

UK-Portugal Bilateral Research Fund: Guidance Notes

CLOSING DATE: Friday, January 31, 2020, 5pm

Research grants (up to 3,000 EUR each) are available to support the establishment and the development of research links between universities and research institutes in the UK and Portugal. Funds can be used to support travel, accommodation and subsistence costs associated with individual or group visits to Portugal (from researchers based in the UK) and/or the UK (for researchers based in Portugal). The fund can also be used to cover small-scale research costs, such as laboratory consumables, software licenses, or assistance with data collection and analysis. However, the fund should not be used to purchase equipment as it is expected that the applicants' home institutions already provide this, neither can it be used to cover overheads. The size of the fund is 15,000 EUR.

Each grant should have a total duration between 3 months and 6 months, and may include multiple visits within this period. The Portuguese and UK lead applicants must both have contracts with their home institutions that exceed the life-time of the grant. We particularly encourage applications for projects that actively involve early-career researchers (e.g., PhD students, postdoctoral researchers). Typical projects will include collaborative research visits, meetings to prepare joint large-scale funding applications, or the organization of joint events, e.g. research symposia. In each case, it is expected that the project has a concrete outcome (grant submissions, publications, etc.).

Applications can be submitted by researchers based in the UK or in Portugal. The application needs to be approved by both institutions prior to submission. The Fund is administered by PARSUK's Scientific Advisory Board. Due to the budget cycle, activities must be completed (and funds spent) by the end of December 2020.

When evaluating the projects, the Board will give preference to those that fulfil the following criteria:

- Projects that have a concrete, measurable outcome (e.g., submission of grants to national or international funding agencies, publications in peer-reviewed journals).
- Projects that open new areas of collaboration, or that go beyond the research already carried out by each of the applicant groups.
- Projects that are feasible within the proposed time frame of the grant.
- Projects that show evidence of leading to a continuous and sustained research effort (as opposed to a one-off initiative).
- Projects that actively involve early-career researchers (e.g., PhD students, postdoctoral researchers)
- Projects that involve several researchers based in the UK and Portugal.

Applications should be submitted electronically to the Fund's evaluation committee via email to cc@parsuk.pt, by 5pm on Friday, January 31, 2020. We expect to communicate results by Friday, February 28, 2020. Applications should be submitted in English. For general inquiries, please email cc@parsuk.pt.