Call, International Call, LA grants Calls (one as applicant, one as co-applicant)

If the applicant withdraws from the Call or withdraws from the LA grant evaluation before submitting another project proposal that would cause concurrence of projects, the project proposal will be treated as if it had never been submitted - so it will not count towards the limit. LA project proposals that have been disqualified from evaluation for formal reasons by GA ČR and disqualified from evaluation by foreign agency will not count towards the limit of project proposals submitted in 2025.

2 IMPORTANT DATES

Standard projects, International projects, LA grants (GA ČR in the role of "Lead" agency)				
Call announcement	13/02/2025			
Deadline for project submission	03/04/2025 Deadline of Faculty of Science: 2/4/2025 till			
	9:00			
Deadline for submission to MU Research	Please, send the request as soon as possible, at the latest			
Ethics Committee (contact: Blanka Jančeková)	until 05/03/2025; 2 PM			
Results of the evaluation	28/11/2025 (Int., LA – after agreement with foreign			
	agencies)			
Beginning of the project	01/01/2026 (LA grants according to chart below)			
Project duration	2 - 3 years (South Korea/2, Taiwan/3, US/3)			
PERSONNEL COSTS - send a list of planned	14/03/2025 - Deadline of Faculty of Science			
persons in the proposal to the HR manager				
GRIS – complete part B (Funds in detail,	21/03/2025 - Deadline of Faculty of Science			
breakdown of Funds + justification of Costs				
ISEP - deadline for starting an electronic	28/03/2025 - Deadline of Faculty of Science			
approval and for the declaration for				
cofinancing				

LA grants, GA	ČR in the role o	of "Lead" agen	cy			
Partner organization	Call announcen by GA ČR	Call announcement Submission deadline by GA ČR		adline	Estimated starting date	Estimated date of results
Austria	12/02/2025		03/04/2025		01/04/2026 or 01/07/2026	12/2025
Croatia	12/02/2025		03/04/2025	03/04/2025		12/2025
Germany	12/02/2025		03/04/2025		01/04/2026 or 01/07/2026	12/2025
Luxembourg	12/02/2025		03/04/2025		01/01/2026 or 01/04/2026	12/2025
Poland	12/02/2025		03/04/2025		01/01/2026 or 01/04/2026	12/2025
Slovenia	12/02/2025		03/04/2025	03/04/2025		12/2025
Switzerland	12/02/2025		03/04/2025		01/04/2026	12/2025
USA	"Lead" only foreign US agency		-		-	-
International	bilateral projec	ts				
Partner	Call announcen	nent	Submission deadline		Estimated	Estimated date
organization	Foreign org.	GA ČR	Foreign org.	GA ČR	starting date	of results
South Korea	tba	12/02/2025	tba	03/04/2025	01/01/2026	12/2025
Taiwan	12/02/2025	12/02/2025	10/04/2025	03/04/2025	01/01/2026	12/2025
LA grants, for	eign agency in t	he role of "Lea	d" agency			
Partner	Call announcement by GA ČR		Submission deadline		Estimated	Estimated date
organization			Foreign org.	GA ČR	starting date	of results
Austria (<u>FWF</u>)	continuous		continuous	max. 7 days after the submission	more terms	continuous
Croatia (<u>HRZZ</u>)	20/01/2025		03/03/2025		01/01/2026	summer 2025
Germany (<u>DFG</u>)	continuous		continuous	to the respective	more terms	continuous
Luxembourg (<u>FNR</u>)	20/12/2024		10/04/2025	foreign agency	01/01/2026	October 2025



Poland	16. 9. 2024	16.12.2024	01/01/2026	July 2025
Slovenia (<u>ARIS</u>)	winter 2025	winter 2025	10/2026	autumn 2026
Switzerland (<u>SNSF</u>)	continuous	01/04/2025, 01/10/2025	01/01/2026, 01/07/2026	autumn 2025 spring 2026
USA (<u>NSF</u>)	continuous	continuous	more terms	continuous

3 INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEAN'S OFFICE FACULTY OF SCIENCE

ALL OF THE BELOW APPLIES EVEN IF THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE TAKES THE ROLE OF CO-PROPOSER.

