

Ukrainian-Israeli Scientific Research Program**CALL FOR JOINT PROJECT PROPOSALS****For the Years 2019-2020****Date of Publication- 1 November 2018****Deadline for Submissions- 31 January 2019**

Within the framework of the Ukrainian-Israeli scientific cooperation, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (MESU) and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the State of Israel (MOST) are glad to invite researchers and scientists to submit joint proposals for research projects carried out by scientists from both countries.

The aim of this program is to support the development of scientific and technological cooperation between Ukrainian and Israeli researchers and to strengthen the scientific partnership between research groups from both countries by establishing bilateral research networks, enhancing research cooperation and promoting the exchange of knowledge between Ukrainian and Israeli scientists.

The research shall focus on two main areas and its subtopics as detailed in Section A.

Qualifying scientific applicants in this framework may receive research grants, respectively, from MESU and MOST according to the applicable national funding procedures and regulations.

A. AREAS OF COOPERATION

MESU and MOST are providing financial support for joint research activities carried out by scientists from both countries. Ukrainian-Israeli research teams are hereby invited to submit joint proposals for research projects in any of the following areas:

- 1. Applied Mathematics and theoretical physics-**
Probability theory and algebra
Theoretical physics
Graph theory and chemistry
- 2. Jewish Heritage -** The problems of common cultural and historical heritage.

B. MODE OF COOPERATION

Cooperation may take the form of:

- Joint research activities in which interdependent subprojects of a single project are conducted in Ukrainian and Israeli laboratories;
- Complementary methodological approaches to a common problem;
- Joint use of research facilities, materials, equipment and/or services by cooperating scientists;

C. LEVEL OF FUNDING AND DURATION OF PROJECTS

It is the intention of the Parties to fund research proposals selected hereunder for a term of **two years**. However, funding shall be approved on an annual basis, with the funding for the second year to be approved in accordance with the provisions of the research contracts.

It is the intention of the Parties to support **up to 4 joint projects**. The final number of projects to be funded will be determined based on such factors as merits of the proposals upon scientific evaluation and budgetary considerations.

The total maximum project funding for all research projects approved under this Call is 80,000 Dollar for the Israeli side and 52,000 Dollar for the Ukrainian side. The total maximum funding for an individual project on the Israeli side will be up to **20,000 Dollar**, for a two-year period. On the Ukrainian side, the total maximum funding for an individual project will be up to **13,000 Dollar** for a two-year period.

In accordance, research projects should be planned on a two-year basis beginning approximately at the third quarter of 2019; contracts will be signed accordingly.

Funding for the approved projects depends on the availability of funds and the approval of the State Budget in each country.

D. ELIGIBILITY

1. Projects must be conducted by collaborating Israeli and Ukrainian scientific research teams.
2. Each research team must be led by a Principal Investigator (PI) from each country. The PI must be member of an academic or research institution or a professor emeritus who continues working on research in academic or research institution (hereinafter called the "Affiliated Institution");

In Israel, the "Affiliated Institution" must be one of the following:

- a) An accredited institution of higher learning in Israel, according to the Council for Higher Education Law, 1958;
- b) A Research Institute recognized as such by the Israel Science Foundation (ISF);
- c) A Research Institute which is a nonprofit organization;
- d) A Research Institute which is a government company or a governmental unit.

For the purpose of this Call, a "Research Institute" is a research institute whose significant portion of activity is the advancement of cutting-edge scientific knowledge, possessing appropriate infrastructure and equipment, and employing researchers who, inter alia, publish articles related to their research in leading scientific journals in the world, and who present their research at international symposia.

3. The project may include the use of sub-contractors from the private sector, if necessary.
4. Each PI and each affiliated institution is accountable to MOST or MESU, respectively, for the execution of the project.
5. Proposals for which funding is approved, which include experiments with animals, must submit the approval of the relevant Committee for Experimentations on Animals before the project can commence.

6. Proposals for which funding is approved, which involve human beings, must submit the approval of the relevant IRB/Helsinki Committee before the project can commence.
7. **In Ukraine**, the "Affiliated Institution" must be one of the following:
 - a) An accredited institution and universities of higher learning in Ukraine, according to the Law of Ukraine "On Education", 2015;
 - b) A Research Institute of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine;
 - c) A Research Institute and Universities of National Academy of medical Sciences of Ukraine;
 - d) A Research Institute and Universities of National Academy of Agrarian Sciences of Ukraine;
 - e) A Research Institute which is a nonprofit organization;The project in Ukraine should not include the use of sub-contractors.

E. SUBMISSION OF RESEARCH PROPOSALS

The proposal must be prepared and carried out jointly by the Israeli and the Ukrainian project partners and should be submitted simultaneously by both the Ukrainian and Israeli principal investigators, to MOST and MESU, in English, on the appropriate "Application for Research Grant" form. Application form is obtainable at MOST website (www.most.gov.il), as well as at MESU website. The use of the updated form is obligatory.

