**E-Rare-3 Call for Proposals 2015 for**

**"Transnational Research Projects on Rare Diseases"**

**Submission deadline for pre-proposals: February 18, 2015**

**The links to pre-proposal template, electronic proposal submission, guidelines for applicants and further information including “Looking for collaborations module” and Interactive FAQ**

**can be found at the E-Rare website**

[**www.e-rare.eu**](http://www.e-rare.eu)

or contact the joint call secretariat:

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**Call text**

1. **MOTIVATION**

There are at least 6000 to 7000 distinct rare diseases, the great majority being of genetic origin. Although individually rare, taken together rare diseases affect at least 26-30 million people in Europe. Moreover, they represent a major issue in health care: a large number of these diseases lead to a significant decrease of life expectancy and most of them cause chronic illnesses with a large impact on quality of life and the health care system.

Therefore, research on rare diseases is needed to provide knowledge for prevention, diagnosis and better care of patients. Yet, research is hampered by lack of resources at several levels: (1) Few scientists work on one specific disease, (2) There are few patients per disease and they are scattered over a large geographic area, causing difficulties to gather the necessary cohorts, (3) Existing databases and material collections are usually local, small, and not accessible or standardised, (4) Diseases often have complex clinical phenotypes and require interdisciplinary cooperation for research, hence, interdisciplinary approaches to treatment.

The specificities of rare diseases - limited number of patients, scarcity of relevant knowledge and expertise, and fragmentation of research - single them out as a distinctive domain of very high European added-value. Rare diseases are therefore a prime example of a research area that can strongly benefit from collaboration/coordination on a transnational scale.

In this context, the ERA-NET “E-Rare” for research programmes on rare diseases has been extended to a third phase “E-Rare-3” (2014-2019) to further help in coordinating the research efforts of European countries in the field of rare diseases and implement the objectives of International Rare Disease Research Consortium (IRDiRC).

The following parties,

* Austrian Science Fund (FWF), Austria
* Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), Austria
* Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), Belgium, Flanders
* Fund for Scientific Research - FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS), Belgium, French-speaking community
* Canadian Institutes of Health Research – Institute of Genetics (CIHR-IG), Canada
* Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé (FRQS), Québec (Canada)
* Genome Canada (GC), Canada
* French National Research Agency (ANR), France
* Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany
* German Research Foundation (DFG), Germany
* General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), Greece
* Hungarian Scientific Research Fund (OTKA), Hungary
* Chief Scientist Office of the Ministry of Health (CSO-MOH), Israel
* Italian Ministry of Health (MoH), Italy
* Regione Emilia-Romagna - Agenzia Sanitaria e Sociale Regionale (RER-ASSR), Italy
* Latvian Academy of Sciences (LAS), Latvia
* National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR), Poland
* Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Portugal
* Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Romania
* National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII), Spain
* Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Switzerland
* Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development (ZonMw), The Netherlands
* Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK), Turkey

have decided to open the seventh E-Rare joint transnational call (JTC 2015) for funding multilateral research projects on rare diseases **together with the European Commission (EC) under the ERA-NET Cofund mechanism**. The call is being opened simultaneously by the parties in their respective countries.

1. **AIM OF THE CALL**

The aim of the call is to enable scientists in different countries to build an effective collaboration on a common interdisciplinary research project based on complementarities and sharing of expertise, with a clear translational research approach. Projects shall involve a group of rare diseases or a single rare disease following the European definition i.e. a disease affecting not more than five in 10.000 persons in the European Community, EC associated states and Canada.

Transnational research proposals must cover at least one of the following areas, which are equal in relevance for this call:

a) Collaborative research using patient databases and corresponding collections of biological material that would generally not be possible at a national scale. This research must have clear potential for clinical application and well defined scientific objectives e.g.:

* definition of new nosological entities, epidemiological studies, genotype/phenotype correlations, natural history of diseases;
* characterisation of the genetic/molecular basis of specific diseases

b) Research on rare diseases including genetic, epigenetic, and pathophysiological studies, using innovative and shared resources, technologies (OMICS, new generation sequencing, etc.) and expertise.

c) Research on development of applications for diagnosis and therapies for rare diseases. This may include identification and characterisation of (bio)-markers for diagnosis and prognosis, development of innovative screening systems and diagnostic tools, the generation of relevant cellular and/or animal models, and preclinical studies using pharmacological, gene or cell therapies.

Project proposals must clearly demonstrate the potential health impact as well as the added-value of transnational collaboration: gathering a critical mass of patients/biological material, sharing of resources (models, databases, diagnosis etc.), harmonisation of data, sharing of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies, etc.