Also in the role of co-proposer let the proposed budget for MU check out. Even for a partner project, you will need an approved Evidence Sheet form ISEP.

3.1 CREATION OF A PROJECT PROPOSAL

- ISEP project proposal <u>must be created in ISEP</u>. (Project Proposal Editor GAČR Investor -Program Framework "GA – Standard projects", "GC – International projects" nebo "GF – LA grants"
- 2. **GRIS** in the GRIS application, it is necessary to add the account "GACRSCIMUNI" in the "Users" in the **Project editor role**.

3.2 FACULTY CONTROL

- **Proposals must be submitted in GRIS no later than Friday 21/03/2025** faculty control follows. Then the applicants will be invited to generate a FINAL PDF. The FINAL PDF needs to be send to gacr@sci.muni.cz no later than 02/04/2024 at 9:00.
- Inserting the proposal means that **part B** breakdown of financial items and justification of financial items (material + personnel costs) is filled in. Project description (part C1) can be inserted later.
- Generated pdf must not be renamed.
- It is NECESSARY to create a project proposal also in ISEP. The proposal will be approved electronically in ISEP. To do this, you first need to insert the project proposal into documents (Documents tab), select <u>"Project proposal (including attachments)"</u> as the document type. Then start the electronic approval of the Evidence Sheet (Pruvodka in Czech) Approval tab. The Evidence Sheet must be fully approved before the final project proposal can be sent via data mailbox. If the final project proposal is not yet available, it is possible to insert a draft in which the budget will be final and agreed. The deadline for the start of the electronic approval of the proposal guide in ISEP by the investigator is Friday 28/03/2025.

3.3 INVESTMENT

- In the case of investment planning, please consult in advance your intention with Petra Rozíkova, <u>rozikova@sci.muni.cz</u>; tel: 549 49 5291. Also inform the project economist.
- Acquisition of investments is possible only if the director of the institute agrees with the cofinancing all costs related to the acquisition of the investment.
- Prior to the submission of the proposal, it will be necessary to give evidence of the Affidavit
 of the Director of the Institute on co-financing of investments, which is set out in <u>Annex 1a</u>.
 Send the filled out Affidavit form by email (it will be submitted for electronic approval) to the

relevant project economist of the institute at which the project is submitted **no later than Fridy 28/03/2025** (see the contact persons below)

3.4 PERSONNEL COSTS

- When planning personnel costs, please follow the <u>Methodology for planning personnel costs</u>.
- Until **Friday 14/3/2024**, send the list of persons you plan to include in your project proposal to the relevant personnel officer of the institute at which the project is submitted (see contact persons below). You will be sent the salary range you can plan for each staff member.
- If it is necessary to include co-financing of personnel costs in the project proposal, this will be solved individually with the personnel officer and the project economist.

3.5 OTHER CONDITIONS

- Do not insert not allowed attachments.
- Basic Identification Data must be provided in Part A2 The Researcher ID, Scopus Author ID or ORCID. You can find a presentation with instructions on how to create these identifiers (Researcher ID and ORCID) <u>here</u>. Scopus ID is an identifier that is assigned to the author, if he has a publication in the SCOPUS database, otherwise it cannot be created.
- <u>MU Gender Equality Plan</u> reference to the existing gender equality plan is a mandatory part of section A2 - Basic Identification Data. Insert only the link in the appropriate field in GRIS, not the entire document as an attachment (this would be an unallowed attachment).

3.6 CONTACT PERSONS

Economists:

Ing. Iveta Svobodová; <u>iveta.svobodova@sci.muni.cz</u>, 549 49 8183, 771 273 449 (institutes: 4010, 3050, 4070, 5040)

Ing. Tereza Johnová; johnova@sci.muni.cz, 549 49 3873, 733 614 433 (institutes: 1010, 2020, 2030, 2040, 5010, 5030)

Ing. Jitka Kosinová, <u>jitkak@sci.muni.cz</u>, 549 49 3702, 773 251 776 (institutes: 4020, 3010, 6000)

Personalists:

Mgr. Jana Švábová, <u>svabova@sci.muni.cz</u>, 549 49 8572, 771 291 804 (institutes: 2030, 4020, 5010)

