ERA-NET on Cardiovascular Diseases

Joint Transnational Call for Proposals 2019 (JTC2019):

"Transnational Cardiovascular Research Projects driven by Early Career Scientists"

European measure to support the next generation of cardiovascular researchers

Submission deadline for proposals: April 29th 2019 at 17:00 (CET)

Electronic proposal submission system: https://secure.pt-dlr.de/ptoutline/app/eracvd_JTC2019

For further information, please visit us on the website
www.ERA-CVD.eu

or

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1. RATIONALE

Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) are the largest cause of death in the European Union (EU), as they account for around 2 million deaths per year. Furthermore, these diseases are one of the leading causes of long-term sickness; chronic diseases and labour force loss due to disability and thus pose a major health- and socio-economic problem in Europe and beyond. Based on a better understanding of the causes of CVD, development of new innovative medicinal products and improvement in medical technology requires innovative research based on scientific excellence. Cardiovascular research and its translation into better preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic outcomes are fundamental for patients in Europe and worldwide.

The ERA-NET on Cardiovascular Diseases (ERA-CVD) has been established under the ERA-NET scheme of the European Commission (http://www.ERA-CVD.eu). The aim of ERA-CVD is to foster new, but also extend existing transnational cooperation of European countries, and to coordinate research efforts and funding programmes of its partner countries.

Under the umbrella of ERA-CVD, the fourth joint transnational call JTC2019 is now launched to promote co-operation and interchange between Early Career Scientists[1] and thus enable international collaboration and new consortia establishment in all cardiovascular areas. The following funding organisations have agreed to fund this joint call for multinational research projects. The call will be conducted simultaneously by the funding organisations in their respective countries and coordinated centrally by the Joint Call Secretariat (DLR, Germany).

2. PARTICIPATING FUNDING AGENCIES

- Austria: Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
- Belgium: Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO)
- Canada: Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
- Estonia: Estonian Research Council (ETAg)
- France: French National Research Agency (ANR)
- Germany: Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
- Israel: Ministry of Health (CSO-MOH, state of Israel)
- Italy: Italian Ministry of Health (MoH-IT)
- Latvia: State Education Development Agency (VIAA)
- Poland: National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)

[1] For the definition see Chapter 5.1: Early Career Scientist.

- Romania: Ministry of Research and Innovation (MCI)
- Slovakia: Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)
- Spain: National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII)
- Taiwan: Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST)
- The Netherlands: Dutch Heart Foundation (DHF)
- Turkey: The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK)

3. AIM OF THE CALL

The ERA-CVD funding organizations particularly wish to promote multi-disciplinary work and translational research proposals. The individual components of joint applications should be complementary and contain novel, ambitious ideas to answer key questions or lead to a step-wise change in understanding of cardiovascular diseases. There should be a clear added value in funding the collaboration over individual projects by sharing of resources (models, databases, diagnosis etc.), harmonisation of data, sharing of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies. Hence, JTC2019 aims at enabling Early Career Scientists[2] in different countries to build effective collaborations and interchange on common multidisciplinary research projects, hence establish new consortia in cardiovascular disease. The opportunity to independently develop and perform highly innovative research projects enables capacity building and empowering of Early Career Scientists. The consortia should be based on complementarities and sharing of expertise in a field of CVD, with a clear translational research approach.

4. SCOPE OF THE CALL

The call topic is based on mutual agreement between the ERA-CVD partners. The scope of this call is to support translational research proposals led by Early Career Scientists in the field of cardiovascular diseases. Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate engagement with clinics, patient organisations and small and medium-size enterprises (SME) for their active participation including sharing of resources, capabilities and expertise in order to ensure an efficient transfer of pre-clinical results into clinical utility. **However, not all funders do fund these private parties. To learn about the specific national/regional regulations with regard to researchers from private parties consult the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations.**

[2] **An Early Career Scientist (ECS) is defined in Chapter 5.1**. There are specific national/regional conditions. Check the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2, National/regional regulations.

4.1 Research topics

Eligible research topics in this call can comprise hypertensive, ischaemic, pulmonary heart diseases and diseases of pulmonary circulation, other forms of heart disease, diseases of arteries, arterioles and capillaries and congenital malformations of cardiac chambers and connections, rheumatic diseases and cardiac septa (analogues to ICD-10).
The following types of research **are excluded from the call**:

- Interventional clinical trials (phase 2, 3 and 4);
- Building up of new cohorts, registries and/or biomaterial banks;
- Cerebrovascular diseases;
- Research that primarily leads to cardiovascular risk management. Risk management is understood as long term health improvement and/or coronary artery disease (CAD) prevention;
- Conducting screenings.

