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HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT
GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION

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4th Call

for H.F.R.I.'s Research Project to support

Postdoctoral Researchers

1st Amendment

Submissions Start Date: 14 May 2024, 12:00 (EEST)

Submissions Closing Date: 20 June 2024, 13:00 (EEST)

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DOCUMENT HISTORY

Ref. No.	Publication date		Page
84453	11.04.2024	Initial edition	
		1st Call Amendment	
		Section 8.2 Addition of Host Institutions	13

The Director of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation, having regard to:

1. Law 4429/2016 (A' 199) on "Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation and other provisions," as in force, especially Articles 2 par. 1, 5 par. 2-9, 8 par. 9 and 10 and 9 par. 7(b) thereof;
2. Decision no. 195245 issued by the Ministers of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, Economy and Administrative Reform on "Internal Regulation of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.)" (B' 5252), as in force, and especially Articles 33-52 thereof;
3. Law 4957/2022 on "New Horizons in Higher Educational Institutions (H.E.I.): Strengthening the quality, functionality and connection of H.E.I. with society and other provisions" (A' 141), as in force;
4. Law 4310/2014 on "Research, Technological Development and Innovation and other provisions" (A' 258), as in force;
5. Law 3187/2003 on "Higher Military Educational Institutions (H.M.E.I.)" (A' 233), as in force;
6. Decision No. 35627/31.03.2021 issued by the Deputy Minister of Development and Investment on "Establishing the Scientific Council of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation" (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Institutions No. 246);
7. Decision No. 38750/12.04.2022 issued by the Deputy Minister of Development and Investment on the appointment of Dr. Aikaterini Kouravelou as the Director of H.F.R.I. (Issue for Specially Positioned Employees and Administrative Bodies of Public or Broader Public Sector Institutions No. 335);
8. The Commission Notice on the concept of state aid referred to in Article 107 par. 1 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (2016/C 262/01);
9. The Commission Notice on the "Framework on state aid for research and development and innovation" (C(2022) 7388 final 19-10-2022);
10. Joint decision No. 124433/22.12.2023 issued by the Minister and the Deputy Minister of Development and Investment on the "Amendment of Ministerial Decisions No. 29898/26.02.2019, 133182/20.12.2019, 104217/1.11.2022, and approval of the annual programming of activities and allocation of resources of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.) for the year 2024" (B' 7724);
11. The Agreement of 15.07.2016 between the Hellenic Republic and the European Investment Bank;
12. The fact that the budget of the Action is borne by the budget of H.F.R.I. and, in particular, is covered by the resources coming from the 15.07.2016 Contract of the Hellenic Republic with the European Investment Bank;
13. Decision No. 7886/21.12.2018 issued at the 39th Meeting of H.F.R.I.'s Scientific Council on the approval of the assumption of multi-year obligations (IUN: 78E046M77Γ-Φ37), as in force following its 16th amendment by Decision No. 80430/25.01.2024 issued at the 173rd Meeting of H.F.R.I.'s Scientific Council (IUN: Ψ8EB46M77Γ-ΨTE);
14. Decision No. 125297-27-12-2023/27.12.2023 issued by the Minister of Development and Investment on the "Budget Approval of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.), for the fiscal year 2024" (IUN: 6K0E46NΔΣΕ-YN4);
15. Decision No. 80514/27.1.2024 issued at the 173rd Meeting of H.F.R.I.'s Scientific Council on the "Detailed budget amendment for the fiscal year 2024" (IUN: 69BΓ46M77Γ-9Δ3);

16. Decision No. 53660/13.09.2022 issued at the 131st Meeting of H.F.R.I.'s Scientific Council on the "Evaluation of proposals/applications within the context of the actions of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation" (IUN: ΩΜΙ246Μ77Γ-ΟΞ8), as in force;
17. Decision No. 83596/26.03.2024 issued at the 176th Meeting of H.F.R.I.'s Scientific Council on the approval of the "4th Call for H.F.R.I.'s Research Project to support Postdoctoral Researchers" (IUN: 96ΑΨ46Μ77Γ-9ΨΣ);
18. Opinion No. 84163/05.04.2024 of the Special Service for State Aid and Financial Instruments (ΕΥΚΕ – ΧΕ).

