

## YERUN Research Mobility Awards Call 2024-2025

Calling YERUN researchers looking for a research collaborations!

The YERUN Research Mobility Awards are back for their 2024-2025 edition, freshen up with key changes!

The YERUN Research Mobility Awards (YRMA) are competitive awards for YERUN early and mid-career researchers (based on [Euraxess Research Profiles](#)), namely:

- R1 (PhD candidates),
- R2 (PhD holders, post-doc or equivalent who are not yet fully independent or until 8 years since completion of PhD)
- R3 (established researchers who have developed a level of independence).

See full category description in the [Euraxess Research Profiles definitions](#).

The scheme supports researchers **to establish new research collaborations** within the YERUN network, either **in a physical or in a virtual format**. This year, as a new feature, we are encouraging applications made by a group of researchers.

The programme provides a platform to, for example<sup>1</sup>:

- Networking, exchange of methods & techniques: Researchers can establish new contacts and meet potential future collaboration partners. Work with other YERUN academics and researchers on preparations for the development of a future research project, co-publication, or new research collaborative activity;
- Workshops and Seminars: Organisation or participation in workshops and seminars that promote exchange and collaboration. Promote multidisciplinary research across YERUN institutions;
- Mentoring for Early Career Researchers: Establishment of mentoring relationships to support the development of early career researchers. Enrich the research and training opportunities for PhD students, early career and postdoctoral scholars, and established researchers within YERUN. Prepare future MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship, etc.

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that these are only examples and do not encompass all the activities that can be carried out during the collaboration.

A YERUN Research Mobility Award provides a flat-rate lump sum award to cover expenses related to the establishment and implementation of physical or virtual collaborations<sup>2</sup> (**4,000 Euros<sup>3</sup> to be shared among the participating researchers<sup>4</sup>**):

- The research collaboration must be finished by the end of 2025. Applicants will not need to provide any receipts, and it is the applicants' responsibility to arrange the activities related to the collaboration. The award is given to participants on a personal capacity. However, a final report will be requested at the end of the collaboration.

**Eligibility:**

- Researchers from institutions that are not YERUN members are not eligible (Please find the full list of YERUN members [here](#)).
- The application shall be submitted by a group of at least two researchers, from at least two YERUN institutions located in different countries, who are going to work together in a research collaboration.
- Each application must have a **designated proposal coordinator** of the application, who will be the person formally applying in the YERUN Research Mobility Awards, and a contact point for all the other participating YERUN universities.
- All applications must be submitted with letters of support signed by the departments of all researchers included in the group. The designated proposal coordinators must submit their letter of support at the time of the application submission. The other researchers must provide their letters of support only if the proposal is selected as a winner. If the coordinator's letter is not provided, your application will be automatically rejected. A template for the letter of support can be downloaded [here](#).
- All the participating researchers in the application shall define themselves according to the Euraxess levels of research careers presented above. It is important that the applicants describe the potential impact that the research collaboration will have in their career development depending on the stage of career development they are at.
- The coordinator of the application agrees that, if awarded, he/she/they on behalf of the team will submit a report (max 2 pages) on the outcomes of the collaboration and any subsequent research collaborations with the YERUN partners. This information will be used for YERUN Communication and Evaluation activities.

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<sup>2</sup> As examples of possible activities (list non exhaustive): travel and accommodation to institutions participating in the joint collaboration, publications fees to an open access journal, support the organisation of meetings and events, participation in conferences, purchase of software to support research collaborations, etc.

<sup>3</sup> The amount may be subject to tax withholding in the country of residence of the applicant receiving the Award. Different options for transferring the award may be envisaged, e.g. a transfer to the institution(s) of the applicant(s).

<sup>4</sup> The funds will be allocated directly to the researchers in the winning teams. The YERUN Brussels Office will reach out to the winning teams to request a budget distribution plan, ensuring an equitable allocation of the funds among all participants.