Mgr. Janka Gregorková, <u>gregorkova@sci.muni.cz</u>, kl.č. 4273, mob. 771 501 920 (institutes: 1010, 3010, 4070, 5030, 6000)

Ing. Eva Žufanová, <u>evazufan@sci.muni.cz</u>, 549 49 3437, 604 919 243 (ú institute: 3050)

Ing. Lenka Poláková, <u>lenka.polakova@sci.muni.cz</u>, 549 49 7112, 771 274 252 (institutes: 2020, 2040, 4010, 5040)

Factual control and dispatch

Ing. Martin Hovorka, hovorka@sci.muni.cz, 549 49 1412, 770 158 553

Investment

Petra Rozíková; rozikova@sci.muni.cz; 549 49 5291

3.7 ATTACHMENTS AND LINKS:

- <u>Methodology for the planning of personnel costs</u>
- <u>Guidelines of the Research Ethics Committee</u> for GACR 2026
- The offer of text for part C1 on the topic <u>Gender equality</u>, <u>Data management a Open Access</u> <u>Policy at MU</u> (The offer represents the maximum usable version. The text can be individually shortened/edited for your own use.)
- <u>Internal statistics on the evaluation panels</u>, including an indication of the panelists' strengths or criticisms. This document is to be used especially for the preparation of project proposals, so that you can more easily avoid any unnecessary mistakes.
- The Affidavit of the Director of the Institute on co-financing of investments (<u>Annex 1a</u>) and of non-investments (<u>Annex No. 1b</u>)
- MU Gender Equality Plan

4 DOCUMENTATION AND SEMINARS

English versions of tender documentations and other relevant documents are published <u>here</u>. The main contact persons are colleagues in grant office departments at individual faculties/institutes, methodological support is provided by <u>Zdenka Žampachová</u> at the Rectorate Grant Office. The tender documentation and other documents on the competition are available on the <u>MU</u> <u>document server</u> and on the <u>R&D Projects Sharepoint</u>.

Seminars with the President of GA ČR (in Czech) will be held in Prague February 28th, 2025 and in Brno March 5th, 2025, registration.

Internal MU seminar for researchers (in English) will be held in February 26th, 2025, registration.

5 SPECIFIC CALL INFORMATION

5.1 APPLICANTS ELIGIBILITY

MU eligibility (will be provided by the Rector's Office)

5.2 PROJECT PROPOSAL

The proposal of Czech part has to be filled and submitted to GA CR via <u>GRIS</u> application. **The project proposal must be filled in English, unless specified otherwise!**

Video-instructions for filling the GRIS application is published in section "<u>Praktické informace pro</u> <u>navrhovatele a uchazeče</u>" (with English subtitles).

Selection of panel/panels – <u>specialization of individual panels</u>!

Link to <u>MU Gender Plan for 2025 – 2028</u>.

LA grants - bilateral or trilateral project proposals (except for cooperation with the USA – only bilateral cooperation is allowed). Foreign applicants must also submit a proposal to their agency.

Annexes/Calls	Standard projects	International projects	LA grants (CSF in the role of "Lead" agency)	LA grants (CSF in the role of PO)
C1 (scientific part) , in PDF, 11 points font, single spacing	max. 10 pages (max. 6 MB)	max. 10 pages (max. 6 MB)	max. 15 pages (max. 6 MB)	copy of the foreign proposal
Copy of foreign proposal	-	YES (after foreign deadline)	-	must be added as annex in C1
CV of the Applicant (co-applicant), in PDF, 11 points font, single spacing	max. 2 pages (max. 1MB)	max. 2 pages (max. 1MB)	max. 2 pages (max. 1MB)	max. 2 pages (max. 1MB)
CV of the Foreign Applicant	-	YES, no limits	YES, no limits	-
Copies of the special permission	only if necessary	only if necessary	only if necessary	only if necessary
List of the institutions outside the Czech Republic to which it would be inappropriate to send the proposal for evaluation, with an explanation	optional	optional	optional	-
Identification of the proposed supplier/supplier's (preliminary price if the project requires investments exceeds CZK 250ths. and/or the supply/supplies and the total value of purchases from the single supplier exceeds CZK 750ths. throughout the project duration	only if necessary	only if necessary	only if necessary	only if necessary
Letter of Intent (LoI)	optional	optional (not Lol of the foreign partner involved in proposal)	optional (not LoI of the foreign partner involved in proposal)	-