CALLS

All interested parties to submit Proposals within the framework of the "4th Call for H.F.R.I.'s Research Project to support Postdoctoral Researchers" in accordance with the terms and conditions set out below.

1 OBJECTIVE AND GENERAL INFORMATION OF THE ACTION

The Action aims to support young researchers with a PhD degree ((hereinafter "Postdoctoral Researchers") in the implementation of selected research projects (hereinafter "projects") of high scientific quality and excellence. The Action is designed to support Postdoctoral Researchers in independently overseeing Project implementation as Principal Investigators.

The action aims to establish the appropriate conditions for utilizing existing scientific potential, attracting young scientists working abroad and developing new perspectives in the scientific and professional career of the Postdoctoral Researchers – Principal Investigator (hereinafter "PR-PI").

The proposed Project (hereinafter "Proposal") should be original, relate to a cutting-edge research area, have a significant scientific impact and meet criteria of high scientific quality and excellence.

Principal Investigators of the research projects will be Postdoctoral Researchers, who will be responsible for the proper implementation of the Project, both in terms of its physical and financial scope, in accordance with what is described in the Proposal.

The Project could be implemented in a Host Institution, which can be a Higher Educational Institution, Higher Military Educational Institution, Research Centre - Institution as described in article 13a of Law 4310/2014 (Α' 258) and/or Research University Institution.

The action is tailored to the specific nature of the research endeavor in each of the scientific areas covered, and no thematic or geographical restrictions are imposed.

The funded Project will be selected through an evaluation process. Proposals will be assessed by an Evaluation Committee (hereinafter "EC"), which will be constituted by renowned scientists, experts in the Scientific Areas of the research covered by the Call, and by external experts, if necessary, and

in accordance with the specific provisions of Article 5 par. 6 of Law 4429/2016, as in force. Strict confidentiality rules for all parties involved bind the whole process.

This Call constitutes part of the H.F.R.I.'s program of actions in accordance with Decision No. 124433/22.12.2023 issued by the Deputy Minister of Development and Investment on the “Amendment of Ministerial Decisions No. 29898/26.02.2019, 133182/20.12.2019, 104217/01.11.2022, and approval of the annual planning of actions and allocation of resources of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.) for the year 2024” (B' 7724).

2 SCIENTIFIC AREAS

Each Proposal is to be submitted in one (1) scientific field/subfield of one (1) of the following Scientific Areas (hereinafter “S.A.”):

- S.A.1 Physical Sciences
- S.A.2 Engineering Sciences & Technology
- S.A.3 Life Sciences
- S.A.4 Agricultural Sciences – Food Science & Technology
- S.A.5 Mathematics & Information Sciences
- S.A.6 Social Sciences
- S.A.7 Humanities & Arts
- S.A.8 Environment & Energy
- S.A.9 Management & Economics of Innovations

The individual scientific fields and subfields of the nine (9) S.A. of the Call are listed in Annex I.

3 BUDGET AND PROJECT FUNDING LIMITS

The public expenditure of the Call amounts to **9.250.000,00€**.

The maximum funding limit for each Project is determined by the S.A. to which it is submitted, and according to *Table 1* below:

Table 1. Maximum funding limits for each Project per S.A.

Scientific Area	Maximum funding limit
S.A.1. Physical Sciences	100.000€
S.A.2. Engineering Sciences & Technology	100.000€
S.A.3. Life Sciences	100.000€

S.A.4. Agricultural Sciences – Food Science & Technology	100.000€
S.A.5. Mathematics & Information Sciences	100.000€
S.A.6. Social Sciences	80.000€
S.A.7. Humanities & Arts	80.000€
S.A.8. Environment & Energy	100.000€
S.A.9. Management & Economics of Innovations	80.000€

The allocation of the available budget per S.A. will be determined by a decision made by the H.F.R.I. Scientific Council (hereinafter “S.C.”).

It should be noted that the total funding budget of each S.A. is not affected by the maximum funding limit of the projects.

4 DURATION OF PROJECTS

- The duration of the projects may vary **from 18 to 24 months**.
- Post-dated commencement of the research Project is possible upon a substantiated request of the PR-PI, approved by a decision of the Director of the H.F.R.I.
- The expenditure for each research Project shall be incurred from the date of its commencement.

