Virtual Institute for Quality Education

Research seed mobility programme on language and cultural diversity - Call for Researchers

December 2021
European Campus of City-Universities and Virtual Institute for Quality Education

The European Campus of City-Universities (EC2U) is a multi-cultural and multi-lingual Alliance consisting of seven long-standing, education- and research-led, locally and globally engaged universities from four diverse regions of the European Union: the University of Coimbra, the University of Iasi, the University of Jena, the University of Pavia, the University of Poitiers, the University of Salamanca and the University of Turku.

The EC2U Virtual Institute for Quality Education (VIQE) is one of the Alliance’s Virtual Institutes and combines education, research and innovation for advanced studies on quality education. Within the three-year framework of this project only a pilot project profile of the Virtual Institute for Quality Education will be developed and fully implemented: Language, Cultural and Societal Diversity in Europe.

Objectives of the research seed mobility programme

The main objective of the VIQE research seed mobility programme is to actively promote in-depth research collaboration among researchers and research groups of the seven EC2U universities. Researchers and research groups working on languages, cultures and societies in contact (as well as on education as a vehicle of language and cultural diversity) are expected to work together, form EC2U research clusters, develop research seed projects and then apply for additional national and EU funding.

Eligibility, number of mobilities and funding

Eligibility

Researchers working on the following topics are encouraged to apply for research seed mobilities:

- Multilingualism and intercultural studies for education, management and health
- Translation and interpreting
- Gender Studies (linguistics, literature, culture)
- Comparative cultural studies
- Comparative literature
- Contrastive Linguistics
- Language, mobility and migration
- Materialities of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
- Language as a Cultural, Political and Social Tool for International Mediation
- Text analysis with language processing tools for the study of linguistic, cultural and social diversity
Heritage in contact
Language policy
Discourse studies
Language and Cultural Minorities (linguistics, literature, culture)
Language and globalization

Digital linguistics
Digital Humanities
Digital interculturality
Intercultural communication and management

Researchers
- must hold an academic position at one of the seven EC2U universities which allows them to engage in research activities for the duration of the mobility project and includes the ability to independently publish research results
- must be members of the EC2U Virtual Institute of Quality Education (VIQE). All researchers implied as teaching staff in the EC2U VIQE Master in European Languages, Cultures and Societies or in the VIQE Language Policy Research Project are already members of the EC2U Virtual Institute of Quality Education. Other Researchers must express their interest to participate in the VIQE prior to the submission of the mobility proposal (please contact your local VIQE representative).

Researchers can apply to up to two mobilities.

Number of mobilities
A total of 294 mobilities will be funded, 42 per university. This second call refers only to the mobilities that couldn't been covered in the first call. Please contact your local WP5 EC2U representative for details.

Funding
A typical mobility will last 5 days. The mobility grant will cover the following costs related to the attendance of researchers to working sessions aimed at preparing national and European R&D project applications: travel costs for a maximum amount of 400 EUR and individual support costs for a maximum amount of 130 EUR per day (650 EUR for five days). Mobilities must take place between November 2021 and April 2023.

Requirements and obligations

Requirements
- Researchers applying for mobilities must be linked to one of the seven EC2U universities.
- Researchers applying for mobilities must be members of the EC2U Virtual Institute of Quality Education. Other researchers must express their interest to participate in the VIQE prior to the submission of the mobility proposal.
- Researchers applying for mobilities must have a working knowledge of English; meetings organised to prepare the national and European research grant applications will be held in English; documents, grant applications and assessment reports will be submitted in English.

Obligations
- Grantees commit themselves to be part of the research teams that will apply for national and/or European research projects in the framework of the Virtual Institute for Quality Education of the EC2U Alliance.
Grantees must use the mobilities to attend working sessions aimed at preparing national and European R&D project applications.

Grantees must write an assessment report within one month after the grant end date.

The researcher applying for the national and/or European research grant must submit all application documents to the EC2U Alliance Work Package 5 Board.

If these mobilities lead to the publishing of papers, researchers should acknowledge the EC2U support by adding the following sentence to their papers: “This work has been partially supported by the EC2U Alliance and its Erasmus + Grant n° 101004065-EC2U”.

**Evaluation**

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Compliance with the objectives of the call (4 points)
- Funded R&D projects as principal investigator (3 points)
- Participation in funded R&D projects (also as principal investigator) (1 point)
- Publications (4 points)
- Ongoing collaborations with researchers from other EC2U universities (2 points, this is not a requirement!)
- Participation as teaching staff in the new Master’s Programme in European Languages, Cultures and Societies in Contact (6 points)

Priority will be given to research seed mobilities resulting in European applications.

The EC2U VIQE Board will nominate an evaluation panel for all applicants of each university. The panel will be composed of an WP5 board external evaluator and a VIQE board member from another EC2U university.

**Submission of proposals and deadlines**

Proposals must be submitted to the EC2U Virtual Institute for Quality Education at viqe@usal.es and to your local EC2U VIQE representative (see application template attached to this call) until 31 March 2022.

The evaluation panels will meet and grant mobilities every two to four weeks.

**Contact**

Please contact your local EC2U VIQE university representative if you have questions:

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