C1 part (scientific part), part C1 has to contain (detailed information in Tender documentation): summary of the current state of the art; aims; methods; timeline; if relevant, description of the possible differences is needed, such as gender etc.; identification of the risks to the achievement of the project results, including the intensity of such risks, their probability, and ways to minimize the risks; description, reasoning and justification of the necessity of international cooperation; in case of involvement co-applicant, justification is necessary; equipment of the workplace; promoting of principles of responsible research and innovation; a brief description of the research data to be generated, used, and stored, how these data will be handled (an update shall be provided with each Interim Report and Final Report); **Data Management Plan must be submitted no later than during the first Interim report**; brief description of the potential benefits of the project and possible future application potential; a brief plan of how the project results will be communicated to their potential users and the public; description of the team including their working capacity; references (preferably including DOI)

- **LA Grants - (with GA ČR as "Lead" agency)**; part C1 must contain a precise justification of both parts of the budget (Czech and foreign)

- International projects and LA grants – it is necessary to describe and justify the necessity and benefits of the cooperation; the existing and planned cooperation of the applicant with the foreign partner

D1 CV of the applicant (CV co-applicant if relevant); a brief structured professional CV with a list of activities for the last 5 years in the field that will be the subject of the project proposal. In the case of a career break, the specified period for listing publications, scientific activities, etc., may be extended if there has been a continuous interruption of a scientific career for at least one year due to **maternity/paternity/parental leave** or for the **care of a child under the age of 10** or another dependent person. These reasons may be combined. Maternity/parental leave can be reported using a **standard period of 18 months per child**, provided that care was taken for at least this period. Additionally, **long-term sick leave** lasting **at least six months** may also be considered.

5.3 PROJECT RESULTS

Definition of types of outputs (according to tender documentation Annex 7 for Standard and International Calls, Annex 4 for LA grants):

- Jimp an original/review article in a peer-reviewed journal which is included in the Web of Science database and tagged as "Article", "Review", or "Letter"; Only articles published in journals with a non-zero impact factor registered in the WoS Core Collection database may be considered Jimp outputs.
- Jsc original / review article in a scientific periodical which is included in the Scopus database with the tag "Article", "Review", or "Letter"; Jost original / review article in a scientific periodical which does not fit in any of the two foregoing groups, and which meets the general requirements for an article in a scientific periodical.
- Monograph
- Chapter in a monograph
- Article in proceedings registered in the Scopus database or in the Web of Science Conference Proceedings Citation Index.

5.4 PROJECT EVALUATION

<u>Project proposals are to be evaluated according to following criteria</u> (more detailed in tender documentation):

- Originality and quality (scientific importance; prospects of the project; international cooperation and expected benefits; aims; proposed deliverables; concept; methodology; timeline)
- Research expertise of the applicant (co-applicant/s) and other researchers
- **Feasibility of the project** regarding to technical and institutional facilities (takes into account the promotion of the principles of responsible research and innovation, including strategic tools for developing human potential and improving working conditions)

International projects will be evaluated by both agencies (by GA ČR and by foreign agency).

LA projects will be evaluated only by GA CR or only by foreign agency, researcher can choose which agency will be the "Lead". (Each participating partner agency shall have the right of veto, i.e. to decide that the project selected by the Lead Agency shall not receive funding (e.g. due to the lack of funding available).

5.5 GENERAL TERMS

The content of a project proposal involving the applicant or co-applicant in other projects is different from the submitted project proposal. The proposed scope of work will allow the applicant or co-applicant to implement all their projects.

By submitting a proposal, the applicant confirms that he / she has not received, does not accept and will not receive support from another provider for another project with the same or similar issues.

Indication of an incorrect birth number (for foreigners the date of birth) is a reason to exclude the project proposal from the public tender.

The project proposal must not have an identical name with another proposal submitted by the same applicant or with a project that has already been solved or completed.

The beneficiary undertakes to ensure that the time spent at the beneficiary's workplace corresponds to an investigator's workload.