Each transnational collaborative project should represent the critical mass to achieve ambitious scientific goals. Consortia are encouraged to demonstrate engagement with industry for its active participation including areas of collaboration, sharing of resources, capabilities and expertise, in order to ensure an efficient transfer of pre-clinical results into clinical utility. Likewise, patient organizations are invited to participate where appropriate as their engagement has the potential to provide new insights that could lead to innovative discoveries, and ensures that research is relevant to patients' concerns.

It is expected that the inclusion of partner groups from participating Eastern European countries will contribute to strengthening the research capacity building in Europe as a whole.

The aim of the call is in compliance with the goals set by the International Rare Diseases Research Consortium (IRDiRC) which fosters international collaboration in rare diseases research. For more information see IRDiRC website: <http://www.irdirc.org/>

**The following diseases/topics are excluded from the scope of the call:**

* Interventional clinical trials;
* Rare infectious diseases, rare cancers and rare adverse drug events in treatments of common diseases;
* Rare neurodegenerative diseases which are within the focus of the Joint Programming Initiative on Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND; http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/). These concern: Alzheimer’s disease (AD) and other dementias; Parkinson’s disease (PD) and PD-related disorders; Prion disease; Motor neuron diseases (MND); Huntington’s Disease (HD); Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) and dominant forms of Spinocerebellar ataxia (SCA). Interested researchers should refer to the relevant JPND calls.

1. **MANAGEMENT BOARDS**

Two boards, the Call Steering Committee (**CSC**) and the Scientific Evaluation Committee (**SEC**), will manage the evaluation process of the call with support of the Joint Call Secretariat (**JCS**) (set up at PT-DLR, Germany). SEC and CSC members will not submit or participate in proposals within this call. The process includes the evaluation procedure of pre- and full-proposals and the final selection and award of research projects.

* **The Call Steering Committee (CSC)** is composed of a single representative from each country/region funding organisation. The CSC will supervise the progress of the call and the evaluation of proposals. The CSC will make the final funding recommendation to the national/regional funding organisations on the proposals to be funded, based on the final ranking list provided by the SEC. All decisions concerning the call procedures will be taken by the CSC. The CSC will ensure that the procedures are implemented in accordance to the ERA-NET Cofund rules.
* **The Scientific Evaluation Committee (SEC)** is a panel of internationally recognised scientific experts responsible for the evaluation of submitted proposals. SEC members must sign a confidentiality form and a statement to confirm that they do not have any conflicts of interest. The SEC will nominate external peer reviewers.

1. **APPLICATION**
   1. **Funding recipients/Eligibility**

Joint research proposals may be submitted by applicants belonging to one of the following categories (according to country/regional regulations):

* academia (research teams working in universities, other higher education institutions or research institutes)
* clinical/public health sector (research teams working in hospitals/public health and/or other health care settings and health organisations)
* enterprise (all sizes of private companies). Participation of small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) is encouraged when allowed by national/regional regulations
* Please note that the inclusion of a non-eligible partner in a proposal **leads to the rejection of the entire proposal without further review**. Whilst applications will be submitted jointly by research partners from several countries, individual groups will be funded by the individual funding organisation of their country/region that is participating in the E-Rare-3 JTC 2015. The applications are therefore subjected to **eligibility criteria of individual funding organisations**. Applicants are strongly advised to contact their corresponding national/regional representative and confirm eligibility with their respective funding organisations in advance of submitting an application (see national/regional contact details and Annex). **The adherence to the national/regional regulations in the “Guidelines for applicants” document is mandatory.**

Only transnational projects will be funded. Each consortium submitting a proposal must involve a **minimum of three eligible** and a **maximum of six eligible partners** from **at least three different countries** participating to the call (see list above). No more than two eligible partners from the same country participating in the call will be accepted in one consortium.

Applicants are encouraged to **include partners from the participating Eastern European countries** (Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Romania and Turkey). If they include such partners, the maximum number of partners can be increased to **seven** or **eight** (see table below).

Additional partners that secure their **own funding** may join consortia. However, their number is **limited to two**. **The consortium coordinator must always be eligible to receive funding from the funding organisations participating in the call**. Only groups that contribute substantially to at least one of the work packages are considered as partners. They must state clearly in the proposal if these funds are already secured or if not, how they plan to obtain funding in advance of the project start. It will be required to document the availability of their funds before October 1, 2015.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Number of partners requesting funding** | **Possible number of additional partners with own funding** |
| 3 | 2 |
| 4 |
| 5 |
| 6 |
| 7  (only possible with inclusion of 1 Eastern European partner) | 1 |
| 8  (only possible with inclusion of 2 Eastern European partners) | 0 |

Each transnational proposal must nominate a **project consortium coordinator** among the project partner principal investigators. The coordinator must be a project partner from an E-Rare-3 JTC 2015 funding country/region. The project coordinator will represent the consortium externally and towards the JCS and CSC, and will be responsible for its internal scientific management (such as controlling, reporting, intellectual property rights issues and contact with the JCS). Each project partner will be represented by a single principal investigator. Within a joint proposal, the principal investigator of each project partner will be the contact person for the relevant country/regional funding organisation.