5 PREVENTION OF DOUBLE FUNDING

A prerequisite for funding the Project is that the Project has not been or is not funded in any way by any other Institution for all or part of its scope. Synergy with other research projects is allowed only in terms of complementarity and a clearly defined and distinct role regarding the scope of the respective projects to ensure that double funding is strictly prevented.

6 ENSURING RESEARCH INTEGRITY

In all stages of the evaluation process pertaining to the Proposal, as well as during the funding and implementation of the Project, PR-PI must demonstrate behavior in accordance with the rules of ethics and conduct and with respect for scientific truth, academic freedom, human dignity, the environment, intellectual and industrial property. Any case of unethical scientific behavior will be monitored and may lead to exclusion from the evaluation process or revocation of funding. More specifically, the appropriation, falsification, plagiarism and misleading presentation of third-party scientific information and achievements is prohibited.

7 PUBLIC FUNDING OF NON-ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES OF RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION ORGANIZATIONS

Funding under this Action does not constitute state aid. It amounts to a percentage of 100% when the H.I. of the projects are Research and Knowledge Dissemination Organizations (Research Organizations) and engage in activities of a non-economic nature as specifically mentioned below:

According to the definition of point λβ) of item 16 of the European Commission Notice titled “Framework on state aid for research and development and innovation” (2022/C 414/01), a “Research and Knowledge Dissemination Organization” or “Research Organization” is defined as an Institution (such as universities or research institutions, technology transfer agencies, innovation intermediaries, research-oriented physical or virtual collaborative institutions) irrespective of its legal status (organized under public or private law) or way of financing, whose primary goal is to conduct fundamental research, industrial research or experimental development independently, or to widely disseminate the results of such activities by way of teaching, publication or knowledge transfer.

In addition, according to point 20 of the above Notice, the following activities are generally non-economic in nature:

a) the primary activities of the Research Organization and in particular:

- training activities to ensure more and better qualified human resources;
- independent R&D for greater knowledge and better understanding;
- wide dissemination of research results on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis, for instance, through teaching, databases, publications or open-access software.

b) knowledge transfer activities, where they are carried out either by a division or by the Research Organization (including its divisions or subsidiaries) or jointly with or on behalf of other such institutions and where all profits from such activities are reinvested in the principal activities of the Research Organization. The non-economic nature of these activities is not affected by the contracting out of the provision of the corresponding services to third parties through open procedures. Furthermore, where a Research Organization is involved in economic and non-economic activities, its funding falls within the scope of the state aid provisions to the extent that it covers costs related to its financial activities. In this instance, for the public funding of non-economic activities not to be considered state aid, the two types of activities, as well as their costs, financing and revenues from the provision of services or the sale of goods, must be clearly separated and accounted for, so that the subsidy for the economic activity is not effectively covered by the subsidy for the non-economic activity (cross-subsidy). The annual financial statements of the Institution concerned may constitute evidence of compliance with the planned allocation of expenditure, financing and revenue. It should be noted that the lack of a clear separation brings all the activities of the Institution within the scope of the state aid rules.

According to point 21 of the Notice, “[...] where the research organization is used almost exclusively for a non-economic activity, its funding may fall outside State aid rules in its entirety, provided that the economic use remains purely ancillary, that is to say, corresponds to an activity which is directly related to and necessary for the operation of the research organization or research infrastructure or intrinsically linked to its main non-economic use, and which is limited in scope. For the purposes of this framework, the Commission will consider this to be the case where the economic activities consume the same inputs (such as material, equipment, labor and fixed capital) as the non-economic activities, and the capacity allocated each year to such economic activities does not exceed 20% of the relevant Institution’s overall annual capacity” (point 21 of the above Notice of the European Commission).

