Work Programme for the Years 2018-2019

Adopted on the occasion of the Seventh Meeting of the Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, held in Ljubljana on 28 November 2017, implementing the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of 8 May 1998 as amended by the Protocol of Amendment of 30 June 2009.

Ljubljana, 28 November 2017

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1. Forms of Co-operation

- 1.1 According to Article 3 of the Agreement, joint co-operation projects will be carried out between Slovenian research organizations and eligible institutions in Austria. A joint co-operation project is an agreed activity with clearly defined objectives to be achieved within a specific time frame. Each project will normally be of two years' duration, implemented through exchanges of people and information.
- 1.2 For the preparation and realization of joint co-operation projects financial support is given for mobility costs of researchers as well as experts participating in these co-operation projects.
- 1.3 On a long-term basis, the costs arising from joint co-operation projects should be balanced between the two sides.

2. Aspects of Co-operation

- 2.1 The delegations agreed to provide mobility funds for co-operation projects from all scientific fields. In addition co-operation projects with the potential to lead to future multilateral co-operations within the European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation shall be favoured in order to stimulate the joint participation of Slovenian and Austrian researchers in European research programmes.
- 2.2 The financing of mobility costs within the framework of this Agreement is also particularly intended to support early career researchers and to pay attention to a balanced involvement of female and male researchers (gender equality).

3. General Administrative Regulations

3.1 Responsible Institutions

3.1.1 In Slovenia

The implementation of the work programme lies within the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, International Cooperation and European Affairs Department, Masarykova cesta 16, 1000 Ljubljana and the Slovenian Research Agency, Bleiweisova cesta 30, 1000 Ljubljana.

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3.1.2 In Austria:

The implementation of the work programme lies within the responsibility of the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH), ICM - Centre for International Cooperation and Mobility

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The Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH) is an institution commissioned by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy.

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3.2 Selection procedure of co-operation projects

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- 3.2.1 The upcoming calls for proposals will be published on a biennial basis by the responsible institutions (3.1) at least six months prior to the meetings of the Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation.
- 3.2.2 Submitted project applications have to include:
 - 1. Topic
 - 2. Names and addresses of the co-operating Slovenian and Austrian research organizations, Slovenian and Austrian co-ordinators and research team members
 - 3. Description of the proposed research subject and objectives
 - Proof of qualifications of the co-ordinators 4.
 - Involvement of young researchers (if applicable) 5.
 - An annual calculation of costs for the realization of the co-operation project (in 6. Austria)
 - Work plan, start date and prospective duration of the co-operation project (in 7. Austria)
- 3.2.3 Project applications have to be prepared jointly by the Slovenian and Austrian researchers and have to be submitted to the national institutions responsible for implementing the work programme (3.1).
- 3.2.4 Project applications registered with the responsible institutions (3.1) will be entered into a joint list after national evaluation.
- 3.2.5 Applications will be considered on the basis of evaluation criteria valid for mobility projects in each of the countries; in Slovenia they include involvement in nationally or internationally funded research of the proposing institution and recent research output of the coordinator; in Austria they include:
 - scientific quality of the work plan, originality of the idea
 - qualifications of the coordinators
 - potential for solving problems
 - quality of the cooperation and mutual benefit
 - exploitation of the anticipated results
 - promotion of young research talent
- 3.2.6 The final list of co-operation projects to be supported will be adopted by the Joint Committee.

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- 3.3 At the end of the second year of the project, the project leaders have to submit a final report on the progress and results of their research activities to the Slovenian and Austrian institutions responsible for the implementation of the work programme (3.1) according to national regulations.
- 3.4 The exploitation, possible patent registration and publication of project results are subject to the national laws which are in force in Slovenia and Austria.

4. Administration of the Exchange of Researchers and Experts

- 4.1 The co-operating partners have to agree on the date and duration of a stay at the host institution at least three weeks prior to the intended date of visit.
- 4.1.1 The Slovenian project leader autonomously plans and conducts visits from and to Austria.
- 4.1.2 The Austrian project leader will notify the Slovenian researcher in question at the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH).
- 4.2 Each side will facilitate the access to its scientific institutions, libraries, archives and museum collections for the project partners of the other side that are sent in the framework of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Austria on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. Furthermore, both sides guarantee free exchange of scientific information and documentation in conformity with their national laws and financial possibilities.

5. Financial Regulations

5.1 Each side will cover the travel costs of persons sent and the accommodation costs of persons hosted.

5.2 <u>In Slovenia</u>

5.2.1 For stays of Austrian researchers and experts in Slovenia the accommodation costs will be covered by the hosting institution that will also provide per-diems according to national regulations.

For short-term stays of up to fourteen days the following rate in Euro (€) will be granted:

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- paid accommodation up to 100,-€ per day and daily allowance in accordance with the Slovenian regulations on reimbursement of travel expenses (currently 21,39€).

For stays longer than fifteen days the following rate in Euro (€) will be granted:
- paid accommodation up to 1250,-€ monthly and daily allowance in accordance with the Slovenian regulations on reimbursement of travel expenses (currently 21,39€).

5.3 In Austria

- 5.3.1 For short-term stays of up to fourteen days planned in the framework of approved projects, the following rate in Euro (€), including overnight costs, will be granted:
 - > € 100,- per day
- 5.3.2 For stays longer than fifteen days planned in the framework of approved projects, the following monthly rates in Euro (€), including overnight costs, will be granted:
 - > € 1.500,- per month
- 5.3.3 Slovenian researchers will receive payment personally at the local offices of the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH) or directly at the Austrian host institution.
- 5.4 The sending side (in Slovenia the sending institution) will assure that the researchers and experts sent have necessary and adequate health insurance coverage.

