

## SELECTION RESULTS

### Arqus Innovation Fund – Call 2025 of the Arqus Seed Funding Scheme

The Arqus Innovation Fund seeks to incentivise **innovative, internal bottom-up initiatives** led by Arqus staff and students that have an impact on the entire Alliance.

To achieve this, it provides **seed-funding to foster innovation** and an entrepreneurial mindset, strengthen the visibility of Arqus internally and promote further staff engagement.

The aim of this **seed-funding call 2025** was twofold:

- **For Arqus Working Groups:** The aim was to provide guidance to Arqus Working Groups on the external funding opportunities available for the **individual innovative initiatives in the Arqus Erasmus+ work plan 2022-2026**, and to provide financial support for expenses that cannot be covered by other sources. Please note that priority has been given to Arqus Working Groups that had received little or no funding from the Arqus Innovation Fund in previous calls. In addition, funding for the design of innovative forms of mobility has been assessed separately under this seed-funding call.
- **For ad hoc bottom-up initiatives:** The aim was to incentivise **innovative ad hoc bottom-up** initiatives from Arqus academics, administrative staff and students with a joint approach. At least 60% of the available funds have been reserved for ad-hoc bottom-up initiatives.

Specific requirements for the Arqus Working Groups and for the ad hoc bottom-up initiatives can be found [at this link](#).

In this context, the Alliance would like to support activities that are linked to the [major goals of the Arqus European University Alliance](#) and the Arqus Boards: Education, Research & Innovation, Societal Engagement. The following ceilings have been established:

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

Types of activities supported under this call: *challenge-based-learning programmes, collaboration project labs, cross-disciplinary seminars, events for the general public, joint short-term study projects, research training, twin/triplet transition initiatives, workshops.*

Please note that activities with a pure research purpose will not be funded.

#### Selection and criteria

- The evaluation and selection of initiatives submitted by the **Arqus Working Groups** were made by a selection committee composed of academics and administrative staff from each Arqus partner university.
- The evaluation and selection of **ad hoc bottom-up initiatives** submitted by Arqus staff and students were made by a selection committee composed of academics of different disciplines from each Arqus partner university.

Each selection committee organised its own joint selection meeting to evaluate, select and rank the applications submitted for the corresponding sub-call according to the established selection criteria.

Both selection committees were asked to appoint a chair and vice-chair who met in a joint selection meeting to discuss the selection results of each sub-call and prepare a proposal for the allocation of funds. Following

the committees' proposal, the final decision on the allocation of funds was made by the Executive Council of the Arqus European University Alliance.

Full details of the call can be found [at this link](#).

## SELECTION RESULTS Arqus Innovation Fund – Call 2025

### INITIATIVES SUBMITTED BY ARQUS WORKING GROUPS

#### 1) Eligible initiatives selected for funding

Name of Working Group	Name of initiative	Approved funding
WG02 AI/DT	Exploring AI in Academia: Practical Applications and Best Practices	€11,650.00
WG07	Arqus PhD Week for Careers beyond academia 2026	€12,600.00
		<b>TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED: €24,250.00</b>

#### 2) Eligible initiatives not selected for funding

Name of Working Group	Name of initiative
WG02 EH/EI	Heritage & Society: Paths for Co-Constructing Heritage Knowledge with the Local Community: An Immersive Experience
WG09	GATE - Generator for Arqus Thesis Exchange
WG11	Workshop series on language and culture for Plurilingualism Module

***Please note that all selected initiatives will be contacted by the co-leads of the Arqus Innovation Fund with detailed information regarding next steps and monitoring procedures. Initiatives that were not selected for funding will also receive individual feedback outlining the reasons for their rejection.***