Consortia of projects funded in previous E-Rare joint transnational calls can apply for funding for an extension of their cooperation. These consortia must clearly demonstrate the success of the current project and innovative scientific aims for their future collaboration. Their applications will compete with applications for new research projects.

The duration of the projects can be up to 3 years. Nevertheless, a partner can receive funding for less than 3 years according to E-Rare-3 JTC 2015 funding organisations eligibility criteria and regulations.

* 1. **Submission of joint proposals**

There will be a **two-stage submission procedure for joint applications**: pre-proposals and full proposals. In both cases, one joint proposal document (in English) shall be prepared by the partners of a joint transnational proposal, and must be submitted to the JCS by uploading it on the electronic submission system by one spokesperson, the coordinator.

Joint **pre-proposals** (in English) must be received by the JCS in an electronic version no later than **18th February 2015 at 05 p.m. GMT**. The pre-proposals should strictly follow the “Guidelines for applicants”.

The decision on selection of applications for invitation to full proposal will be communicated by the end of April 2015.

Please note that **joint full proposals will be accepted only from those applicants who were explicitly invited by the JCS to submit them.** Full proposals (in English) must be received by the JCS in an electronic version no later than **2nd June 2015 at 05 p.m. GMT**.

The information given in the pre-proposal is binding. Thus, any fundamental changes between the pre- and full proposals concerning the composition of the consortia or objectives of the project, must be communicated to the JCS with detailed justification and will only be allowed by the CSC under exceptional circumstances.

The selection on full proposals will be communicated to applicants as soon as possible and before the end of October 2015.

Further information on how to submit pre-proposals and full proposals electronically will be made available through the E-Rare website ([www.e-rare.eu](http://www.e-rare.eu)) and in the "Guidelines for applicants". The forms that have to be used for submission of pre-proposals and full proposals are available on the E-Rare website. Applicants should take note of individual national/regional rules, and should contact their national/regional contact person for any questions (see “contact information” section).

For applicants from some countries/regions it might be necessary to submit the proposals and/or other information directly to the country/regional funding organisations. Therefore, applicants are strongly advised to contact their national/regional funding organisations for more details (see country/regional contact details and "Guidelines for applicants").

* 1. **Further information**

Applicants are strongly advised to contact their corresponding national/regional representative and confirm eligibility with their respective funding organisations in advance of submitting an application (see national/regional contact details and Annex). If you need additional information, please contact the JCS. **The adherence to the national/regional regulations in the “Guidelines for applicants” document is mandatory.**

1. **EVALUATION**
   1. **Evaluation criteria**

Pre-proposals and full proposals will be assessed according to specific evaluation criteria (see below), using a common evaluation form. A scoring system from 0 to 5 will be used to evaluate the proposal’s performance with respect to the different evaluation criteria.

**Scoring system:**

**0: Failure.** The proposal fails to address the criterion in question, or cannot be judged because of missing or incomplete information.

**1: Poor.** The proposal shows serious weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.

**2: Fair.** The proposal generally addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses that need corrections.

**3: Good.** The proposal addresses the criterion in question well but certain improvements are necessary.

**4: Very good.** The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but small improvements are possible.

**5: Excellent.** The proposal successfully addresses all aspects of the criterion in question.

**Evaluation criteria:**

1. Excellence
   1. Clarity and pertinence of the objectives
   2. Credibility of the proposed approach and methodology
   3. Soundness of the concept
   4. Innovative potential
   5. Competence and experience of participating research partners in the field(s) of the proposal (previous work in the field, specific technical expertise)
2. Impact
   1. Potential of the expected results for future clinical, public health and/or other socio-economic health relevant applications including patients’ needs
   2. Added-value of transnational collaboration: gathering a critical mass of patients/biological material, sharing of resources (models, databases, diagnosis etc.), harmonization of data, sharing of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies, etc.
   3. Meaningful collaboration with Eastern European countries
   4. Effectiveness of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR), to communicate the project, and to manage research data where relevant
   5. Industry and Patient Organization participation/engagement (when appropriate/applicable)
3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation
   1. Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, resources and time-frame
   2. Complementarity of the participants within the consortium
   3. Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management
   4. Concept for sustainability of infrastructures initiated by the project
   5. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the project (rational distribution of resources in relation to project’s activities, partners responsibilities and time frame)

**Sub-criteria 2a and 2b will be prioritized for assessing the impact of proposals (pre- and full proposal stage).**

**Sub-criteria 2d, 2e, 3c, 3d and 3e will be taken into account only for the full proposal evaluation step.**

Evaluation scores will be awarded for the 3 main criteria, and not singularly for the different aspects listed below the criteria. Each criterion will be scored out of 5. The threshold for individual criteria will be 3. The overall threshold, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, will be 12. The maximum score that can be reached from all three criteria together is 15 points.

