

East-West Dialogue: Higher Education Dialogue with Western Balkan Countries 2022

Programme objectives

The German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst - DAAD) is distributing funds provided by the German Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt – AA) for the programme 'Higher Education Dialogue with Western Balkan Countries'.

The programme contributes to a sustainable development of academic teaching and research, to promoting young academics, and to discipline-specific cross-border collaboration in the region. The funding programme therefore contributes to strengthening the civil society, to the development of democracy and to a reduction of ethical conflicts in the target region.

Partner countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia;

Further partner countries: Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Turkey and Hungary

The programme objectives are:

- Cross-border exchange and networking take place in the Western Balkan region and between German and foreign higher education institutions, students and young academics
- Academic exchange and discipline-specific collaboration with regard to current academic and/or socio-political issues takes place
- Civil-society actors are involved
- Subject-specific findings are made available to the public

Eligible measures

Funding is available for scientifically based academic and socio-political dialogue among the Western Balkan countries and Germany. Such dialogue is supported by means of the following measures:

- Workshops, meetings, seminars, study trips, summer schools and conferences in the partner countries and/or in Germany (usually lasting up to 14 days) for participants from the area of higher education and the civil society (usually between 15 and 20 persons); funding is not available for purely discipline-specific conferences
- Teaching and research stays of up to three months for foreign academics visiting partner universities in Germany or the partner countries
- Study and research stays for foreign students and graduates visiting Germany (one to three months)

Expenditure eligible for funding

All costs that are necessary for project implementation (implementation of the measures) are eligible for funding. These include in particular:

Personnel resources for project implementation and support

- Personnel in Germany
 - Academic assistant
 - Student assistant
 - Other personnel
- Staff abroad (in line with local standards and appropriate in the context of a forwarding agreement)
 - Academic assistant
 - Student assistant
 - Other personnel

Personnel costs include the gross salary paid by the employer. Annual bonus payments are only eligible for funding during the appropriation period and only insofar as the payment date is within this period.

Equipment funding

- Fees (not for employees of the grant recipient)
For external lecturers, such as experts and trainers for lectures, workshops, etc., including preparation and follow-up work (up to EUR 40 per hour; EUR 250 per day)

For external lecturers, expenditure for trips and residence can be reimbursed in addition to the fee, in line with the principles of economic efficiency and frugality and based on supporting documents.

- Mobility of the project personnel (grant recipient's personnel)
Applications for travel and flight expenses can be submitted and claimed according to the applicable laws (BRKG/LRKG). Only second class rail travel and economy class flights are eligible for funding.
- Residence of the project personnel (grant recipient's personnel)
Applications for expenses for accommodation and meals can be submitted and claimed according to the applicable laws (BRKG/LRKG).
- Equipment funding in Germany/outside Germany
 - Rent for rooms (*rent for meeting rooms, offices, etc.; not for the grant recipient's premises*)
 - Printing/publications/advertising and public relations (*flyers, brochures, posters, scientific publications, website, etc.*)
 - External services (*companies that are commissioned to provide services or procurement services, such as catering, coach companies, repair work, IT support, etc.*)
 - Other costs (*teaching materials, etc.*)

Funded individuals

- **Travel expenses for funded individuals**

Mobility allowance for **German and foreign academics holding a PhD and higher education teaching staff** per participant per event (workshops, meetings, seminars, study trips, summer schools and conferences) (see **table**)

The mobility allowance arises on the first day of the trip and must be evidenced using a signed participant list. The mobility allowance settles all expenditure in the context of the trip (this includes the trip and flight as well as expenditure for visa, vaccinations, excess luggage, luggage insurance).

Expenditure for travel within Germany, the partner country or third countries can be reimbursed in line with the principles of economic efficiency and frugality and based on supporting documents.