- All researchers involved in the award application must remain enrolled or employed at their home university for the entire duration of the planned collaboration. If any researcher's contract ends before the collaboration is completed, the collaboration must conclude by the researcher's last working day. This is important as the home institutions of the participants remain the liable partner in the event of any issues related to the research collaboration. Alternatively, the researchers must inform the Brussels Office, and a case-by-case decision will be made. All researchers involved in the joint project will be asked to sign a declaration of honour before receiving the grant.
- Researchers that have been previously awarded a YRMA are not eligible to re-apply as the coordinator of the application.

### **Application proposal and evaluation criteria**

The application proposal is made of four sections that will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- **Tell us: what are your research profiles?** This section should include a description of the inter-university team who will participate in the research collaboration, including information about research profiles, i.e., specific research field of interest, highlighting collaborations and achievements made so far or explaining why do they want to work together and providing relevant examples of the approach to research of the researchers involved in the collaboration (e.g., integrity, openness, interdisciplinarity, stakeholder engagement, etc.). The ORCID numbers of researchers involved in the collaboration will be required. Relevant publications can be included and referenced by explaining why they are important for the collaboration.
  - *This section can be evaluated as: Excellent (5) Very good (4) Good (3) Average (2) Poor (1)*
  - 20%
- **Tell us: what do you aim to do in this research collaboration and how you are going to do it?** A description of the collaborative activity is requested, highlighting the specific research topic, potential advances through the collaboration, proposed collaborative methodology, and expected activities, including the interdisciplinarity of your research if appropriate. Additionally, please provide a detailed description of how the award money will be utilised.
  - *This section can be evaluated as: Excellent (5) Very good (4) Good (3) Average (2) Poor (1)*
  - 40%
- **Tell us what are the expected (short and medium term) outcomes of this collaboration?** A description of the expected outcomes of the collaboration is required
  - *This section can be evaluated as: Excellent (5) Very good (4) Good (3) Average (2) Poor (1)*
  - 20%

- **Tell us: what are further impacts or potential benefits that your collaboration could lead to? Considerations about potential academic, social, economic and/or other impacts on society.** The relevance of your collaboration to improve impact on society will also be valued, as well as forms of communication towards the wider public (i.e. videos, blogs, etc.) allowing wider stakeholder engagement. Important: a reference to the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) your research might contribute to is strongly encouraged.
  - *This section can be evaluated as: Excellent (5) Very good (4) Good (3) Average (2) Poor (1)*
  - 20%

The above questions correspond to the different sections of the application form. Please note that each of these sections – all of which are equally important - will be evaluated.

### **How to apply**

Please inform the [YERUN Coordinator](#) at your Institution if you apply for these awards. If you need further information about the application process, please contact the YERUN Brussels Office (YRMA@yerun.eu). Your research department should also be informed of the potential collaboration.

### **Connect with other researchers**

In order to find suitable partners from YERUN members, you are invited to use the YERUN platform [Connect by YERUN](#). There you will be able to search a database of YERUN researchers and see recommendations for relevant possible collaborators of based on your publications. You just need an ORCID account with a publicly visible email address from your institution to sign in, (see the help section of the website for more info).

In order to submit the application, please [follow the link](#) to the online application system. The official deadline to submit your application online is **30 November 2024 (23:59 CEST)**. When you have submitted your application successfully, you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive it, please contact the YERUN Brussels Office (YRMA@yerun.eu).

### **Evaluation**

The evaluation will be conducted by a group of evaluators from YERUN institutions. Every application will be evaluated by 2 different evaluators. A final panel will be in charge of selecting 10 awards.<sup>5</sup> After the evaluation period, all applicants will receive an email informing them about the outcome of their application.

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<sup>5</sup> While 10 awards are available in this call, a threshold will be set by the panel of evaluators to ensure the high quality of the applications awarded. Only applications passing the threshold will be awarded.

**If selected**

If your collaboration is selected as a winner of the YERUN Mobility Awards, the YERUN Brussels Office will contact you to request the necessary documentation for receiving the award, as well as additional documentation required after the collaboration concludes. You can access the list of requirements [here](#).

**Call for applications**

The 2024/2025 call for applications **closes on 30 November 2024 (23:59 CEST)**. Results will be communicated in January 2025.

**Contact**  
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