* 1. **Eligibility check of pre-proposals and first step peer review** 
     1. **Eligibility check**

The JCS will check all pre-proposals to ensure that they meet the call’s formal criteria (date of submission; number and country distribution of participating research partners; inclusion of all necessary information in English, page length of each section). The JCS will forward the proposals to the CSC members who will perform a check for compliance to country/regional rules as described in the “Guidelines for applicants”.

Please note that proposals not meeting the formal criteria or the national/regional eligibility criteria and requirements **will be declined without further review.**

* + 1. **Peer review of pre-proposals**

Proposals passing the eligibility check (call secretariat and country/region) will be forwarded to the SEC members for a first evaluation (see evaluation criteria above). The SEC members will perform the assessment of the pre-proposal and fill the evaluation forms with scores and comments for each criteria. Each pre-proposal will be assessed by 2 SEC members. The SEC members will meet to establish a ranking of the proposals. The CSC will meet to decide which proposals will be accepted for the full proposal submission based on the SEC recommendations.

* 1. **Evaluation of full proposals with right to reply (rebuttal stage)** 
     1. **Formal criteria check**

The JCS will check the full proposals to ensure that they meet the call’s formal criteria and have not changed substantially from the respective pre-proposals before sending them to the external reviewers.

* + 1. **External reviewer’s evaluation**

Each proposal will be allocated to at least two external reviewers who fit the profile of the application.

* + 1. **Rebuttal stage**

Before the SEC members see the reviews from external reviewers, each project coordinator will be provided with the opportunity of studying the assessments and commenting on the arguments and evaluations of the external reviewers, which remain anonymous. This stage allows applicants to comment on factual errors or misunderstandings that may have been committed by the external reviewers while assessing their proposal and to reply to reviewers’ questions. However, issues which are not related with reviewers’ comments or questions can not be addressed and the work plan cannot be modified at this stage.

The applicants will have up to one week (between the second and third week of July) for this **optional** response to the reviewers’ comments.

* + 1. **SEC evaluation**

The JCS will send full proposals, reviews and rebuttals to the SEC members. The SEC will meet to discuss each proposal and, after consideration of the evaluation criteria, external reviews, rebuttals and their own discussions, the SEC will make a classification of the proposals and rank proposals recommended for funding.

* 1. **Funding decision**

Based on the ranking list established by the SEC and on available funding the CSC will suggest the projects to be funded to the national/regional funding organisations. Based on these recommendations, final decisions will be made by the national/regional funding organisations and will be subject to budgetary considerations.

If necessary, the CSC will determine a priority order for proposals which have been awarded the same score within a ranked list. The following approach will be applied successively for every group of ex aequo proposals requiring prioritisation, starting with the highest scored group, and continuing in descending order:

* Availability of national funding;
* Maximization of use of national funding;
* Proposals that address diseases not otherwise covered by more highly-ranked proposals;
* Proposals with participation of Eastern European countries

The joint selection list of projects to be funded will be submitted to the EC together with other relevant information.

The Joint Call Secretariat will communicate to all project coordinators the final decisions together with the review from the SEC.

1. **FINANCIAL AND LEGAL ISSUES** 
   1. **Funding model**

The E-Rare-3 JTC 2015 Funding Partners have agreed to launch a joint call using the “virtual common pot” funding mode. This means that national/regional funding will be made available through national/regional funding organisations according to national/regional funding regulations. In addition, the EC will also provide funding that will maximize the number of selected projects that can be funded in rank order. Funding from the EC will be distributed through the national/regional funding agencies.

Each country/region funds only its national/regional component of the transnational research project. Eligible costs and funding rates may vary according to the corresponding national/regional funding organisation regulations. Prior to submitting a proposal, applicants should verify their eligibility and financial support and are recommended to contact their national/regional contact person (see national/regional contact details).Funding is granted for a maximum of three years according to national/regional regulations.

* 1. **Funding contracts**

Each project includes several consortium members called research partners and one project coordinator. Each research partner (including the project coordinator) will have a separate funding contract/letter of grant according to national/regional regulations with the appropriate national/regional funding institutions.

Changes to the composition of research consortia or in budget cannot occur during the contract/letter of grant, unless there is a good justification. Any minor changes have to be well justified and the relevant funding organisations will decide upon the proper action to be taken. However, in case of major changes, an independent expert can be consulted to help with the final decision of the funding organisations. The research partners shall inform the JCS and the funding bodies of that project of any event that might affect the implementation of the project.