A valid project application consists of the application form **duly filled in and signed**, together with all the necessary application documents required from each side of a joint research team, submitted respectively to MESU in Ukraine and to MOST in Israel. **If the applications are not duly received both in Ukraine and in Israel by the date and hour indicated as follows, the project will not be accepted.**

Instructions for Israeli research teams:

Israeli PIs should submit proposals in English by email using the attached "Application for Research Grant" form to the following email address: Ukraine@most.gov.il (in "pdf" format duly signed, along with a **working copy in "doc" format without signatures**). **The proposals must effectively reach the abovementioned email address by Thursday 31/01/2019 at 23:59 (local Israel time), and will not be accepted under any circumstances after the specified date and hour.** Proposers are hereby advised that no human answers will be available after 15:30 of the mentioned date.

Because of technical constraints, an email over 20 megabytes will not be received. If the email and its attachments exceed 20 MB, it must be split. Shortly after submitting the email the applicants should receive an automatic reply acknowledging its receipt. If an email confirming receipt is not received, the applicant must approach MOST contact persons detailed below to make sure the email was duly received. **It is solely the sender's responsibility** to receive confirmation that the email was actually received, whether by automatic reply or personal confirmation. As technical problems are possible, **it is strongly recommended to submit the application well in advance of the application deadline.**

In addition, Israeli PIs shall send as well 2 hard copies of their proposals by Tuesday 05/02/2019, to the following address:

Ministry of Science and Technology
"Call for Proposals – Ukraine-Israel Program 2019-2020"
Clermont Ganneau St., Building Gimmel, 3rd Floor, Room 309
Government Offices, Kiryat Begin, Jerusalem

Contact person:

Mr. Avi ANATI
Deputy Director-General for Planning & Control
Tel: 02-5411170/173/829/800
Fax: 02-5823030
E-mail: avi@most.gov.il

Instructions for Ukrainian research teams:

Submitted project applications have to include up to 10 pages of the following sections:

1. Topic
2. Background of the project
3. Names and addresses of the co-operating Ukrainian and Israeli institutions, co-ordinators and research team members
4. Detailed description of the proposed research subject and objectives, including the methodological part
5. Work plan, start date and duration of the co-operation project. Stage plan of works
6. Results expected to be achieved
7. Visits under the project
8. Proof of qualifications of the co-ordinators
9. Involvement of young and female scientists (if applicable)
10. Annual calculation of costs for the realization of the co-operation project
11. Further cooperation perspective

A joint project proposal has to be prepared jointly by the Ukrainian and Israeli researchers and has to be submitted to the national institutions responsible for implementing the work programme

Ukrainian PIs shall send 2 hard copies of their proposals by 31/01/2019 at 23:59, to the following address:

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine
"Call for Proposals – Ukraine-Israel Program 2019-2020"
16, T. Shevchenko Blvd, Ukraine, Kyiv, 01601, Ukraine

F. FUNDED EXPENSES

Funding provided by this Call is intended to enhance joint collaboration between Ukrainian and Israeli scientists. Funding will therefore be provided mainly in support of the collaboration vectors and of the local research that is necessary for the collaboration. In any case, each budget item or expenditure for which reimbursement is requested must conform to the respective national rules of each applicant.

Each side will cover the cost of research visits to other side.

For Israeli researchers:

Funding can be provided by MOST for:

- (1) Stipend or salary for graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, technicians and/or laboratory workers retained specifically for the purpose of the project for a temporary period of up to 3 years, not including salaries for permanent staff and PI's;
- (2) Consumables. In case they exceed 750 Euro, a detailed explanation regarding their necessity and quantities is required;
- (3) Small scale equipment needed only for the specific research project. MOST will enable purchase of computers or laptops only in special cases in which they are part of the research project or are of unique capacities needed for the specific research;
- (4) Travel and visiting costs;
- (5) Joint seminars and workshops;
- (6) Overhead expenses up to 15% of the total amount of the research project inclusive of the funds provided on the basis of this Call.

For Ukrainian researchers:

Funding can be provided by MESU for:

- Personnel costs (salaries for permanent staff and PI's including taxes)
- Materials and reagents
- The cost of a short trips (no more than 1 month) of Ukrainian scientists / researchers to Israel ,
- The costs of health insurance;
- The cost of staying in the other Party;

G. MUTUAL VISITS

It is mandatory for the participating researchers to spend an extended period of time visiting their counterparts' institutions, given that such visits are an integral part of the research collaboration. All costs for travel, accommodation, per diem and any other visiting expenses for each visiting scientist will be included in the budget of that scientist's research team. Funding provided under this Call may only be used for visits that take place in Ukraine or Israel.

