

Grant Agreement for the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund

University of Graz

Address: Universitaetsplatz 3, A-8010 Graz, Austria/Europe

Called hereafter "the institution", represented for the purposes of signature of this agreement by «**Name Surname**», **International Relations Officer**, of the one part, and

Last name(s): «Last Name»

First name(s): «First Name»

Date of birth: «DOB»

Nationality: «nationality»

Address: «address»

Phone: «phone»

Email: «email»

Sex: «gender»

Academic year: «academic year»

Study cycle: «study cycle»

Study programme: «study programme»

Entrance university: «entrance university»

Student with: financial support from the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund Yes

The financial support includes: special needs support Yes/No

The maximum possible duration of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund is, in accordance to the regular duration of the chosen degree programme at the grantee's entrance university, however, not beyond the end of the funding period of this scholarship scheme (30.09.2026):

Master - 12, 18 or 24 months, PhD - 36 months.

called hereafter "the funding recipient", of the other part,

have agreed the Special Conditions below which form an integral part of this agreement ("the Agreement"):

The funding constitutes a voluntary financial support for studies, there is NO legal entitlement to it and it does not constitute a precedent for the future!

ARTICLE 1 – SUBJECT MATTER OF THE AGREEMENT

- 1.1 The funding recipient undertakes to carry out the studies in accordance with this Agreement.
- 1.2 The funding recipient must ensure that the signed Agreement is duly submitted before the start of the studies.
- 1.3 Either party to the Agreement may propose and agree to amendments to the Agreement by means of a formal notification in written format or electronically. Any oral amendments or additions to the Agreement shall be invalid.

ARTICLE 2 – EFFECTIVE DATE, DURATION AND PROOF OF ENROLMENT/STUDY

- 2.1 This Agreement shall take effect from the date that it is signed by the last of the two parties to the Agreement. The Agreement will be signed by signing a printed copy of the Agreement, which must be signed and sent by registered mail for a countersignature to the University of Graz by the funding recipient; the University of Graz as the disbursing institution keeps the original in its files; the funding recipient is provided with a countersigned copy in the Mobility Online System in return.
- 2.2 The total duration of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund shall not exceed the regular study period of the recipient's degree programme and the maximum possible duration of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund (see page 1).
- 2.3 The start date is the first day of lectures of the academic year in which the funding recipient commences the studies. The end date is the last day on which, calculated from the start date, the regular study period of the funding recipient's degree programme and thus the maximum funding period ends, however, not beyond the end of the funding period of this scholarship scheme (30.09.2026). Changes to the duration must be communicated to the University of Graz without delay.
- 2.4 The funding recipient shall receive the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund for **XY** months.
- 2.5 The payment of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund shall start on **DD/MM/YYYY** and end on **DD/MM/YYYY**.
- 2.6 The funding recipient must provide evidence of the regular duration of the degree programme and of enrolment at the entrance university, including the start date of studies.

ARTICLE 3 – FORFEITURE CLAUSE

- 3.1 The payment of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund by the University of Graz can only be made after both parties have signed the Agreement.
- 3.2 The payment of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund by the University of Graz can only be made after the funding recipient has provided the evidence required under 2.6 and the data and documents required for the transfer of the scholarship (see Art. 6).

ARTICLE 4 – REPORTING OBLIGATIONS OF THE FUNDING RECIPIENT

- 4.1 The funding recipient must immediately inform the University of Graz of any premature discontinuation of the studies.
- 4.2 The funding recipient undertakes to notify the University of Graz without delay of any changes regarding the studies or the data submitted as long as this Agreement remains valid.

ARTICLE 5 - AMOUNT OF THE FUNDING

- 5.1 The total amount of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund from the Arqus European University Alliance is € AMOUNT.
- 5.2 The amount of the special needs fund is € AMOUNT.
- 5.3 Amounts will be rounded in accordance with standard commercial principles.
- 5.4 The Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund cannot be combined with other EU-funded scholarships received by the funding recipient to pursue the studies, as this would lead to double financing.
- 5.5 Additional sources of funding (scholarships, grants) under the Erasmus+ programme for the compulsory mobility lead to a loss of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund during the mobility due to the resulting double financing.

