# Arqus Innovation Fund – Call for ad hoc bottom-up-initiatives 2023

# Introduction

The **Arqus Innovation Fund** incentivizes **innovative internal bottom-up initiatives** from Arqus staff and students through the availability of seed-funding to foster innovation and entrepreneurial mindset, and also to strengthen the visibility of Arqus internally and promote further staff engagement.

Under this fund, we would like to announce the **call for ad hoc bottom-up initiatives** with a joint approach and impact on the Alliance.

# Requirements & Application

For this call, a total sum of € 100,000.00 will be allocated, subject to the following ceiling per initiative/project:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Smaller projects with a minimum of 3 Arqus partners participating | **€ 5,000.00** |
| Larger projects with 5+ Arqus partners participating | **€ 10,000.00** |

Please also note that additional funding (co-funding) from other sources is permitted, even encouraged, provided that applicants demonstrate that there is no double funding of activities.

Applicants are required to elaborate on how the budget will be managed and to provide a detailed budget overview showing the budget share per partner university. Applicants can also benefit from the support of local Arqus teams.

Applications should be submitted by teams from at least three Arqus institutions who work together on a joint proposal. The number of staff involved in the project proposal is a matter of mutual agreement between applicants.

# Eligible Initiatives

The Work Package 13 “Arqus Talent & Innovation Fund” is looking for macro-activities that are linked to [major goals of the Arqus European University Alliance](https://arqus-alliance.eu/core-values/) and the Action Lines: *Education, Research & Innovation, Societal Engagement*. WP13 aims for a balanced distribution across the Action Lines. Please note that activities with a pure research purpose **will not be funded**.

More specifically, the following **types of activities** are supported under this call:

* *challenge-based-learning programmes,*
* *collaboration project labs,*
* *cross-disciplinary seminars,*
* *dissemination events for the general public,*
* *joint short-term study projects (except Twinnings),*
* *research training,*
* *twin/triplet transition initiatives (T02.4 Generating joint inter- and transdisciplinary research and innovation activities),*
* *joint workshops*.

*\*Upscaling and institutionalizing Arqus I and Arqus R&I outcomes and reinforcing the framework for the further expansion of research partnerships within the alliance through: - Responsible Twin/Triplet Transition Initiative: Calls for joint project initiatives bridging concepts of responsible AI, (stron) Sustainability and European Identity for the preparation of joint third-party funded projects. Through the Talent & Innovation Fund (WP13), seed funding will be available for the preparation of projects specifically based on the interconnections of at least two of the three priority areas. Proposals may be in education, research, or innovation; priority will be given to those bridging education and research and involving societal partners.*

The **application runs** **from 10 October 2023 until 30 November 2023**, with eligibility checks, evaluation and selection taking place in December 2023 and January 2024. The initiatives must be developed and implemented **over the next 3 years (up to an including 30 September 2026)** – end of the eligibility period.

# Selection & Criteria

The Selection Committee is composed of **nine academics of different disciplines and student representatives**. Following the Committee’s proposal, the **final decision on adjudicating funds will be made by the Steering Committee** of the Arqus European University Alliance.

For the selection, the following selection criteria will apply and be assessed with the relevant score:

* **Relevance (0-30)** *(maximum 10 points per sub-criteria)*
  + Level of ambition of the proposal
  + Jointness (joint added value)
  + Link to the Arqus major goals and the Action Lines
* **Quality (0-30)** *(maximum 10 points per sub-criteria)*
  + Feasibility
  + Innovativeness
  + Number of participating partner universities
* **Impact (0-30)** *(maximum 10 points per sub-criteria)*
  + Directly impacted members of the university community (students/staff)
  + Potential impact on the entire Alliance
  + Sustainability & scalability

# Application Process

Please complete the following data in the online form and submit your application(s) for this call **by 30 November 2023**.

Please note that successful applications will be called to regular coordination meetings with the co-leads of WP13 as form of monitoring.

Please note that you are required to submit one application per initiative.