4.2 Cross sectional aspects

Applicants should consider the following cross-sectional aspects:

- **Interdisciplinary approach**, e.g. integrating biomedicine, physics, chemistry, mathematics, informatics, systems biology and clinical medicine for the development of the applications;
- **Research on sex/gender differences** in order to give further mechanistic insights into the development of the disease, its progression and to identify difference in treatment responses;
- **Translational research: from pre-clinical up to phase 1**;

No funding can be provided for co-funding or supplementary funding for already existing studies.

5. APPLICANTS

ERA-CVD aims to promote Early Career Scientists, therefore **only <u>one</u> senior/established scientist applicant per consortium is allowed**. **This senior/established scientist cannot be the coordinator of the consortium. I**ncluding one senior/established scientist in a consortium is possible, but not encouraged in this call. Applicants should pay attention to the **qualifications of an "Early Career Scientist" and a "senior/established scientist" in the following subchapters and consult the National Regulations in the Guidelines for Applicants, Annex2**. The overall consortium partners should be Early Career Scientists. The consortia should

be based on complementarities and sharing of expertise in a specified field of cardiovascular disease, with a clear translational research approach.

5.1 Early Career Scientist

Each national/regional funding organisation has its own definition for an "Early Career Scientist" that is embedded in its national/regional education- and labour structures and organisation. However, an Early Career Scientist (ECS) could generally be described as a scientist who has received his or her doctoral degree within 2 to 10 years prior to the application submission deadline of this call. This Early Career Scientist should have been awarded his/her doctoral degree relevant for the proposed research at least 2 and up to 10 years prior to the application submission deadline of the ERA-CVD JTC2019 call. An Early Career Scientist can apply in only one consortium.

For the different national and regional descriptions of an "Early Career Scientist", consult the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations!

Extensions to this eligibility period may be allowed by some countries in case of reasonably justified career breaks, which must be properly documented. Acceptable career breaks are leaves of absence for maternal, paternal or long-term sick leave and compulsory military service.

- Applicants may subtract the time spent on leaves of absence in connection with childbirth and adoption, i.e. pregnancy, birth, parental, or care leave. This applies to mothers and fathers alike. Only the actual amount of time spent by the applicant on leave/at home with the child may be deducted, with a limit of 100 per cent leave for 12 months per child[3].
- Applicants may also subtract time for full-time, continuous leaves of absence for more than eight weeks in connection with illness in their immediate family. The time to be deducted will be calculated from the first day of the leave.
- Applicants may subtract the entire period of completed compulsory military service, including compulsory civilian national service.
- Applicants may subtract the time spent on full-time, continuous sick leave for more than eight weeks. The time to be deducted will be calculated from the first day of the sick leave.
- Proper documentation of leaves and other absence include the verification of leave and other types of absence (by employers or physicians, etc.) and must be attached to the grant application. Applicants who were not employed at the time of the birth or adoption

[3] **In particular applicants from Estonia and Latvia should contact their National Contact Point for their National Regulations**

of their child must submit a copy of the child's birth certificate and specify how long they were at home with the child, with a limit of 100 per cent leave for 12 months per child[3]**.** All time deductions to be included must also be listed in the Curriculum Vitae (CV).

For any national/regional exceptions to the above rules consult the National/regional Regulations in the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations.

Eligible events that take place within the extension of the eligibility window may lead to further extensions. The cumulative eligibility period should not surpass 14 years** following the doctoral/inauguration. No allowance will be made for principal investigators (PIs) working part-time.
For any national and regional differences consult the National/Regional regulations in the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations.

5.2 Senior scientist

Each national/regional funding organisation has its own definition for a "senior/established scientist" that is embedded in its national/regional education- and labour structures and organisation. However, a senior/established scientist could generally be described as someone who is more advanced and/or who takes a higher position in research than an Early Career Scientist according to the national hierarchic principles, e.g. an established group leader / professor surpassing the 10 year time period after obtaining their doctoral degree.

This ERA-CVD Joint Transnational Call aims to promote Early Career Scientists, but if the consortium deems it necessary, ***one (1) senior scientist applicant per consortium*** **is allowed**. A senior scientist can apply ***in only one consortium***. **The senior applicant is not allowed to be the consortium coordinator and should be eligible for funding as a senior scientist by his national funding organisation.**

Note that not all funders do accept the participation of a senior scientist from their country/region in a consortium. For the national and regional differences with regard to the description and participation of a senior scientist consult the National/Regional regulations in the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations.

