

## **National Regulations for Bulgaria**

(Translation of selected parts of the document “National requirements and eligibility conditions” of Bulgarian National Science Fund available at the following internet address:

[https://www.fni.bg/sites/default/files/competition/12\\_2016/ERA/ERA\\_NET\\_2016\\_2.pdf](https://www.fni.bg/sites/default/files/competition/12_2016/ERA/ERA_NET_2016_2.pdf))

## **Eligibility criteria for applicants participating in ERA NET Cofund Transnational Calls**

### **Eligibility Rules**

A precondition for eligibility of project proposals:

Eligible projects shall be considered only for those ERA-NET programs in which the Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF) participates.

### **Eligible applicants**

Applicants eligible to participate in this project selection procedure are only the following entities:

- 1) Accredited universities as defined in Art.85 para.1, p. 7 of the Higher Education Act;
- 2) Research organizations as defined in Art. 47, para 1 of the Higher Education Act.

Applicants under this procedure shall be directly responsible for the implementation of the activities under the project proposal and shall not act as intermediaries, but they shall carry out activities under the project proposal on their behalf and at their expense.

Applicants to this procedure must be entities:

- Carrying out fundamental research studies; and
- Whose activities are entirely of a non-profit nature; or
- Whose activities are of both for-profit and not-for-profit nature, but these activities are clearly distinguished and their organization allows tracking of revenue and expenditures connected with their implementation, including by keeping analytical accounting. In the event that an applicant is involved in both for-profit and not-for-profit activities, the funding, expenditures and revenues shall be taken into account separately for each type of activity and on the basis of consistently applied principles of accounting of expenditures being justifiable.

Assets acquired as a result of funding under this procedure will be used only for not-for-profit activities and the provided funding shall not be used for whatever type of businesses, including the following:

- Research activities contracted by enterprises/industry;
- Consulting or other services provided to enterprises /industry;
- Renting of assets out (infrastructure / equipment).

### **Research team**

For each project proposal the applicant shall designate a team consisting of:

- 1) Coordinator of the research team;
- 2) Members of the research team - researchers, specialists, post-graduate students and university students;
- 3) Technical personnel in consideration of project specific activities.

### Requirements to participants of the research team

- 1) Coordinator of the research team is required to be a scientist holding an educational and scientific degree "Doctor" or "Doctor of Science" with the necessary scientific and management competence for a successful implementation of the project activities, verified by professional CV, publications, patent ownership (if applicable) in the respective research domain;
- 2) Persons acting as Coordinators of research project financed by BNSF competition for Scientific Research in Priority Areas in 2014 shall not be eligible to be Coordinators of research teams in this competition;
- 3) Other participants are:
  - Scientists and experts with achievements in the research area of the project proposal verified by enclosed professional CV and a list of scientific publications in the respective research domain or related ones.
  - PhD students, post-doctorates and young researchers, for whom professional CVs and lists of scientific publications should be attached, if any;
  - University students;
  - Technical personnel.
- 4) Project coordinator and members of the research team, who are holders of educational and scientific degree "Doctor" or "Doctor of Science" should be included in the BNSF database or should provide information to be included in the database;
- 5) Persons who unjustifiably have failed to submit their reports under previous BNSF contracts within the set deadlines as Coordinator of research projects after 2011, or act as Coordinators of projects which have received unsatisfactory mark in the last 3 years shall not be eligible as members of the research team under this procedure.

For further information please refer to BNSF section of national rules for participation in ERA NET programs at: <https://www.fni.bg/?q=node/578>

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