H. PROPOSAL REVIEW

After the proposals are pre-evaluated and rated by international external reviewers, they will be jointly evaluated for final ranking by a Joint Ukrainian-Israeli Committee. MOST and MESU will decide which and how many projects will be funded and in what amounts based on the results of the evaluation process and ranking and in view of budget requirements and other constraints.

The evaluation process will be conducted on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Conformity with the program research topics defined above;

2. Significance (quantitative whenever relevant) of the problem being addressed, and the potential impact of the proposed approach on solving it. Proposals should address these issues explicitly and provide as much evidence as possible;
3. Scientific merit, with emphasis upon the originality and novelty of the proposed research;
4. Clarity and quality of the research proposal itself – presentation of the topic, definition of research objectives, presentation of research methodology and detailed program of work;
5. Feasibility of the research program;
6. Practical applicability of expected research results;
7. Extent of genuine collaboration between the Ukrainian and Israeli research teams.

I. CONTRACTS, PAYMENTS AND REPORTS

1. The expected starting date for approved projects is the third quarter of 2019. The expected completion date is two years after the starting date of the approved projects.
2. **Contracts:**
Upon approval of a particular project, separate contracts will be signed in Ukraine and Israel respectively, between MESU and the institution of the Ukrainian PI and between MOST and the institution of the Israeli PI.
3. **In Israel**, in principle, the project's period is two years. However, funding must be approved on an annual basis, with the funding for the second year to be approved in accordance with the provisions of the research contract. The parties to this Call reserve the right not to fund a second year of work for scientific-professional, administrative, budgetary or policy reasons.
An application for the continuation of research funding for the second year must be submitted by the institution of the Israeli PI to MOST on the appropriate forms at least two months prior to the end of the first year of the project together with the annual scientific report.
In Ukraine, the project's period is two years. However, funding must be approved on an annual basis, with the funding for the second year to be approved in accordance with the provisions of the research contract. The parties to this Call reserve the right not to fund a second year of work for scientific-professional, administrative, budgetary or policy reasons.

4. Payments:

Payments will be made by MESU and MOST to the institution of each Principal Investigator, respectively, in keeping with the provisions of the contracts referred to above, according to the regulations and practices in force in each country.

5. Reports:

a) Financial Reports

Financial reports will be submitted to MESU or MOST, respectively, by the institutions of each PI as specified in the research contracts.

b) Scientific Reports

Within two months after the conclusion of the project, each PI will submit a full final report to MESU or MOST, respectively, in accordance with the contract or the regulations in force in his/her country and the PIs will submit a joint summary of the final report both to MESU and MOST in English.

Each Ukrainian PI will submit a full final report to MESU, in accordance with the contract or the regulations in force in Ukraine to December 25, 2021 as well and Financial Reports and other relevant documents.

Additional interim progress reports may be required, according to the practices and regulations of each country, as specified in the research contracts.

J. SPECIAL PROVISIONS REGARDING ISRAELI APPLICANTS

All procedures and activities under this Call or the projects approved hereunder, including the eligibility of institutions via which applications must be filed, are subject to the standard MOST Procedures Regarding Scientific Projects and Scholarships Funded by MOST and to the MOST Standard Contract for Scientific Projects (both documents referred to hereinafter as "the standard terms").

Applicants are required to familiarize themselves with the standard terms before filing an application under this Call; filing an application constitutes a declaration that the applicant has done so and agrees to be bound by the provisions thereof.

Sabbatical Leave:

Israeli researchers who intend a sabbatical leave in the first year of the project cannot be approved as a PI of the research proposal. A PI who intends a vacation or absence longer than three months should request permission from MOST in advance through the relevant R&D Authority. A substitute to the PI will not be approved in the course of the first year.

K. MISCELANEOUS PROVISIONS

The Ukrainian and Israeli research teams and their Institutions shall enter into a "Cooperation Agreement", regarding Intellectual Property rights from the output of the financed project.

L. INFORMATION

Additional information can be obtained from the following contact persons:

ISRAEL:

On administrative matters:

Mr. Avi ANATI

Deputy Director General for Planning & Control

Tel: +972-2-5411170/173/829/800

E-mail: avi@most.gov.il

Mr. Barak GATENYO

International Relations Coordinator

Department of International Relations MOST

Tel: +972-2-5411812

E-mail: barakg@most.gov.il

On Scientific matters:

Dr. Fadil Salih, Director for Applied Mathematics and Physics

Tel: +972-2-5411816

E-mail: fadils@most.gov.il

MOST website: www.most.gov.il

UKRAINE:

On administrative matters:

Dr. Stella Shapoval (PhD)

Deputy Head of International Cooperation and European Integration Department

Head of Division for International Scientific and Technical Cooperation

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**Ministry of Education and
Science (MESU)
Ukraine**

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**Ministry of Science and
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Israel**

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