

Austrian Science Fund (FWF) – Russian Science Foundation (RSF) 3rd CALL FOR PROPOSALS Joint Projects

Table of contents

1. Introduction.....	1
2. Call procedure	2
3. Deadline	2
4. Subject areas	2
5. Project duration	2
6. Proposal preparation	3
6.1 Cost calculation	3
6.2 How to submit a proposal	4
7. Evaluation and funding decisions	4
8. Contact details.....	4

1. Introduction

On the basis of their cooperation agreement signed in 2016, the *Austrian Science Fund* (FWF) and the *Russian Science Foundation* (RSF) **jointly announce their third call for proposals for bilateral Austrian-Russian Joint Research Projects.**

Joint Research Projects are cooperation arrangements in which researchers from two countries work together on a single research project. The project parts in Austria and Russia¹ should be **closely integrated and combine complementary expertise** such that one part could not be carried out without the other, and there should be substantial scientific/scholarly input from both sides.

2. Call procedure

Project applications must be submitted **in parallel** to FWF (Austrian team) and to RSF (Russian team) **in accordance with each agency's application guidelines**. Applications will be processed independently by both organisations according to their standard evaluation and decision-making procedures. In cases where a joint project is approved, the two parts of the project are funded separately by FWF and RSF.

Applications to FWF must include a **letter of intent** (letter or e-mail) in which the project partner confirms his/her intention to submit a matching parallel application to RSF. Austrian applicants should note that RSF expects a **letter signed by the Russian and Austrian institutions** (preferably by the dean of the faculty or the director of the institute). The Austrian principal investigator will receive the template for the letter from their Russian partners.

3. Deadline

Proposals must be submitted at the same time to FWF and RSF no later than **15 March 2021 (FWF: date of postmark)** with due attention to the requirements of both partners.

4. Subject areas

The call is open to **all areas of scientific research**. Joint proposals in the area of clinical research with trials involving humans are not eligible in this call.

5. Project duration

Joint projects submitted in response to the FWF/RSF call may have a duration **of 3 years**. The proposed project duration of both project parts must be identical.

¹ *The research institution of the Russian principal investigator has to be located within the internationally recognised borders of Russia.*

6. Proposal preparation

To apply for a joint project, parallel applications to RSF and FWF are required in accordance with the guidelines specified by RSF and FWF.

The Austrian team must prepare their proposal in accordance with the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#). The project description must encompass **the entire Austrian-Russian project** in which the connection between the two project parts and the resources to be deployed on each side should be clearly described.

The **project description** (no more than 20 pages) submitted to FWF must include additional information on:

- The **distribution of work** between the partners
- The **added value** of the cooperation

In order to be considered complete, the application on the Austrian side must include:

- All of the necessary **administrative and financial data and forms** as well as an **academic abstract in English, annexes 1 – 4** which must be attached to the **project description (proposal.pdf)** and other **attachments** to be uploaded individually (in accordance with FWF guidelines)
- The **CV and publication list of the applicant in Russia** (in accordance with FWF guidelines)
- The [PDF cover sheet](#), which has to be filled out, signed, stamped, and sent to FWF by conventional mail or as an e-mail attachment (PDF file with a qualified electronic signature). The application is not officially considered to be “submitted” until FWF receives the cover sheet

For further details on how to prepare the proposal, please consult [the FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#).

The RSF documentation and guidelines for the call can be downloaded [here](#).

6.1 Cost calculation

The two project parts will be funded separately by FWF and RSF respectively. Thus, the costs for the Austrian project part must be calculated in accordance with the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#). Only project-specific costs (including general costs) can be requested from FWF. For the Russian project part, the RSF cost guidelines apply.

6.2 How to submit a proposal

Joint proposals must be submitted to FWF and RSF with due attention to the regulations and call deadlines of each partner. The titles of the two applications must be **identical**. Applications submitted by one side only will not be accepted.

Applications to FWF must be submitted online at <https://elane.fwf.ac.at> by **15 March 2021 at the latest**. When submitting the application, applicants must choose the “**I – International Projects**” programme.

Please note that the [signed PDF cover sheet](#) which is generated **at the end** of the online submission process must be **submitted to FWF by 15 March 2021 at the latest** (see also Section 2.2.3. of the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#)). An online submission submitted by the deadline but without a signed cover sheet will not be processed. Please note that the cover sheet must bear the original signatures of the applicant and a representative of the host institution.

After submission, applicants to FWF are required to rectify any errors in their applications within 10 days after being notified of the errors by the FWF office. Please note that the FWF policy on the restriction of the number of ongoing projects and the submission of funding applications applies (see [here](#)).

The RSF regulations for the submission of applications can be found [here](#).

7. Evaluation and funding decisions

FWF and RSF evaluate the applications independently and take their funding decisions separately on the basis of the reviews received. At FWF, joint projects in cooperation with partner organisations abroad will be reviewed in competition with all other (national) proposals. A joint project can be funded only if it is approved by both funding organisations. It is expected that the results of this call will be available **by December 2021**.

8. Contact details

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