5.3 General qualifications

Applicants should have the necessary qualifications and have access to the nationally/regionally required infrastructure to perform the project. It is essential that applicants have published excellent work in international scientific journals or have made recognized contributions in the sci-

entific community to the development of a particular field. Particularly coordinators as well as other applicants of consortia should demonstrate that they are scientifically independent, for example by means of publications or by having lead or leading a research group or project. With the support of the host institution, successful Principal Investigators (PI's) will be expected to lead their independent research project and be strongly engaged in running the call grant, which will enable them to establish or consolidate their independent research activity.

For the allowed national and regional research infrastructures consult the National/regional regulations in the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations.

5.4 Specific regulations

Applicants must refer and comply with the specific regulations of their national funding organisation and are **strongly encouraged** to contact their respective contact person prior to the application for any queries related to the national and regulations**. Details of the national/regional contact person(s) are provided in the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations.**

6. CALL SECRETARIAT

The implementation of the call will be coordinated by the Joint Call Secretariat (JCS2019) hosted by DLR, and conducted simultaneously by the funding organisations in their respective countries. The call will be implemented through a one-step evaluation procedure including submission and evaluation of full proposals. Applications submitted jointly by transnational consortia will be centrally handled by the JCS2019.

7. ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility will be checked both on transnational level as well as national/regional level, since eligibility for funding is subject to the regulations of the joint call as well as of the national/regional funding measures. Only transnational projects will be funded. Proposals should be submitted timely and complete, according to submission requirements. Proposals must meet all eligibility criteria.

7.1 Research institutions

Applications may be submitted by various organisations such as, academic research teams working in universities (or other higher education or research institutions), non-university public

research institutes, clinical/public health sector research teams (from hospitals/public health and/or other health care settings and health organisations), as well as research teams working in commercial companies, particularly small and medium-size enterprises if allowed by national/regional regulations.

The eligibility of the afore-mentioned institutions, together with details of eligible costs (e.g. personnel, material, consumables, travel money, investments), are subject to the administrative requirements of individual funding organisations and will therefore differ. Please note that, for some funding organisations, commercial companies are not eligible or are only eligible under certain conditions (e.g. only in partnership with academic institutions in the consortium). Terms of conditions can be read in the **Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations.**

A clarification should be obtained from the individual funding agencies.

It is advised to read carefully the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations regarding eligibility for funding of research institutions and teams by the respective funding agencies.

7.2 Applicants from Underrepresented Countries

It is encouraged to include Early Career Research Partners from countries that are to date underrepresented in this funding scheme: **Estonia, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia, Poland and Turkey** (see Chapter 2). It is possible to include up to 3 Early Career Scientists from different Underrepresented Countries in this funding scheme in a consortium. Only one of the Early Career Research Partners from an Underrepresented Country can be counted as Applicant from an Underrepresented Country. For research consortia that include one or more applicants from Underrepresented Countries in this funding scheme (Estonia, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia, Poland, Turkey), the maximum number of applicants may increase to six (6).

7.3 Associated Research Partners

Optionally, one research partner, that is either not eligible for funding by their national/regional funding organisation or from a country/region that is not involved in this call may participate in a consortium. A research partner with this entity is referred to as an **Associated Research Partner**. However, participation of an Associated Research Partner in a consortium **is only eligible if the participation clearly provides an added value to the consortium *and* if the Associated Research Partner can present evidence of a secured budget for their part in the proposed project.** The evidence of a secured budget has to be documented at the stage of full proposal submission.

- The Associated Research Partner **cannot be the coordinator of a consortium.** T
- The Associated research partner **should be part of the work plan**.
- **Proof of a secured budget for participation** by the Associated Research Partner in a consortium **should be provided together with the submission of the proposal.**

Check the National/regional regulations in the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulation and/or contact directly the National Contact Point for the eligibility of an Associated Research Partner in the consortium.