* 1. **Research consortium agreement and ownership of intellectual property rights**

The project consortium partners must sign a consortium agreement (CA) for cooperation addressing the issues given in “Guidelines for applicants” on consortium agreements (available on the E-Rare website). The research consortium is strongly encouraged to sign this CA before the official project start date, and in any case the CA has to be signed no later than six months after the official project start date. Please note that national/regional regulations may apply concerning the requirement for a CA (ANR will require the CA to be signed before the start of the project. Please contact your national/regional contact point or check the country-specific information on the guidelines). Upon request, this consortium agreement must be made available to the concerned E-Rare-3 JTC 2015 funding organisations.

Results and new Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) resulting from projects funded through the

E-Rare-3 Joint Transnational Call will be owned by the researchers’ organisations according to national/regional rules on IPR. If several participants have jointly carried out work generating new IPR, they shall agree amongst themselves (consortium agreement) as to the allocation of ownership of IPR, taking into account their contributions to the creation of those IPR as well as the European guidelines on IPR issues.

The results of the research project and IPR created should be actively exploited and made available for use, whether for commercial gain or not, in order for public benefit to be obtained from the knowledge created.

The funding partners shall have the right to use documents, information and results submitted by the research partners and/or to use the information and results for their own purposes, provided that the owner’s rights are kept and taking care to specify their origin.

* 1. **IRDiRC policies and guidelines**

The project partners are expected to follow IRDiRC policies and guidelines and to participate in IRDiRC working groups. For more information see <http://www.irdirc.org/>.

1. **RESPONSIBILITIES, REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND DISSEMINATION**

The **coordinators** of all the funded projects must submit **brief annual scientific project reports and a final scientific project report** (within six months of the end of the project) to FNRS, Belgium, which is responsible for monitoring the funded projects monitoring. All reports must be in English and use a common electronic reporting form that will be provided. The research partners are jointly responsible for delivery of the reports, and FNRS will only accept reports delivered on behalf of the consortium, via the project coordinator.

If required, each participant should submit financial and scientific reports to their **national/regional funding organisations**, according to national/regional regulations. The progress and final results of each individual contract/letter of grant will be monitored by the respective national/regional funding organisations.

The coordinators and/or national/regional group leaders might be asked to present the results of their projects at an **intermediate and/or a final status symposium** organized by E-Rare. Project proposal budget should foresee these expenses accordingly.

Funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications, etc.) of transnational E-Rare-3 projects include a proper acknowledgement of ERA-NET E-Rare-3 and the respective national/regional funding partner organisations.

In addition, unless the EC requests or agrees otherwise or unless it is impossible, any dissemination of results (in any form, including electronic) must:

(a) display the EU emblem and

(b) include the following text:

“This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the ERA-NET Cofund action N° 643578”.

When displayed together with another logo, the EU emblem must have appropriate prominence.

For the purposes of the obligations under this Article, the beneficiary may use the EU emblem without first obtaining approval from the Agency.

This does not however give it the right to exclusive use.

Moreover, the beneficiary may not appropriate the EU emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

1. **CONTACT AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

The JCS is set up at PT-DLR (The German project management Agency) to assist the CSC and the national/regional funding bodies during the implementation of the call. FNRS, Belgium, will be responsible for the follow-up phase until the funded research projects have ended. The JCS will be responsible for the administrative management of the call. It will be the primary point of contact referring to the call procedures between the research consortia, the funding organisations (CSC) and the peer reviewers. The project coordinator will be the person contacted by the JCS during the application procedure, so he/she must forward this information to the other participants.

Further information on the E-Rare-3 Project, the Call and the follow-up is available at the E-Rare website (www.e-rare.eu). It is advised to contact the national/regional contact person for any questions regarding the Call (please see national/regional contact details below).