Mobility grant for foreign and German students/graduates/doctoral candidates (partner country – Germany and back) (see **table**)

The mobility grant should be specified in the context of the scholarship agreement or scholarship confirmation:

Country	Mobility allowance/ mobility grant	
	German/ foreign students/ graduates/ doctoral candi- dates; foreign academics holding a PhD (EUR)	German academics hold- ing a PhD (EUR)
Albania	525	650
Bosnia and Herzegovina	475	650
Kosovo	475	600
Croatia	375	550
Northern Macedonia	500	700
Montenegro	525	675
Serbia	300	500

Further countries		
Bulgaria	400	
Greece	425	
Romania	350	
Russia (European part)	525	
Russia (Asian part)	775	
Slovenia	375	
Turkey	425	
Hungary	225	

- **Residence of funded individuals**

In the partner countries

Expenditure for accommodation and meals for German and foreign students/graduates/doctoral candidates/academics holding a PhD can be reimbursed in line with the principles of economic efficiency and frugality and based on supporting documents.

In Germany

Residence allowance for foreign academics holding a PhD and higher education teaching staff visiting Germany (up to 3 months)

The residence allowance (for the entire stay) arises on the first day of the stay and must be evidenced using a participant list signed by the participants. The residence allowance settles the expenditure for accommodation and meals as well as for health, accident and indemnity insurance.

Residence grant for foreign students/graduates/doctoral candidates for study and research purposes (see **table**)

The residence grant should be specified in the context of the scholarship agreement or scholarship confirmation.

Status	Residence grant/allowance		
	Daily rate up to 22 days	Monthly rate from day 23	Daily rate in the fol- lowing month
	(EUR)	(EUR)	(EUR)
Students before graduation/graduates	39	861	29
Doctoral candidates and individuals holding a PhD	54	1,200	40
Postdocs	89	2,000	67
Experienced researchers	96	2,150	72
Professors	103	2,300	77

Type of financing

Funding takes the form of full financing.

Funding period

The funding period begins at the earliest on 1 January 2022 and ends at the latest on 31 December 2022.

Amount of funding

The maximum DAAD grant amount is usually EUR 40,000.

Discipline(s)

The programme is open to all disciplines.

Target group

Bachelor's and/or master's students, graduates, doctoral candidates, researchers and professors

Eligible applicants

Eligible applicants are **German higher education** state and state recognised **institutions** that maintain partnerships with higher education or research institutions in the indicated region.

Application

The application for project funding must be submitted in full and on time exclusively via the DAAD portal (www.mydaad.de).

Application requirements**Application documents relevant to selection**

- Project application (in the DAAD portal)
- Finance plan (in the DAAD portal)
- Project description (attachment type: project description)
- Provisional event programme (up to 1 page, attachment type: programme-specific attachment)
- Curriculum vitae of the project coordinator at the German higher education institution (up to 1 page, attachment type: programme-specific attachment)
- Approval by the German university management (attachment type: programme-specific attachment)

The application documents relevant to selection must be named according to the guidelines and submitted under the specified attachment type prior to the application deadline.

No documents and amendments submitted after the application deadline (exception: approval of the university management) will be taken into account. This includes changes to the financing plan. Incomplete applications will be excluded from the selection process.

Application documents that may be submitted later on

- Approval by the university management (attachment type: programme-specific attachment)

These documents must be presented before the contract is concluded.

Application deadline

The application deadline is **3 September 2021**.

Selection procedure**Selection of applications for project funding**

The DAAD will make its funding decision based on evaluation of the applications by a selection committee.

Selection criteria

- The project's relevance to the programme objectives and assignment of measures to the project objectives
- Academic quality of the project (content development, qualifications of higher education teaching staff involved (plausibility and coherence of activities, scope and relevance of the expected results, etc.))
- Involvement of students and young academics in the measures
- Involvement of civil-society actors in the target region
- Plausibility of the financing plan

Scholarship selection process**Selection of funded individuals**

A selection committee appointed by the grant recipient will decide upon the scholarship applications.

The selection procedure must be described in the project description.

- Public announcement of the scholarship offer
- Composition of the selection committee (e.g. grant recipients, number of committee members)
- Selection criteria (e.g. selection of the best candidates, subject-specific or personal aptitude, etc.)
- Awarding of the scholarship
 - by scholarship contract (e.g. 'scholarship confirmation' or 'declaration of acceptance')
 - delivery of a scholarship certificate (here: naming of the DAAD and the funding body and specific description of the scholarship services and their amount (e.g. residence or mobility allowances, tuition fees, etc.))

Contact

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Important information and form templates

- Project description
- Substantive report
- Approval by German university management
- Mobility information for those with a disability or chronic illness

Funded by:

