

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Signed between
the Ministry of the Education, Research, Development and Youth
of the Slovak Republic (MŠVVaM SR),
the Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV)
and the Austrian Science Fund (FWF)

The Ministry of the Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic (Ministerstvo školstva, výskumu, vývoja a mládeže Slovenskej Republiky. MŠVVaM SR), the Slovak Research and Development Agency (Agentúra na podporu výskumu a vývoja, APVV) and the Austrian Science Fund (Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung, FWF), hereinafter called “The Parties”, wishing to contribute to the development and strengthening of the scientific cooperation of researchers based in the Slovak Republic and in Austria, agree on the following Memorandum of Understanding.

1. Objective

The objective of the present MoU is to further develop the collaboration between researchers in the Slovak Republic and in Austria by funding closely integrated Joint Research Projects. Joint Research projects will be carried out by researchers from both countries and must demonstrate a clear scientific added value due to the international cooperation. It is expected that a substantial scientific contribution is made by the researchers on both sides. This MoU is non-binding and shall not constitute or be construed as a legally binding agreement or contractual obligation.

2. Scope of the Cooperation

The Parties agree to promote Joint Research Projects in all areas of basic research. Applicants must meet the respective eligibility criteria set forth by the respective national funding agency.

3. Financial support of projects

Each Party will finance the project costs of the team members in its respective country in accordance with its own guidelines.

4. Selection procedure and monitoring

- The Parties will agree upon the detailed submission modalities separately.
- The Parties agree that a Joint Research Project will only be funded if both sides agree to do so.
- The project monitoring will be carried out by each Party separately, in accordance with its own rules.

5. Implementation

The parties agree to consult with each other as necessary to determine the practical implementation details.

6. Research Security

The Parties recognize the importance of protecting research security and sensitive information in international scientific cooperation. They commit to promoting awareness and adherence to research security principles among funded researchers and institutions in line with applicable laws and policies

7. Duration

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon signature and extends automatically by one year. The Parties may terminate the Memorandum of Understanding anytime in written form, subject to a notice period of six months. Projects already approved shall not be affected by a cancellation.

8. Data Protection and Compliance

The Parties shall comply with all relevant data protection legislation, including the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and any local regulations. Proper measures will be taken to protect personal data and ensure lawful processing.

9. Liability

Each Party shall be responsible for its own acts and omissions in relation to the performance of this MoU. Neither Party shall be liable for indirect or consequential damages arising out of the cooperation, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

9.4.2026, Wien

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