**ANNEX I. National/regional contact details**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Country/Region** | **Institution** | **Website** | **National/regional contact** |
| Austria | FWF | [www.fwf.ac.at](http://www.fwf.ac.at) | Stephanie Resch  Phone: +43(1) 505 67 40-8201;Email: [stephanie.resch@fwf.ac.at](mailto:stephanie.resch@fwf.ac.at)  Iris Fortmann  Phone: +43(1) 505 67 40-8211; Email: [iris.fortmann@fwf.ac.at](mailto:iris.fortmann@fwf.ac.at) |
| Austria | FFG | [www.ffg.at](http://www.ffg.at) | Corinna Wilken  Tel: +43(0)577551317  [corinna.wilken@ffg.at](mailto:corinna.wilken@ffg.at)  Birgit Tauber  Tel: +43(0)5 7755-1305  [birgit.tauber@ffg.at](mailto:birgit.tauber@ffg.at) |
| Belgium  (Flanders) | FWO | [www.fwo.be](http://www.fwo.be) | Olivier Boehme  Phone: 00 32 2 550 15 45;  Email: [era-net@fwo.be](mailto:era-net@fwo.be) |
| Belgium (french  speaking community) | FNRS | [www.frs-fnrs.be/](http://www.frs-fnrs.be/) | Arnaud Goolaerts  Phone : +32 (0)2 504 93 09 ;  E-mail : [arnaud.goolaerts@frs-fnrs.be](mailto:christel.buelens@frs-fnrs.be) |
| Canada | CIHR-IG | [www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca) | Marilyn Desrosiers  Deputy Director, Strategic Program Design and Analytics, CIHR  Telephone: 613-954-6242  Email:[marilyn.desrosiers@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:marilyn.desrosiers@cihr-irsc.gc.ca) |
| Canada (Québec) | FRQS | www.frqs.gouv.qc.ca | Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé (FRQS)  Karine Genest (514) 873-2114, ext 1275 [karine.genest@frq.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:nicolas.hoffmann@frq.gouv.qc.ca)  Anne-Cécile Desfaits  (514) 873-2114, ext 1368 [annececile.desfaits@frq.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:annececile.desfaits@frq.gouv.qc.ca) |
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| France | ANR | [www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr](http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr) | Daria Julkowska  +33(0) 1 78 09 80 78  [daria.julkowska@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:daria.julkowska@agencerecherche.fr)  Natalia Martín  + (33) (0) 1 73 54 81 33  [natalia.martin@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:natalia.martin@agencerecherche.fr)  Agence Nationale de la Recherche – ANR  Health & Biology Department  50 Avenue Daumesnil  75012 Paris, France |
| Germany | BMBF/PT  -DLR | [www.gesundheitsforschung-bmbf.de](http://www.gesundheitsforschung-bmbf.de) | Michaela Girgenrath  (++49) (0)228 3821-1775  [Michaela.girgenrath@dlr.de](mailto:Michaela.girgenrath@dlr.de)  Michaela Fersch  (++49) (0)228 3821-1268  [Michaela.Fersch@dlr.de](mailto:Michaela.Fersch@dlr.de)  Ralph Schuster  (++49) (0)228 3821-1233  [Ralph.Schuster@dlr.de](mailto:Ralph.Schuster@dlr.de)  Project Management Agency of the German Aerospace Centre (PT-DLR)  -Health Research- |
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| Hungary | OTKA | [www.otka.hu/](http://www.otka.hu/) | Előd Nemerkényi  Hungarian Scientific Research Fund (OTKA)  tel: +36-1-219-8757  email: nemerkenyi.elod@otka.hu |
| Israel | CSO-MOH | [www.health.gov.il](http://www.health.gov.il) | Avi Israeli  Phone: + 972-2-5082156  [avii@moh.health.gov.il](mailto:avii@moh.health.gov.il)  Irit Allon  Phone: +972-2-5082167  Irit.allon@moh.health.gov.il |
| Italy | MoH | [www.ministerosalute.it/](http://www.ministerosalute.it/) | Dr.Gaetano Guglielmi  Head Office 3 Health Research  General Directorate for Health, Biomedical Research and Health Research Institutions Supervision Ministry of Health  Tel: +39 0659942186  e-mail: [g.guglielmi@sanita.it](mailto:g.guglielmi@sanita.it)  [erare.italy@iss.it](mailto:erare.italy@iss.it) |
| Italy (Regione Emilia Romagna) | RER-ASSR | <http://asr.regione.emilia-romagna.it> | Antonio Addis  Head of RER-ASSR Governance of Research Department  Viale Aldo Moro 21, Bologna,Italy  Tel: +390515277541  e.mail: AAddis@regione.emilia-romagna.it  Mirca Barbolini  Tel: +390515277114  e.mail: , MBarbolini@regione.emilia-romagna.it  Tania Salandin  Tel: +390515277119  e.mail: [Tsalandin@regione.emilia-romagna.it](mailto:Tsalandin@regione.emilia-romagna.it) |
| Latvia | LAS | www.lza.lv | Uldis Berkis  Centre of European Programs  Latvian Academy of Sciences  1 Akademijas laukums, Riga, 1050 Latvia  Tel: +371 67409242  uberkis@latnet.lv |
| Poland | NCBR | [www.ncbir.pl/](http://www.ncbir.pl/) | Marcin Chmielewski  National Centre for Research and Development. Poland (NCBR)  phone : +48 22 39 07 109 ; e-mail : [marcin.chmielewski@ncbr.gov.pl](mailto:marcin.chmielewski@ncbr.gov.pl%20) |
| Portugal | FCT | [www.fct.pt](http://www.fct.pt) | Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT)  Anabela Isidro  E-mail : Anabela.Isidro@fct.pt; Phone: +351 21 391 1552  Carlos Pereira  [Carlos.Pereira@fct.pt](mailto:Carlos.Pereira@fct.pt)  +351 21 392 4397 |
| Romania | UEFISCDI | [http ://uefiscdi.gov.ro/](http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/) | Simona Cristina Stoian  Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding  Phone : +40213023893  E-mail : [simona.stoian@uefiscdi.ro](mailto:simona.stoian@uefiscdi.ro) |
| Spain | ISCIII | [www.isciii.es](http://www.isciii.es) | Eduard Güell  SG de Programas Internacionales de Investigación  Phone: +34 9182 22454; E-mail: eguell@isciii.es |
| Switzerland | SNSF | [www.snf.ch](http://www.snf.ch) | Christoph Meier  Swiss National Science Foundation  Phone   +41(0)31 308 23 62  E-mail: [christoph.meier@snf.ch](mailto:christoph.meier@snf.ch) |
| The Netherlands | ZonMw | [www.zonmw.nl](http://www.zonmw.nl) | Sonja van Weely  Phone: +31-(0)70 349 5220  (preferred): weely@zonmw.nl  Harald Moonen  Phone: +31-(0)70 349 53 49  moonen@zonmw.nl  The Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development (ZonMw) |
| Turkey | TÜBITAK | [www.tubitak.gov.tr](http://www.tubitak.gov.tr) | A. Özge GÖZAY  Phone: +90- 312- 468 53 00 / 1007  ncphealth@tubitak.gov.tr  The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)  EU Framework Programmes  National Coordination Office |