7.4 Consortia composition

The following eligibility criteria for applications for the research consortia apply:

- Each consortium submitting a proposal should be led by an Early Career Scientist;
- Each consortium has to comprise of a minimum of three (3) Early Career Scientists' research partners - the applicants - from at least three (3) different countries
- A consortium should not involve more than one research partner from the same country or region participating in this call, unless the second research partner is an Associated Research Partner who secures own funding. **Exceptions:** In the case of Spain, two (2) research partners from Spain may participate in the same research consortium. However, a minimum number of three (3) Early Career Scientist Partners from three different countries in a consortium remains required. **Consult the National Regulations for Spain in the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulation.**
- At least 3 Early Career Scientists' research partners in the consortium should be eligible for funding by a national funding organisation that participates in this call (see Chapter 2 for participating funding organisations);
- Each consortium has to nominate a consortium coordinator who represents the consortium externally and is responsible for its internal management (e.g. the application procedure, the consortium agreement, reporting);
- **The consortium coordinator should be an Early Career Scientist** and should be **eligible to be funded** by one of the participating funding organisations. (see Chapter 2);
- **A research partner can participate in only one proposal** submitted to this call;
- **The total number of applicants in a consortium is in general limited to five (5) Early Career Scientists**. However, for a research consortium that includes applicants from Underrepresented Countries in this funding scheme (Estonia, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia, Poland and Turkey) **or** includes an Associated Research Partner with own secured funding, the total number of applicants may increase to six (6);

- Each consortium may include only **one** senior scientist applicant. The senior scientist applicant cannot be the coordinator of the consortium. T**he country of the senior scientist Principle Investigator (PI) is not counted in the minimum number** of countries comprising a consortium. **Consortia with more than one senior scientist or with a senior scientist as coordinator are not eligible. Consult the national conditions for a senior scientist in the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations;**
- Each consortium may include one Associated Research Partner;
- **Only one Associated Research Partner per consortium** is allowed. The PI of the Associated Research Partner cannot be the coordinator of the consortium;
- Associated Research Partners are not considered in the minimum number of three (3) Early Career Scientists' Research Partners;
- The country of the Associated Research Partner is **not** counted in the minimum number of three (3) different countries comprising a consortium;
- If a consortium includes **both** applicants from Underrepresented Countries in this funding scheme (Estonia, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia, Poland and Turkey) **and** an Associated Research Partner with own secured funding the total number of applicants may increase to seven (7).

The following compositions of consortia are allowed:

Applicants	**Number of Early Career Scientists(ECS) from at least 3 different countries with one of them coordinator**		
Early Career Scientists	**3**	**4**	**5**
(Maximum number of senior scientist applicants in a consortium instead of an ECS)	*(**0**)*	*(1)*	*(1)*
Extra number of applicants from Underrepresented Countries	**1**	**1**	**1**
Maximum Number of Associated Research Partners - i.e. with own funding	**0**	**1**	**1**
TOTAL APPLICANTS COMBINED	**4**	**6**	**7**
*Maximum number of applicants from Spain, only if at least three (3) ECS from different countries are represented and this is accepted by the Spanish funding organisation**	*1*	*1*	*2*

*** Please consult the Guidelines for Applicants, Annex2: National/Regional Regulations**

Applicants are strongly advised to follow the instructions in the country- and region-specific regulations in the **Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations** of their funding agency. In case of doubt, contact the national funding organisation to confirm eligibility before submitting an application. For the national contact point see **Table I: Contact points of funding organisations**.

For consortia coordinators: A proposal that includes a research partner **that is not eligible for funding according to the specific regulations** of the respective funding agency may result in the **rejection of the entire proposal** without further review. Coordinators are advised to check their co-applicant's legal entity -the host institution- that engages and hosts the PI for at least the duration of the grant. Consult the **Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations** for their eligibility.

Consortium coordinators should avoid applications for the same research activities to different calls by their fellow applicants. When envisaging parallel submissions, the applicants will be contacted by the call secretariat for an explanation. Double funding of the same activities is not done.

7.5 Eligibility check

The Joint Call Secretariat will do an eligibility check of the proposals to ensure that they meet the call's formal criteria (e.g. date of submission; number of participating countries; inclusion of all necessary information in English). Proposals not meeting the formal criteria will be rejected at this stage. Proposals meeting the eligibility criteria will enter the evaluation process. The Joint Call Secretariat will then forward the proposals to the national funding organisations, which will perform a formal eligibility check of compliance with their respective regulations.

Only proposals that fulfil the legal and ethical international/EU and national and institutional requirements, FAIR principles and preclinical quality assurance – if applicable - can be funded. Funding of proposals that require legal and ethical approval will be dependent on a positive review from the appropriate and responsible ethical and legal committee(s). All procedures involving human beings should conform to the Helsinki Declaration.