For further questions, please send an email to [innovation-fund@arqus-alliance.eu](mailto:innovation-fund@arqus-alliance.eu)

Any files that are uploaded will be shared outside of the organisation they belong to.

\*Indicates required question

**Annex – Unit Costs / Lump Sums**

For the allocation of the fund, unit costs/lump sums will be applied as follows. For the calculation of the budget, please use these unit costs/lump sums:

* *Travel: 450€/travel*
* *Accommodation: 130€/day*
* *Subsistence: 90€/day*

**On-site event costs (lump sum):**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **No. of days:** | | | | | | |
| **No. of participants** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** |
| <10 | € 500.00 | € 1,000.00 | € 1,500.00 | € 2,000.00 | € 2,500.00 | € 3,000.00 | € 3,500.00 |
| 11-20 | € 1,000.00 | € 2,000.00 | € 3,000.00 | € 4,000.00 | € 4,800.00 | € 5,760.00 | € 6,720.00 |
| 21-40 | € 2,000.00 | € 3,600.00 | € 5,400.00 | € 7,200.00 | € 9,000.00 | Not applicable due to the set ceiling. | |
| >41 | € 3,600.00 | € 6,300.00 | € 9,030.00 | Not applicable due to the set ceiling. | | | |

**Online event costs (lump sum):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **No. of participants** | |
| <20 | € 0.00 |
| 20-100 | € 500.00 |
| >100 | € 1,000.00 |

**Facilitator/tutor costs**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| For online events: | € 600.00/day |
| For on-site events | € 600.00/day + travel and subsistence costs |

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Please fill in the following data.

Main contact person for applying university 1 (name & surname)\*

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

Main contact email for applying university 1 (email)\*

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

University of main contact applying university 1\*

University of Granada

University of Graz

Leipzig University

University of Lyon 1

Maynooth University

University of Minho

University of Padua

University of Wroclaw

Vilnius University

The same information must be provided for all participating partner universities.

**ACTIVITIES / INITIATIVES**

Please outline what kind of bottom-up initiative(s) will be developed and implemented, focusing on the selection criteria established for this call (*relevance, quality, impact*).

Please note that the activities/initiatives must be linked to the major goals of the Arqus Alliance and the Action Lines: *Education, Research & Innovation, Societal Engagement*.

Name of the activity / initiative\*

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

Type of activity / initiative\*

Challenge-based-learning programmes

Collaboration project labs

Cross-disciplinary seminars

Dissemination events for the general public

Joint short-term study projects (except Twinnings)

Research training

Twin/triplet transition initiatives (T02.4 Generating joint inter- and transdisciplinary research and transdisciplinary research and innovative activities)

Joint workshops

**Description of the activity / initiative\***

**RELEVANCE** – level of ambition of the proposal, jointness (joint added value), link to the Arqus major goals and the Action Lines.

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

**QUALITY** – feasibility, innovativeness, number of participating partner universities.

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

**IMPACT** – directly impacted members of the university community (students/staff), potential impact on the entire Alliance, sustainability & scalability.

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

Expected starting date\*

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

Expected ending date\*

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

Please provide further information about the timeframe (planning and implementation phase, evaluation phase, milestones, number of calls, etc.):

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

**BUDGET**

Please indicate the estimated costs for this activity / initiative, taking into account the established ceiling.

What type of expenses do you foresee?\*

Travel, accommodation & subsistence expenses

Grants / Scholarships

Facilitator / tutor costs

Equipment

Organisational costs

Subcontracting

Other

Please provide a detailed budget overview of the estimated costs per category showing the budget share of each participating partner university and by using the unit costs/lump sums. Please upload the respective excel file to this application.\*

Total amount of the funding you apply for (in €):\*

Klicken oder tippen Sie hier, um Text einzugeben.

**Data protection**

For information on the processing of your personal data within the framework of the Arqus Innovation Fund, please see the [Data Protection Declaration](https://arqus-alliance.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/arqus-innovation-fund_data-protection-declaration_final.pdf).