**ANNEX II. Indicative funding commitments of the participating organisations of the E-Rare-3 JTC 2015**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Country/Region** | **Participating organisation** | **Envisioned amount of funding (M€ for 3 years)** | **Anticipated number of fundable research partners** |
| Austria | Austrian Science Fund (FWF) | 0.75 | 3 |
| Austria | Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) | 2 | 4 |
| Belgium | Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) | 0.4 | 2 |
| Belgium | Fund for Scientific Research - FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS) | 0.24 | 1 |
| Canada | Canadian Institutes of Health Research Institute of Genetics(CIHR-IG)[[1]](#footnote-1) | 1.06 | 3-5 |
| Canada | Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé (FRQS) | 0.36 | 1-2 |
| Canada | Genome Canada (GC) [[2]](#footnote-2) | 0.70\* | 2-3 |
| France | French National Research Agency (ANR) | 2 | 8-10 |
| Germany | German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)  German Research Foundation (DFG) | 3  1 | 14-18 |
| Greece | General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT) | 0.5 | 5 |
| Hungary | Hungarian Scientific Research Fund (OTKA) | 0.15 | 1-2 |
| Israel | Chief Scientist Office of the Ministry of Health (CSO/MOH)[[3]](#footnote-3) | 0.24 | 4 |
| Italy | Ministry of Health (MoH) | 1 | 4-6 |
| Italy | Regione Emilia-Romagna - Agenzia Sanitaria e Sociale Regionale (RER-ASSR), Italy | 0.75 | 3-4 |
| Latvia | Latvian Academy of Sciences (LAS) | 0.21 | 1-2 |
| Poland | National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR), | 0.5 | 3-5 |
| Portugal | Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) | 0.325 | 2-3 |
| Romania | Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development & Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI) | 0.5 | 1-6 |
| Spain | National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII) | 0.5 | 3-5 |
| Switzerland | Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)[[4]](#footnote-4) | 0.82 | 2-4 |
| The Netherlands | Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development (ZonMw) | 1.8 | 8-12 |
| Turkey | Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK) | 1 | 8-9 |