8 FUNDING CONDITIONS

Although applications must be submitted jointly by the research partners from several countries, the individual research partners will be funded by their national funding organisation(s) participating to this call.

8.1 Project duration

The duration of the projects can be up to 3 years. Nevertheless, a research partner can receive funding for less than 3 years according to eligibility criteria and regulations of the participating funding organisations. Due to the runtime of the ERA CVD network till the end of 2020, project prolongations will not be granted: successful projects from JTC2019 will have to start latest 30th of June 2020 and be finished in 2023.

8.2 Submission of joint transnational proposals

There will be a **one-stage procedure for joint applications to this ERA-CVD call**. One joint proposal document (in English) shall be prepared by the partners of a joint transnational consortium, and must be submitted by **the coordinator**. The proposal application form can be downloaded from the ERA-CVD website https://www.era-cvd.eu/256.php JTC2019.

The full proposal application form must be submitted in electronic format via the **electronic submission system (pt-outline)** no later than **29 April 2019 (17:00:00 CET**). The applications are only eligible when the referred submission forms are used.

Be aware: Some funding organisations require submission of an additional application by individual consortia applicant's members. Consult the National/Regional regulations in the Guide-lines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: Nation-al/regional regulations.

- If applicable, a the Experimental Design template attached to the Full proposal template should be filled;
- If applicable, a proposal should be submitted with a legal/ ethical approval document;
- If applicable, a proposal should be submitted with a formal declaration of "Participation with own budget" of the Associated Research Partner.

8.3 Privacy

By participating in the call you agree that the information in the proposal as well as future project results (monitoring and final report) of the successful proposal in this call JTC2019 of ERA CVD

will be shared with the ERA CVD research funding organisations and expert reviewers related to this call JTC2019 of ERA CVD. The data will be stored according to the legal data storage episode that is applicable for each of the individual funding organisations that participate in this call.

8.4 Further information

For further details, please refer to the full proposal application form available on the ERA-CVD website: https://www.era-cvd.eu/256.php. If you need additional information, please contact the Joint Call Secretariat, or the representative of your funding organisation, available in the **Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations.**

9. EVALUATION AND DECISION

9.1 Evaluation criteria

A Scientific Evaluation Board (SEB), composed of internationally renowned, independent scientific experts will assess proposals based on the scoring system and evaluation criteria given below:

1 - Excellence

a. Clarity and pertinence of the objectives.
b. Credibility of the proposed translational approach and methodology.
c. Soundness of the concept.
d. Innovative potential.
e. Competence, experience, interdisciplinarity of participating research partners in the field(s) of the proposal (previous work in the field, specific technical expertise).

2 - Impact

a. Potential of the expected results for future clinical, public health and/or other socio-economic health relevant applications including patients' needs and gender issues.
b. Added-value of transnational collaboration: interdisciplinarity, gathering a critical mass of patients/biological material, sharing of resources (models, databases, diagnosis etc.), harmonization of data, sharing of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies, etc.
c. Effectiveness of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of intellectual property rights - IPR), to communicate the project, and to manage research data where relevant.
d. Industry and Patient Organisation participation/engagement (when appropriate / applicable).

3 - Quality and efficiency of the implementation

a. Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, resources and time-frame.
b. Complementarity of the participants within the consortium.
c. Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management.
d. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the project (rational distribution of resources in relation to the project's activities, partner's responsibilities and time frame).
e. Contribution towards development of the European Research Area.

Sub-criteria 2a and 2b will be prioritized for assessing the impact of proposals.

9.2 Evaluation procedure

Eligible proposals will be reviewed in a one stage process using the above-mentioned evaluation criteria via a written (remote) peer review process. Based on the scores in the written reviews and the panel discussions, a ranking list will be set up. Proper research designs and analyses are essential to ensure the scientific soundness, robustness and reproducibility of the study. The application form requires from applicants to provide comprehensive and detailed descriptions of the planned study design, supportive statistics -if applicable-, data analyses and address data management according to FAIR[4] principles. **A Data Management Plan is not part of the formal evaluation criteria of the proposal**.

