CHIST-ERA Call 2022

Frequently Asked Questions

The present documents compile answers to most frequently asked questions to the call secretariat. In particular, it builds on the questions collected at the first information webinar of the Call 2022 last November 21, 2022 (the slides are available HERE).

1. Consortium

- ***What are the countries participating in the call?***

The countries participating in the call for proposals are listed in the Call Announcement, available on the CHIST-ERA website at https://www.chistera.eu/call-2022-announcement.

The countries are represented by one or two funding organisations. The eligibility of a potential consortium partner depends on the funding rules of the respective funding organisation this partner is applying to.

- ***What is the list of Widening Countries?***

The list of Widening Countries is available HERE. In particular, the Widening Countries participating in the Call 2022 are Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Turkey.

CHIST-ERA supports the involvement of these countries by giving priority to consortia with partners from them in case of ex aequo proposals and insufficient budget to fund all of them. The call Partner Search Tool allows searching potential partners by country.

- ***Can partners from countries not in the call be part of a project?***

They can participate in a project as long as they are able to secure their funding with other funding sources or by own funds. The partners not requesting funding to CHIST-ERA do not count for the minimum number of partners/countries in the consortium (see p. 13 of the Call Announcement). Moreover, the consortium coordinator must be supported by a funding organisation participating in the call.

- ***Can a consortium partner come from the private for profit sector?***

Yes in general, however its feasibility depends on the national/regional funding regulations. Pages 14, 15 and 16 of the Call Announcement list all the funding organisations allowing such partners to be funded.

- *Can early career researchers (for instance postdoctoral researchers) act as coordinator or partner principal investigator?*

CHIST-ERA encourages excellent early career researchers to take responsibilities. This will not be considered *a priori* by the evaluation panel as a weakness. Generally, PhD costs are eligible as well as post-doctoral costs. However, since the funding follows national/regional rules, the consortium partners need to check with their respective funding organisations the eligibility of the PI and the eligible costs.

- *Is the cost of the permanent researchers eligible?*

It depends on the national/regional funding organisation. You need to contact your national/regional funding organisation contact point to check it.

2. Submission

- *Are multiple submissions allowed, within the same topic or across topics?*

At the CHIST-ERA level, there are no restrictions concerning multiple submissions by any individual (acting as coordinator or partner).

Nevertheless, in such case she/he needs to check her/his eligibility with the respective funding organisation, which may have specific rules, by contacting their contact point (p. 14, 15 and 16 of the Call Announcement).

- *What is the page limit for proposal*?

The proposal length should be approx. between 25-35 pages.

- *Can the style of the document be adjusted according to the section of the document (typically a smaller font size for the references)?*

The same font and style should be used for the whole proposal (recommended: Arial, 11pt, single-spaced).

3. Call scope, target outcomes and expected impacts

- *Should a proposal focus on all of the "Target outcomes"?*

A proposal can focus on a single target outcome or cover several of them.

4. Type of targeted research

- ***What should the project Technology Readiness Level be?***

CHIST-ERA expectations are not expressed in terms of Technology Readiness Levels. The project should combine a long-term vision of a novel science-enabled technology with specific ambitious research objectives addressing this vision for the project duration (the next 2 or 3 years). Typically, CHIST-ERA funds projects in the range of TRLs 1-4 at the start of the project.

- ***What about the expected outcomes of the project in terms of applications?***

At CHIST-ERA level, the expected outcomes should be related to the future/emerging technology. The project should provide kind of a proof-of-concept or significant step forward. While the targeted technology may be inspired by specific potential applications though, this technology will often comprise generic dimensions.

The national/regional funding organisations may have complementary or additional expectations in that regard.

5. Evaluation

- ***Are the reviewers from EU or France or from the participating countries in this call? Who will select the reviewers?***

Each topic evaluation panel is composed of international high-level experts from different fields within the call topic. The evaluation panel members are appointed by CHIST-ERA funding organisations. They are often working in Europe, possibly in countries in the call, or overseas.

- ***Will each CHIST-ERA funding organisation in the call review the proposal?***

The joint evaluation principle is central. The proposals are evaluated and ranked by the CHIST-ERA evaluation panel members, assisted by external reviewers. The selection is based on this ranking.

Parallel national/regional scientific evaluations may occur for instance to assess the type of research targeted by the project and its adequacy with the funding organisation rules. This information is available in the Call Announcement national/regional annexes.

6. Funding

- ***Is a project selected if and only if all the funding organisations involved in the project recommend it?***

No and yes.

The funding recommendation follows a joint decision of the Call 2022 Steering Committee (composed of the CHIST-ERA funding organisations in the call). There are no national/regional parallel decision

processes. Moreover, the funding organisations have to follow as much as budget availability allows it the ranking list established by the evaluation panel.

- ***Are eligible costs the same regardless the funding institution in each country?***

Eligible costs differ from one funding organisation to another. It is recommended to check the eligible costs with each national/regional contact point.

- ***Does the funding for partners not requesting funding to CHIST-ERA have to be secured before submission?***

The self-funded partner must be able to indicate at the proposal stage (see proposal template) how its funding is secured. Letters of support/intent are not mandatory but they can be uploaded as an annex in the submission system.

6. Open access to publications and research data

- ***Is open access to research data mandatory?***

At CHIST-ERA level, the publications funded by CHIST-ERA must be available in open access as well as the underlying data. Possible exceptions are listed in the Call Announcement. In any case, they must be justified.

Applicants can contact their national/regional contact points to check if additional rules apply locally. Every funding organisation may have a different Open Science policy in addition to the CHIST-ERA policy.

For guidance on good practices for Open Access to research data, applicants can refer to the CHIST-ERA training at https://www.chistera.eu/open-science-trainings.

- ***If some data cannot be shared, for instance due to privacy issue, will it impact the project proposal evaluation?***

CHIST-ERA acknowledges that open access to research data is also a legal and technical issue. In this context, the basic principle is "as open as possible, as closed as necessary". It is expected that, as much as possible, the projects will promote approaches at the level of the state of the art. This aspect will be considered during the proposal evaluation.

For guidance on good practices for open access to research data, applicants can rely on the Data Management Plan template of Science Europe and to CHIST-ERA training at https://www.chistera.eu/open-science-trainings.