

**Twinning 2.0**



## Arqus II joint call for Twinning 2.0 activities

### 1. Call objectives

Arqus Twinning 2.0 aims to strengthen subject-related collaboration of staff and students and create possibilities to carry out joint learning and teaching activities through piloting short-term mobility schemes.

Twinning are perceived as the mobility **of a team**, consisting of 1 lecturer and 3 to 5 students, moving to another partner institution within the same subject area. Length of the visit is 3-5 days (+2 additional days for travel).

Moreover Twinning 2.0 activities are aimed at enhancing bilateral relationships among academic partners providing reciprocal opportunities for international exchange of students and staff.

### 2. Eligible activities

The Arqus European University Alliance brings together the universities of **Granada, Graz, Leipzig, Lyon 1, Maynooth, Minho, Padova, Vilnius and Wroclaw**. The Alliance's aim is to respond to the societal challenges and to advance towards deeper European integration.

The Twinning 2.0 initiative is foreseen to contribute to the achievement of the Alliance's objectives. Detailed information about the Alliance's mission is provided on the dedicated [webpage](#).

Twinning activities may vary in their mode and type. They have to consist of a learning activity and may include group trips, participation in international contests, joint workshops, summer schools, group projects, conferences, etc. Twinning activities might be implemented through regular (physical) mobility or blended teaching/learning.

#### **What's new?**

Twinning 2.0 activities in Arqus II are carried out in **reciprocity** between the partners involved, meaning that each university will send its group to visit the counterpart to carry out the learning activities foreseen in the application. Therefore the application has to be submitted jointly by 2 members of universities of the Alliance.

Furthermore, Twinning 2.0 promotes the Alliance's main themes: **European Identity heritage, digital transformation and artificial intelligence; climate change and environmental sustainability.**

The additional virtual component is highly recommended.

### **3. Finance of Twinning activities**

The Alliance has agreed on general financial terms upon which the calculations of minimum contribution for travel and subsistence costs are made. Financial conditions may anyway vary on the basis of the availability of funding in each partner institution.

The basic grant is awarded for a group consisting of up to 5 students and it is calculated on unit costs:

- Travel costs: 450,00 EUR per student.
- Individual support: 79,00 EUR per day per student, covering the whole duration of the visit (3-5 days + 2 additional days for travel).

This activity is funded mainly through Arqus Innovation fund. Lecturers are responsible for the funding of their travel and living costs, which can be covered through Erasmus+ dedicated funding schemes or other funds that each institution may have decided to add in order to increase the impact of the action<sup>1</sup>.

The Selection Committee will approve a minimum of 9 Twinning 2.0 (18 groups involved), taking into account the overall balance of partners involved and the availability of funds from Arqus and other sources. If necessary, the Selection Committee may opt for funding a project only partially.

### **4. Application deadlines and procedures**

Academics can apply for Twinning activities by submitting their applications via the [dedicated form](#).

Relevant dates for the implementation of projects:

- The call is open until **14th June, 2024**;
- Start of period eligible for Twinning visits: 1 September 2024;
- End of period eligible for Twinning visits: 30 September 2025.

The application form has to be filled in by one representative on behalf of both the institutions participating in the call.

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<sup>1</sup> Lecturers are invited to refer to their home institutions for advice.

Through the application, applicants will be required to provide their contact details and information about their study field, as well as to present the overall project, its genesis, aims, learning outcome and impact, along with a provisional programme for the implementation.

## 5. Selection criteria

The selection will be conducted taking into account the following criteria:

1. Applications related to the main Arqus II themes (**European Identity heritage, digital transformation and artificial intelligence; climate change and environmental sustainability**) are prioritised. Applications based on other topics will also be considered;
2. Previous collaborations among the applicants in other programs;
3. Learning outcomes;
4. Implementation strategies;
5. Sustainability of the action (expected impact on the institutions involved, follow-up and further development of the project).

The selection committee will take into account: the maximum possible balance in the ratio between funded activities and partners involved.

An eligibility check of applications will be made by Arqus reference staff in each partner university prior to the selection.

The number of eligible applications approved for funding will be subject to the availability of funds.

A reserve list will be made out of the eligible applications not approved for funding.

## 6. Selection committee

The selection committee will be composed as follows:

- academic experts in study fields relevant to the Arqus main themes and to the subjects tackled by the project submitted;
- members from the “Arqus on the moves” working group.

Each university should nominate at least one member from one of the two categories.

The Selection Committee will nominate one of its members as coordinator before starting the selection process.

Grant notification will be provided to applicants by 16th July 2024 and duly launched on the Arqus website accordingly. After approval of the application, funding is allocated for use until September 30th, 2025.

### 7. Obligations of the selected applicants

Selected applicants will be required to inform the Selection Committee of the acceptance of the grant. The deadline for the acceptance will be specified in the grant notification.

If scheduled visits need to be postponed or cancelled, the applicants must inform the Selection Committee no later than 1 month prior to the date of departure.

The Selection Committee can reallocate unused funds to any other not selected eligible project proposal.

The applicants will be in charge of selecting the students who will take part in the activities following the internal regulations of their institutions and respecting principles of equality and transparency. The name and data of selected students must be communicated to the responsible contact person at each university (see section 8) before the beginning of the activities (even online). Each institution will be responsible for covering the mobilities of their own outgoing participants in accordance with internal time frames and regulations.

After each visit, applicants are required to report on the final results of their Twinning 2.0, detailing the actual results in comparison with the expected outcomes. The report should be submitted within 1 month after the visit to the concerned contact person (contacts below).

### 8. Contact Information

In case of any questions related to Twinning 2.0 activities, please, refer to the contact person of each University:

<b>University of Granada</b>	Violeta García Arena <a href="mailto:violetagaren@ugr.es">violetagaren@ugr.es</a>
<b>University of Graz</b>	Julia Trattnig <a href="mailto:julia.trattnig@uni-graz.at">julia.trattnig@uni-graz.at</a>
<b>Leipzig University</b>	Ninon Böhme <a href="mailto:arqus@uni-leipzig.de">arqus@uni-leipzig.de</a>
<b>University of Lyon 1</b>	Geraldine Yon <a href="mailto:geraldine.yon@univ-lyon1.fr">geraldine.yon@univ-lyon1.fr</a>
<b>Maynooth University</b>	Alena Jurikova <a href="mailto:Alena.Jurikova@mu.ie">Alena.Jurikova@mu.ie</a>
<b>University of Minho</b>	Ana Esteves / Raquel Oliveira <a href="mailto:usai@usai.uminho.pt">usai@usai.uminho.pt</a>
<b>University of Padova</b>	Enrico Soncin <a href="mailto:enrico.soncin@unipd.it">enrico.soncin@unipd.it</a>
<b>Vilnius University</b>	Skirmante Savickaite <a href="mailto:skirmante.savickaite@cr.vu.lt">skirmante.savickaite@cr.vu.lt</a>

**University of Wrocław**

Urszula Broda [urszula.broda@uwr.edu.pl](mailto:urszula.broda@uwr.edu.pl)

For general inquiries and in case of appeal (within 15 days from the publication of the results): [mobility-hub@arqus-alliance.eu](mailto:mobility-hub@arqus-alliance.eu)