ARTICLE 6 - PAYMENT TERMS

- 6.1 The Arqus Talent Scholarship is paid once per semester after the funding recipient has provided the required documents (see 2.6 and 6.2).
- 6.2 The second and further payments are dependent on the confirmation of enrolment and of the funding recipient's academic performance (transcript of records) as a Master's student and the progress as doctoral student (progress report confirmed by the supervisor).
- 6.3 The tuition fees will be paid/reimbursed to the funding recipient directly. The funding recipient will need to present the payment confirmation of the tuition fees to the University of Graz.
- 6.4 The funding recipient will receive a special needs fund in addition to the scholarship if one of the following criteria applies, based on the supporting documents provided by the funding recipient:
 - a. Refugee/asylum seeker (respective status)
 - b. Student with caring responsibilities (of children between 0-18; birth certificate of the child must be provided) (or of parents/family members with certified disabilities/impairments; a confirmation that the funding recipient is the carer must be provided)
 - c. Student with disabilities/learning disabilities (disability pass)
 - d. Student with chronic disease/s (medical confirmation)
- 6.5 The scholarship will be paid throughout the funding recipient's studies in accordance to the agreed study period under Art. 2.
- 6.6 For the payment, the funding recipient must complete the required data in Mobility Online (access will be provided by the University of Graz) and upload the documents required for payment (address, IBAN bank account, copy of passport; if the funding recipient is residing in Austria, the Austrian registration form "Meldezettel").
- 6.7 Any transfer expenses incurred for transfers that are not SEPA compatible (in particular to bank accounts in countries outside the EU/EEA) must be borne in full by the funding recipient.

ARTICLE 7 - REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS

- 7.1 The funding recipient shall lose the entitlement to payment of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund or will be required to repay these subsequently in full if they have already been paid out if the funding recipient
 - a. does not commence the studies;
 - b. is not enrolled as a degree programme student at the respective Arqus university;
 - c. has received the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund on basis of incorrect or incomplete information;

- d. in the case of the University of Graz, has an employment contract with the University of Graz during the studies.
- 7.2 The funding recipient shall only be entitled to a pro rata payment of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund or must repay the scholarship proportionally if it has already been paid out if the funding recipient terminates the studies prematurely for a verifiable reason through no fault of the funding recipient's own. Justified cases of termination shall include in particular illness, important family obligations and unavoidable or unforeseeable serious events ("force majeure"). In such cases, the funding recipient shall be entitled to retain the pro rata scholarship in accordance with the actual duration of the discontinued study period. Any funds disbursed in excess of this amount must be repaid.

ARTICLE 8 - INSURANCE

- 8.1 The funding recipient shall take out adequate health, accident and liability insurance cover for the duration of the study period. The award of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund does not include insurance cover.
- 8.2 The funding recipient shall take out adequate insurance coverage also covering medical evacuation and repatriation, and including liability and accident for the compulsory mobility.

ARTICLE 9 - EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY

- 9.1 A party to the Agreement or its employees shall only be liable for damage or loss incurred by the other party to the Agreement or its employees in the event of wilful intent or gross negligence in implementing this Agreement.

ARTICLE 10 - TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT

- 10.1 The University of Graz shall be entitled to terminate the Agreement in writing at any time if the funding recipient does not fulfil the obligations arising from this Agreement, without prejudice to the consequences provided for this in accordance with the applicable law, unless the funding recipient implements adequate measures to restore the situation in accordance with the Agreement or to fulfil all of the contractual obligations within one month of being informed of the breach of the obligation by registered letter. In the event of termination, the funding recipient must immediately repay the entire scholarship amount to the University of Graz.

ARTICLE 11 - DATA PROTECTION: DATA PROCESSING AND TRANSFERS OF PERSONAL DATA

- 11.1 All personal data referred to in this Agreement shall be processed in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 - General Data Protection Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)), and in accordance with the provisions of the latest applicable version of the Austrian Data Protection Act (DSG).

Specific information on the processing of the funding recipient's personal data within the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund can be found at: <https://arqus-alliance.eu/arqus-talent-scholarship-fund>

ARTICLE 12 - APPLICABLE LAW

- 12.1 This Agreement shall be governed exclusively by Austrian law.
- 12.2 The competent court determined in accordance with the applicable national law shall have sole jurisdiction to hear any dispute between the institution and the participant concerning the interpretation, application or validity of this Agreement, if such dispute cannot be settled amicably.

ARTICLE 13 - CONTACT

13.1. The contact persons of the Arqus Talent Scholarship Fund at the Arqus partner universities, who act as an interface between the funding recipient, the University of Graz, and the relevant departments and offices at the entrance university in case of enquiries, are:

University of Granada:	Héctor Santiago Pérez (hsantiago@ugr.es)
University of Graz:	Anja Hoffmann (jointdegrees@uni-graz.at)
Leipzig University:	Ninon Müller (arqus@uni-leipzig.de)
University of Lyon 1:	Romain Thinon (arqus@univ-lyon1.fr)
Maynooth University:	TBC
University of Minho:	Vanessa Alves (vanessa@reitoria.uminho.pt)
University of Padua:	phd@unipd.it (PhD students) international.admission@unipd.it (Master students)
University of Wroclaw:	Dominika Buczkowska (dominika.buczkowska@uwr.edu.pl)
Vilnius University:	Mariana Sueldo (mariana.sueldo@cr.vu.lt) (PhD students) Julija Savickė (julija.savicke@cr.vu.lt) (general enquiries)

SIGNATURES

Place, date, signature of the scholarship holder

(FIRST NAME LAST NAME)

Place, date, signature

University of Graz

(FIRST NAME LAST NAME)