If PI, co-PI or a member of the research team is found to have violated the Code of Ethics during the project or in the last 5 years prior to the year of the competition announcement, the GA CR may exclude the project proposal or terminate the contract.

<u>International projects and LA grants</u> - the foreign researcher must not have an employment relationship in the Czech Republic for the duration of the project!

6 ELIGIBLE COST

Personnel costs – recommended workload at least 0,2 FTE for applicant, 0,1 FTE for co-applicant; limit for gross wage CZK 65 000/month/1FTE; Agreements on work (DPP and DPČ in Czech) max. CZK 400/hour;

Employment of the PI (in exceptional circumstances) must be established no later than 4 months from the project start.

Investment costs (limited up to 10% of the personnel costs and material costs, excluded indirect costs);

Material costs - material costs, travel costs, costs for other services and non-material costs, patent and license payments; low-value tangible assets may be acquired up to CZK 80,000 under the category of material costs;

Indirect costs - max 20 % of personnel costs and material costs (excluded indirect costs).

Call	Standard	International projects	LA grants
Personell <u>cost:</u> Applicant / co-applicant (workload)	Recommended workload: 0.2 FTE applicant 0.1 FTE co-applicant (max. gross wage CZK 65 ths. /month/1FTE). Employment of the PI must be established no later than 4 months from project start.	Recommended workload: 0.2 FTE applicant 0.1 FTE co-applicant (max. gross wage CZK 65 ths. /month/1FTE). Employment of the PI must be established no later than 4 months from project start.	Recommended workload: 0.2 FTE applicant 0.1 FTE co-applicant (max. gross wage CZK 65 ths. /month/1FTE). Employment of the PI must be established no later than 4 months from project start.
Agreements on work (DPP, DPČ)	up to CZK 400/h	up to CZK 400/h	up to CZK 400/h
<u>Investment</u> <u>cost</u> :	Limit up to CZK 80 ths. and up to 10% from Personnel Costs and Material Costs (excluding Overheads)	Limit up to CZK 80 ths. and up to 10% from Personnel Costs and Material Costs (excluding Overheads)	Limit up to CZK 80 ths. and up to 10% from Personnel Costs and Material Costs (excluding Overheads)
Overheads:	up to 20% (counted from Personnel Costs and Material Costs; excluding Overheads)	up to 20% (counted from Personnel Costs and Material Costs; excluding Overheads)	up to 20% (counted from Personnel Costs and Material Costs; excluding Overheads)

6.1 IMPLEMENTATION - CHANGES

If the definition of the types of the results changes during the project implementation, the results shall be assessed according to tender documentation published to the Call in the year in which the results are evaluated.

Changes in the workload of the PI not exceeding 20 % shall be treated separately and shall be not counted towards the limit of other researchers.

Any increase or decrease in the Principal Investigator's workload up to 20 % of PI's capacity approved in the Agreement can be done without a request.

Data Management Plan (DMP) must be submitted no later than during the first Interim Report. DMP must be updated regularly, as needed, and has to submit it regularly as part of the Interim and Final Reports, including information on availability and dissemination of the research results and research data. The updated research data management plan shall be included in the Interim and Final Reports. The research data management plan shall include, as a minimum, information on: what kind of

research data will be generated, processed or collected within the project; what methods and principles of data management will be used; whether and how the data will be shared, published and/or disclosed, and, where appropriate, an explanation of why the research data cannot be disseminated or disclosed; and how the data will be stored during the project and preserved after the project.

7 INTERNAL PROCESSES AT MU

Project support in grant office departments at individual faculties/institutes has to be contacted as soon as possible about your intention to submit a project proposal.

Check with your project support staff about internal deadlines for submission of the project (especially to check the project budget).

Submit the project proposal in INET - part of <u>ISEP</u> (Investor GA ČR - programme: Restart grant; JUNIOR STAR; LA grants; International projects; PIF; Standard projects).

Before the end of the competition period, the project proposal must be uploaded to the documents folder in ISEP and electronically approved.

7.1 RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE – INTERNAL PROCESSES AT MU

If the nature of the research requires an ethics committee review (information <u>here</u>), c<u>omplete the</u> "Ethics" tab in the ISEP and provide the necessary documents as instructed till March 5th, 2025, 2pm.