9.3 Conflict of interest - Evaluation panel

All necessary steps will be taken by the JCS2019 and the CSC to ensure no conflict of interest by SEB members for those proposals which have been assigned to them for review. Applicants are not allowed on the SEB-panel. The SEB members will be required to formally declare that no conflict of interest exists at any time of their evaluation duty and will sign a confidentiality agreement concerning all documents and the entire process. In case of breaching the rule of no conflict of interest, the SEB member will be discharged from participation in the SEB panel. Projects that were assigned to the respective reviewer will be assigned to another reviewer.
A first review for conflict of interest will be performed by the JCS2019 in analysing the reviewers' publications. Reviewers are bound to indicate after receiving the proposals whether there is a conflict of interest with any of the researchers or research groups in the proposals for review. Reviewers will sign a formal declaration that they will not participate in the call nor have any

[4] Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-usable

conflicting interests regarding the researchers or research groups participating in the projects that are reviewed.

9.4 Rebuttal

There will be **no rebuttal option** in this call.

9.5 Ranking of the full proposals

During the SEB panel face-to-face meeting, each full proposal will be presented by the rapporteur and discussed by the SEB members on the basis of the individual evaluation reports so as to reach consensus scoring. As a result of these discussions and as an outcome of the SEB meeting, a ranking list of the full proposals will be established.

10. FUNDING PROCEDURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

10.1 Funding procedure

Based on the ranking list established by the SEB, the CSC will decide on the projects to be suggested for funding by the national/regional funding organisations. Successful research projects will be funded directly by the respective funding organisations. Funding will be administered according to the terms and conditions of the responsible funding organisations, taking into account all other applicable regulations and legal requirements. Funding is expected to start in 2020. The official start date shall be communicated by the project coordinator to the JCS2019 and shall appear in the consortium agreement (CA, see below).

10.2 Responsibilities

The coordinator of a funded consortium will be the contact person for the JCS of ERA CVD JTC2019. Each applicant in a consortium, including the coordinator, will be the contact person for the relevant national/regional funding organisation.

The coordinator of a funded project, together with the respective funding organisations, shall make every effort to seek a common start date for all research partners in the consortium. After the evaluation and selection procedures are completed, it is mandatory for each successful consortium that is selected for funding to draft and sign a Consortium Agreement (CA)**.** The CA will determine a common project start date, manage the delivery of project activities, finances and intellectual property rights (IPR), and avoid disputes which might be detrimental to the completion of the project. For further details is referred to Chapter 13: Consortium Agreement.

11. REPORTING, DISSEMINATION AND PUBLICATION

11.1 Reporting at national level

Research partners will be monitored by their respective national funding organisation. Therefore, the individual research partners must report to their corresponding national funding organisation according to the national rules.

11.2 Reporting to ERA CVD

In addition to the national reporting obligations, the project coordinator on behalf of the consortium is obliged to submit a **final consortium research report** to the JCS 2019 (Pt-DLR, Germany). A template for the final report will be provided by the JCS2019. The final report will be assessed by the JCS2019 and the national research funders of the project. The coordinators and/or principal investigators may be asked to present the results of the funded projects, in case a status seminar is organised by ERA CVD. The attendance is obligatory for all coordinators and Principal Investigators (PIs). The costs related to this status seminar should be included in the project proposal.

11.3 Publications and open-access

ERA-CVD follows an **open-access policy**. Researchers of successful consortia must abide by Open Access publication of their results and ensure specific budget for this purpose within their application. For communication purposes, coordinators of the funded projects are required to submit periodic concise lay term summaries of the projects. The first summary will be provided upon receipt of funding decision and will include a lay term summary and appropriate figures.

11.4 Dissemination

Abstracts of the projects selected for funding will be published on the ERA-CVD website.
Funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications etc.) of transnational ERA-CVD projects **include a proper acknowledgement of ERA-CVD** and **the respective funding partner organisations**, and are in line with the relevant publication requirements.

The ERA-CVD JTC2019 funding organisations shall have the right to use documents, information and results submitted by the research partners and/or to use the information and results for their own purposes, provided that the owners' rights are kept and their origin is specified.

Funding recipients are asked to provide information about their funded project to the project database CardioScape (www.cardioscape.eu). Details about the relevant information needed will be provided by a CardioScape contact person.

12. EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

Proper research designs and analyses are essential to ensure the scientific soundness, robustness of the research and reproducibility of research findings. The proposal form will require applicants to provide comprehensive and detailed descriptions of the planned study design and data analyses. In case of an exploratory animal/clinical study, a detailed description is required. An **Experimental design template** for the required details is attached to the Proposal Application Form. The review panel will scrutinize this information as part of the formal evaluation criteria (1-Excellence) of full proposals. Assistance for provision of the information on experimental design can be found in the general ARRIVE guidelines[5] and in the **Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX3: ERA-CVD NC3R Checklist to assess information included in grant applications.**

13. CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

Each successful consortium will have to provide a consortium agreement (CA) as an integral part of the eligibility for the start of funding. All consortia are encouraged to sign the CA before the official project start date and not later than within six months after the project start date. **Depending on the requirements of the national funding organisation, funding cannot take place before a consortium agreement has been received or communicated** with the national funding organisation. **Check the national/regional requirements in the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations.** An example of a consortium agreement can be found on the ERA-LEARN website:
https://www.era-learn.eu/news-events/news/model-consortium-agreement-available.

14. DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

After the evaluation and selection procedures are completed, each consortium selected to be funded is required to draft a Data Management Plan and data handling protocols according to international state-of-the-art standards (FAIR[6] and GDPR[7] compliant and secure). Within six (6) months after the start of the project the DMP must be sent to the Joint Call Secretariat ERA-

[5] www.nc3rs.org.uk/arrive-guidelines The ARRIVE guidelines are a reporting metric and not strictly a guide for applicants. However, to structure experimental design and procedures these guidelines provide hints of what information to provide. The experimental design added to the full proposal template defines how to provide it. A specific Experimental Design Assistant is provided by the NC3R (UK): https://eda.nc3rs.org.uk

[6] Wilkinson, M.D *et al*. The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship. *Sci Data* 3: 160018 doi: 10.1038/sdata.2016.18 (2016)

[7] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/justice-and-fundamental-rights/data-protection/2018-reform-eu-data-protection-rules_en

CVD by the consortium coordinator. You can already consult the Horizon 2020[8] DMP format at the ERA-CVD website. DMPs are living documents and can be updated throughout the runtime of the projects, at best with annual reports. After completion of the project, the DMP can be published.

Where nationally required, a format for data storage, data/model exchange and data/model sharing agreements will be available by the national funder in due time to successful consortia.

15. TENTATIVE TIME LINE

Announcement of the call	January 2019
Submission deadline for proposals	**29th April 2019, 17:00 (CET)**
Deadline for submission of funding commitment of Associated Research Partners (if necessary)	**29th April 2019, 17:00 (CET)**
Evaluation process	**May - August 2019**
Final funding decision	**September 2019**
Start of funded projects	**from January 2020**

16. CONTACT

Before submitting a proposal, applicants are strongly advised to contact their national/regional funding organisations for national/regional specific regulations in the **Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2: National/regional regulations of the respective funding agencies.**

Contact details of the ERA CVD call secretariat are provided on the front page of this call text. Further information on the ERA-CVD project, the ERA-CVD JTC2019 and the planned time schedule is available at the ERA-CVD website: www.ERACVD.eu.

[8] http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/gm/reporting/h2020-tpl-oa-data-mgt-plan-annotated_en.pdf

17. TABLES

Table I. Contact information of the national/regional research funding organisations participating in ERA-CVD JTC2019

Country	Institution	Website	National/regional contact
Austria	FWF	https://www.fwf.ac.at	**Inge Unfried** Phone:+43 (0)1 505 67 40-8210 Email: inge.unfried@fwf.ac.at
Belgium, region FLANDERS	FWO	www.fwo.be	**Alain Deleener** Phone: +32 2 550 15 95 Email: eranet@fwo.be **Toon Monbaliu** Phone: +32 2 550 15 70 Email: eranet@fwo.be
Canada	CIHR	http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/	**Bryan Lemire** Phone: 1-613-952-5728 Email: bryan.lemire@cihr-irsc.gc.ca **Diane Forbes** Phone: 1-780-492-0227 Email: diane.forbes@cihr-irsc.gc.ca
Estonia	ETAg	www.etag.ee	**Katrin Kello** Phone: +372 731 7361 Email: katrin.kello@etag.ee
France	ANR	www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr	**Deborah Zyss** Phone: +33 1 73 54 81 74 Email: Deborah.ZYSS@agencerecherche.fr ERA-CVDCalls@agencerecherche.fr
Germany	BMBF/ DLR-PT	www.gesundheitsforschung-bmbf.de	**Hella Lichtenberg** Phone: +49 (0)228 3821-1157 Email: hella.lichtenberg@dlr.de **Wolfgang Ballensiefen** Phone: +49 (0)228 3821-1144 Email: wolfgang.ballensiefen@dlr.de
Israel	CSO-MOH	www.health.gov.il	**Irit Allon** Phone: +972 2-5082167 Email: irit.allon@moh.health.gov.il **Nava Levine** Phone: +972 52-4470740 Email: nl@013.net