**ANNEX III. Eligibility of beneficiary institutions for the participating organisations of the E- Rare-3 JTC 2015**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Country/Region** | **Institution** | **Eligible benificiary institution** | | |
| **Academia** | **Clinical/public health** | **Company** |
| Austria | Austrian Science Fund (FWF) | Yes (3) | Yes (3) | Yes (3) |
| Austria | Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) | No | No | Yes (12) |
| Belgium  (Flanders) | Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) | Yes | Yes (1,2) | No |
| Belgium (french  speaking community) | Fund for Scientific Research - FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS) | Yes (6) | Yes (7,8) | No |
| Canada | Canadian Institutes of Health Research Institute of Genetics (CIHR-IG) | Yes | Yes | No |
| Canada (Québec) | Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé (FRQS) | Yes | Yes | No |
| Canada | Genome Canada (GC) | Yes | Yes | No |
| France | French National Research Agency (ANR) | Yes | Yes | Yes (1) |
| Germany | German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) | Yes | Yes | Yes (1) |
| Germany | German Research Foundation (DFG) | Yes (10) | Yes (11) | No |
| Greece | General Secretariat of Research and Technology (GSRT) | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Hungary | Hungarian Scientific Research Fund (OTKA) | Yes | Yes | No |
| Israel | Chief Scientist Office of the Ministry of Health (CSO/MOH) | Yes | Yes | No |
| Italy | Ministry of Health (MoH) Italy | No | Yes (4) | No |
| Italy | Regione Emilia-Romagna - Agenzia Sanitaria e Sociale Regionale (RER-ASSR) | Yes (13) | Yes (13) | No |
| Latvia | Latvian Academy of Sciences (LAS) | Yes | Yes | Yes (1) |
| Poland | National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR) | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Portugal | Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) | Yes | Yes | Yes (1) |
| Romania | Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development & Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), | Yes | Yes | Yes (1) |
| Spain | National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII), | No | Yes | No |
| Switzerland | Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) | Yes (9) | Yes (9) | No |
| The Netherlands | Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development (ZonMw) | Yes (5) | Yes (5) | No (5) |
| Turkey | Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK) | Yes | Yes | Yes (1) |

**Please note that the information on this table is only indicative**

(1) The eligibility of companies and institutions is subjected to different conditions in each country/region. Further details regarding the eligible beneficiaries and other national/regional eligibility criteria and requirements are available on the “guidelines for applicants” and the E-Rare website ([www.e-rare.eu](http://www.e-rare.eu)).

(2) Only clinics associated with universities are eligible for the FWO.

(3) Applications for projects from FWF (Austria) may only be submitted by single natural persons. Affirmation of the research institution (academia, clinical/public health, enterprise) of the applicant is mandatory.

(4) Research Hospital: Istituti di ricovero e cura a carattere scientifico (IRCCS). Only IRCCS (The Italian Scientific Institutes for Health Research and Health Care). The list of the IRCCS by Region and City is available here:

<http://www.salute.gov.it/ricercaSanitaria/paginaInternaMenuRicercaSanitaria.jsp?id=1064&menu=strumentieservizi>.

(5) For universities, research institutes affiliated to universities, university medical centers, research hospitals and for health promoting institutes and knowledge institutes the several ZonMw grant terms and conditions (as of 1 July 2013) apply. Companies are not eligible for funding of ZonMw in this call, however co-financing by companies or in kind contribution of companies is encouraged.

(6) The institution must belong to the French speaking community

(7) Clinical studies can be funded as long as they are addressing scientific questions without any link to industry of private sector.

(8) Schools of public health are eligible if they are linked or associated with an institution from the French speaking community.

(9) SNSF eligibility check refers to formal and material criteria. Applicants must show that they have successfully carried out research work for several years, and must be capable of running a project under their sole responsibility and leading the project team engaged for the (sub) project. Proposals that are manifestly inadequate to be forwarded to external experts for review or show obvious substantial insufficiencies in any of the SNSF scientific assessment criteria are rejected and not forwarded to external review.

(10) For some non-university academic institutions a duty to cooperate with university institutions may exist. See guideline 55.01 under <http://www.dfg.de/formulare>.

(11) Only non-profit clinics and institutions are eligible.

(12) Natural persons and partners from Academia can be considered as subcontractors. However, subcontractors are not partners in the sense of a Cooperative R&D Project. They have no right to exploit project results but provide defined tasks for partners, which are listed under the cost category “third-party costs“.

(13) Institutions eligible for funding under the RER-ASSR Region-University Programme: all University Hospital-AOU and the following Scientific Institutes for Health Research and Health Care (IRCCS): IRRCS Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli (Bologna), IRCCS Istituto delle Scienze Neurologiche (Bologna) and Baggiovara Hospital (Modena), as defined by the agreement signed between the universities and the Regional Administration.

**Applicants need to contact their national/regional contact points for further information and refer to the national/regional information in the “Guidelines for applicants” document**

1. CIHR-IG will fund to a maximum of $1.5 million Canadian over three years (currently equivalent to 1.06 Mio €) to support operational research costs only. The Canadian amount will not be adjusted to reflect conversion rate changes. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Genome Canada will fund to a maximum of $1.0 million Canadian over three years (currently equivalent to 0.70 Mio €) to support operational research costs only. The Canadian amount will not be adjusted to reflect conversion rate changes. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The CSO/MOH will fund up to 4 projects. The funding commitment is up to 240,000 €, depending on budget availability. Maximum funding per grant is 60,000 €. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. SNSF has earmarked a budget of 1.0 million Swiss Francs over three years (currently equivalent to 0.82 Mio €). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)