



Guidelines for Young Researchers and Innovators Conference (YRIC) Grants

This article/publication is based upon work from COST Action TENET, CA22170, supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology). COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

Mission

YRI Conference Grants are aimed at supporting Young Researchers and Innovators participation in high-level conferences fully organised by a third party. The grantee receives support for attending and presenting their work (poster/oral presentation) and can establish new contacts for future collaborations.

Eligibility

- YRI Conference Grants are exclusively reserved for Young Researchers and Innovators – researchers under the age of 40 – according to COST definition.
- The applicant must be member of the Action at the time of application.
- The applicant must have a confirmation of an accepted oral / poster a presentation at a conference celebrated in a different country than the country of affiliation.
- The main subject of the submitted abstract must be on the topic of the Action and the abstract must acknowledge COST.

Submission of applications

- Prepare the Grant application and additional supporting documentation:
 - *YRI Conference Grant Application Form using TENET template*: document that can be downloaded from TENET website, based on e-COST template. Save as a PDF document once completed.
 - *Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral/poster presentation*.
 - *Acceptance letter/mail from the conference organiser committee*: it must confirm either your oral or poster presentation.
 - *Letter of support from the applicant's institution*: a signed written letter from the applicant's supervisor or employer, in the case of PhD students and post-docs.
 - *Copy of the information sheet of the congress*: a document where the registration fees for attending the congress are listed.
 - *Candidate's CV*: Applicants must upload their CV in their e-COST profile (max. 3 pages). This information will be visible to the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committee in the Action for evaluation purposes.
- Submit the application in e-COST: The applicant encodes a grant application by logging into e-COST and clicking on the Grant Applications tab. The applicant can select the grant from the page 'Apply for new grant'. Applicants need to fill all requested sections and to upload all required documents before submitting the application.

Evaluation Committee

As approved by the Management Committee (MC), the evaluation will be performed by the Grant Awarding Board (GAB). The committee will include the Grant Awarding Coordinator, the Chair, the Vice Chair, and the WG leaders.

Participants will be selected on the basis of an evaluation-criteria score (see below). The committee will also seek an acceptable gender balance in successful applicants.

Evaluation Criteria Score

- **General** (to be rated as NO/YES by the Grant Awarding Coordinators on the e-COST system):
 - The applicant is a Young Researcher from an ITC or NNC.
 - The applicant has an approved oral/poster presentation.
 - The conference is taking place in a different country than the country of affiliation of the applicant.
 - The conference is taking place within the current Grant Period.

If any of the previous is "NO" - do not proceed with the application assessment – decision is "NO"

- **Specific** (from 0 to 10 points):
 - *Relevance of the congress/conference*: The congress is recognized within the academic/professional community forum for presenting and discussing topics that are relevant to the WGs of the Action (1-4 points).
 - *European conferences are preferred*. However, conferences held elsewhere can also be considered (0-1 points).
 - *Relevance of the proposal*: The topic and full content of the presentation is relevant to the topic of the WG of the Action: based on solid theoretical background in regard with acknowledged theoretical frame of the Action; design and methodological ground; the level of novelty of the material presented (1-4 points).
 - *Additional Action Dissemination*: Additional Action Dissemination Activities at the conference will be considered (0-1 points).

In case of decision making between candidates identical scores, applications will be prioritised as follows:

- Gender Balance
- 1 applicant per centre

The Grant Holder will inform each approved applicant by sending a Grant Letter generated from e-COST.

YRI Conference Grants Financial Support

A YRI Conference Grant will cover (but not necessary cover all) costs for economy travel, accommodation, and meal expenses for the selected candidates. YRI Conference Grant

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grantees must make their own arrangements for all provisions related to personal security, health, taxation, social security, travel insurance and pension matters.

- The calculation of the financial contribution for each YRI Conference Grant will be up to a maximum of the daily allowance per day in the specific country, registration and travel costs for face to face conferences, up to 2000 EUR for conferences within COST Full member countries and up to 2500 EUR for conferences outside COST Full member countries.
- When meal and accommodation expenses are supported by the hosting institution as part of the provisions offered in their conference package, the accommodation and meal allowances afforded to each eligible participant must be deducted from each claim accordingly.

The financial support will be decided by the Action Core Group on proposal of the evaluators, based on the request of the applicant and should reflect the duration and location of the congress.

Further details can be consulted at the COST Annotated Rules.

Approving YRI Conference Grants for Payment

The preapproved grantee must submit the following documents at the latest 30 days after the end date of the conference or 15 days after the end date of the Grant Period, whichever comes first:

- A *Grant Report*, using [TENET YRI Grant Report template](#), which can be found at the Action website. When preparing it, please consider the following:
 - The report for COST is a public document;
 - It should describe the outcome of the presentation of the accepted contribution, in terms of grantee's visibility, including the establishment of new contacts for future collaborations;
 - It should include a *short summary for dissemination purposes*: A very short summary (maximum 280 characters, including spaces) for the TENET Social media accounts, including a photo during the conference or a short video (uploaded separately in e-COST). Alternatively, a proof of the grantee own post tagging official TENET Social Media accounts will also be sufficient;
 - Save the document as PDF before submitting.
- The *certificate of attendance* to the conference;
- The *programme of the conference* or book of abstracts / proceedings indicating the presentation (oral or poster) of the grantee;
- *Copy of the given presentation* (oral or poster).

The Grant Award Coordinators and the Grant Holder Scientific Representative are responsible for approving the scientific report and informing the Grant Holder that the mission has been successfully completed.

Failure to submit the requested documents within the established period from the end date of the ITC Conference Grant will effectively cancel the Grant.