Country	Institution	Website	National/regional contact
Italy	MoH-IT	www.salute.gov.it	**Maria Grazia Mancini** Phone: +39 06 5994 3215 Email: research.EU.dgric@sanita.it
Latvia	VIAA	www.viaa.gov.lv	**Uldis Berkis** Phone: +371 29472349 Email: Uldis.Berkis@viaa.gov.lv
Poland	NCBR	www.ncbr.gov.pl	**Dominika Mickiewicz** Phone: +48 22 39 07 139 Email: Domini-ka.mickiewicz@ncbr.gov.pl
Romania	MCI	http://www.research.gov.ro	**Ioana Ispas** Phone: +40 21 2127791 Email: ioana.ispas@research.gov.ro
Slovakia	SAS	www.sav.sk	**Katarina Bibova** Phone: +421 2 57510136 Email: bibova@up.upsav.sk
Spain	ISCIII	www.isciii.es	**Rafael De Andres Medina** Phone: +34 91 822 2508 Email: rdam@isciii.es
Taiwan	MoST	https://www.most.gov.tw/?l=en	**Ching-Mei Tang** Phone: +886 2 2737 7557 E-mail: cmtom@most.gov.tw
The Netherlands	DHF	www.hartstichting.nl	**Marty Beurskens** Phone: +31 (0)70 315 5523 E-mail: m.beurskens@hartstichting.nl
Turkey	TÜBITAK	www.tubitak.gov.tr	**Övgü Çelikler Özer** Phone: +90 312 298 1210 E-mail: ovgu.celikler@tubitak.gov.tr

Table II. Eligibility of beneficiary institutions and indicative funding commitment for the funding organisations participating in ERA-CVD JTC2019

Consult the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2 for a detailed description of the eligibility of your National/regional funding organisation!

Funding organisation	Country / Region	Funding academic partners	Funding clinical /public partners	Funding private partners	Envisaged funding commitment (M€ for 3 years)	Envisaged number of research teams
Austrian Science Fund (FWF)	AUSTRIA	yes[9]	yes[9]	yes[9]	0,800	3-4
Research Foudation - Flanders (FWO)	BELGIUM	yes	NO	NO	0,200	1
Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	CANADA	yes	yes	NO	$ 600,000 CAN (~0,400 Mio. €)	2
Estonian Research Council (ETAg)	ESTONIA	yes	yes	yes[10]	0,100	1
Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR)	FRANCE	yes	yes	yes	2,000	6-8
German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) - Programme Management Agency (DLR)	GERMANY	yes	yes	yes	3,000	10
Chief Scientist Office, Ministry Of Health (CSO-MOH)	ISRAEL	yes	yes	NO	0,140	1
Italian Ministry of Health (IT-MoH)	ITALY	NO	yes[11]	NO	1,500	5-6

[9] Applications for projects from Austria may only be submitted by single natural persons. Affirmation of the research institution (academia, clinical/public health, enterprise) of the applicant is mandatory.
[10] (incl. private for profit according to national rules)
[11] Only Scientific Institutes for Research, Hospitalization and Health Care (Istituti di Ricovero e Cura a Carattere Scientifico pubblici e privati, IRCCS) and Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS)

Funding organisation	Country / Region	Funding academic partners	Funding clinical /public partners	Funding private partners	Envisaged funding commitment (M€ for 3 years)	Envisaged number of research teams
State Education Development Agency (VIAA)	LATVIA	yes	yes[12]	yes	0,420	2
National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)	POLAND	yes	yes	yes	0,600	1-3
Ministry of Research and Innovation (MCI)	ROMANIA	yes	yes	yes	0,300	2
Slovak Academy of Science (SAS)	SLOVAKIA	yes	NO	NO	0,120	1
National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII)	SPAIN	Only those specified in the National rules	yes	As specified in the National rules	0,250	1-3
Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST)	TAIWAN	yes	yes	NO	0,500	3-4
Dutch Heart Foundation (DHF)	THE NETHERLANDS	yes	yes	NO	0,500	2
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK)	Turkey	yes	yes	yes	0,300	2-3

Consult the Guidelines for Applicants, ANNEX 2 for a detailed description of the eligibility of your National/regional funding organisation!

[12] Only as scientific institutions or companies