## AD HOC BOTTOM-UP INITIATIVES

### 1) Eligible initiatives selected for funding

Participating universities (applying university in bold)	Name of activity	Type of activity	Approved funding
<b>University of Granada</b> University of Wroclaw Vilnius University	Arts and Creativity in the Foreign Language Classroom: Interdisciplinarity and Innovation in the Process of Teaching and Learning Slavic Languages	Joint workshops	€4,950.00
University of Granada Maynooth University <b>University of Wroclaw</b> Vilnius University	VISURB: Workshop on Visual Methodologies in Urban Research	Research training, Joint workshops	€4,870.00
University of Granada University of Graz Leipzig University University of Lyon 1 Maynooth University University of Minho University of Padua <b>University of Wroclaw</b> Vilnius University	“Project AiRQUS” AI in Language Learning and Teaching Pedagogy – a Series of Online Workshops and Webinars with Experts to Enhance Innovativeness and Competitiveness at Arqus Universities	Cross-disciplinary seminars, Joint workshops	€7,200.00

Participating universities (applying university in bold)	Name of activity	Type of activity	Approved funding
University of Granada University of Graz University of Padua <b>University of Wroclaw</b> Vilnius University	Arqus Verde: Connecting Botanical Gardens for Europe's Biodiversity and Cultural Heritage	Challenge-based-learning programmes, Dissemination events for the general public, Joint workshops	€9,880.00
University of Graz Leipzig University <b>University of Padua</b>	Science on Stage: Learning to Dramatize Figures, Discoveries, and Ideas	Dissemination events for the general public	€4,930.00
<b>University of Graz</b> Maynooth University Leipzig University Vilnius University	Bottom-up initiative for Research Security	Research training, Joint workshops	€4,760.00
University of Granada <b>University of Graz</b> University of Lyon 1 University of Minho University of Padua	Virtual Reality Human Library	Cross-disciplinary seminars, Dissemination events for the general public, Joint workshops	€10,000.00
University of Minho <b>University of Wroclaw</b> Vilnius University	Storytelling in Social Advocacy: Building a Partnership Between Academia and NGOs	Joint workshops	€5,000.00
University of Granada <b>University of Graz</b> Leipzig University	Arqus Women Connect	Digital Platform for networking, support, and mentorship	€5,000.00
TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED:			€56,590.00€

## 2) Eligible initiatives not selected for funding

Participating universities (applying university in bold)	Name of activity	Type of activity
<b>University of Granada</b> University of Graz Leipzig University University of Lyon 1 University of Wrocław Vilnius University	Cross-disciplinary seminars and challenge-based learning workshops for the staff in charge of financial and technical management of EU projects.	Challenge-based-learning programmes, Cross-disciplinary seminars, Joint workshops
<b>University of Granada</b> University of Padua University of Wrocław Vilnius University	Teaching European Translation and Cultural Studies: Interdisciplinary Samples, Practices and Proposals. 1st seminar.	Collaboration project labs
University of Graz <b>University of Padua</b> Vilnius University	Ethical Challenges in the Era of Artificial Intelligence	Cross-disciplinary seminars
University of Granada University of Graz <b>University of Padua</b>	Human Rights and International Cybersecurity Law: Challenges and Perspectives	Cross-disciplinary seminars, Dissemination events for the general public, Joint workshops

University of Granada Leipzig University Maynooth University University of Minho <b>University of Padua</b>	Cross-disciplinary colloquium of the “Mobility Studies” Community of Practice (concluding in-presence event of the Arqus colloquium series in Mobilities 2025-26), Padua, September 2026.	Cross-disciplinary seminars
University of Granada <b>Leipzig University</b> University of Padua	Latin American Literature and New Concepts of Authorship: Markets, Agents, Publics	Joint workshops
University of Granada University of Graz Maynooth University University of Minho University of Padua <b>University of Wroclaw</b>	Interdisciplinary Teaching Lab on Migration & Interculturality	Cross-disciplinary seminars
Maynooth University <b>University of Minho</b> University of Padua	Arqus Global Voices	Dissemination events for the general public, Joint workshops

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For more details on the evaluation process and the assessment of the applications, you can contact [anja.hoffmann@uni-graz.at](mailto:anja.hoffmann@uni-graz.at) and [celiacastillo@ugr.es](mailto:celiacastillo@ugr.es), co-leads of the Arqus Innovation Fund

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