Furthermore, the European Commission considers other institutions such as a) Public Services constituting part of the Central Administration as defined in 4270/2014 (A' 143), Article 14, par. 1στ, b) Legal Persons governed by Public Law (such as Museums with independent legal Institution, Public Hospitals, the Academy of Athens, the National Library, the National Gallery, etc.) and c) Legal Persons governed by Private Law, established by Law or Presidential Decree and subsidized by the State, albeit not falling under the definition of a Research Organization, may be funded by analogy as Research Organizations and the funding may be considered as non-state aid under point 19 of the above mentioned Notice, and may receive 100% funding for all eligible costs, provided that they meet the following cumulative criteria:

1. The Institution's principal activities are not economic, in accordance with the European Commission's Notice on the concept of state aid (2016/C 262/01).
2. There is a provision for research activity in the Institution's Articles of Association.
3. The research results from this research Project will be widely disseminated on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis, for instance, through teaching, databases, publications or open-access software.
4. Any resulting profits will be reinvested in the Institution's non-financial activities.
5. Separate accounting records will be kept for this infrastructure, as well as separate accounting records for the institution's non-financial and (if any) financial activities.

8 ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

The terms and conditions of participation in this Call are as follows:

8.1 Principal Investigator (PI)

Participation as Principal Investigators of the Project is open to PhD holders who have obtained their PhD degree in Greece or abroad, provided that at the submission start date, **no more than ten (10) years have elapsed since the PI's promotion to PhD**. For male candidates who have fulfilled their military obligations after the award of the doctoral degree, the above period is increased by a period equal to the period of their military service, while for female candidates who have borne a child after the award of the doctoral degree, the above period is increased by nine (9) months for each child.

Participation is also open to those who, by the deadline for submission of the Proposal, have proven to have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but have not yet been awarded a doctorate, provided that they submit a relevant certificate from the competent department of the Institution concerned. In case the certificate was issued by a foreign Institution, the relevant certificate must be accompanied by a certified translation into Greek.

It should be clarified that doctoral degrees awarded by foreign institutions are not required to be recognized by the DOATAP (par. 4 of article 304 of Law No. 4957/2022, as in force).

It should be noted that a PR-PI may submit only one (1) Proposal as PI.

PR-PIs whose Proposal has been funded under the "3rd Call for H.F.R.I.'s Research Project to support Postdoctoral Researchers" are not eligible to participate in this Call.

Failure to meet the above conditions will result in the Proposal being ineligible for evaluation.

If the PR-PI is appointed as a faculty member in a Higher Educational Institutions or as a Researcher in a research/technological institution of the Country during the evaluation process or the implementation of the research Project, he/she may continue the implementation of the Project as a PI, without receiving any remuneration from the date of issuance of the act of appointment.

The Proposal cannot be funded if the PR-PI is a faculty member or Researcher in a foreign educational, research or technological institution at any time before the date of the Funding Award Decision (hereinafter "F.A.D."). In case this happens during the implementation of the Project, a Funding Revocation Decision is issued by the Director of H.F.R.I.

Under no circumstances can The PR-PI be replaced.

It should be noted that there is no provision for establishing a Research Team under this Project, and the physical scope of the Project will be implemented exclusively by the PR-PI.

Optionally, there is the possibility of establishing an Advisory Committee, which may include up to three (3) members who may be faculty members, Researchers and/or Emeritus Professors or Researchers from Greece or abroad. During the implementation of the Project, the members of the Advisory Committee cannot be changed and in case of withdrawal of a member, he/she will not be replaced. Advisory Committee members are non-remunerated and are eligible for travel costs.

8.1.1 Completed mandatory military service or legal exemption (for male PR candidates of Greek descent)

Greek male PR-PI candidates must have completed their mandatory military service, been legally exempt from it, or received military service deferment. The duration of the deferment must cover the entire duration of the research Project implementation. The conditions of this section must have been fulfilled by the time the Funding Award Decision is issued. In case the conditions are not fulfilled, the Proposal cannot be funded.

8.1.2 Non-occupation of dependent employment position

At the issuance of the Funding Award Decision and throughout the duration of the funded Project, the PR-PI is not allowed to:

- be civil servants or dependent employees with open-ended employment agreements with the State, the wider public sector [article 14 par. 1α) of Law 4270/2014] or the private sector;
- be a pensioner;
- work and reside abroad;
- hold any job that does not allow him/her to perform the Project according to the Project Technical Documentation (hereinafter “P.T.D.”).

8.2 Host Institution – Funding beneficiary

Project Host Institution (hereinafter “H.I.”) are defined as:

- Greek Higher Educational Institutions (hereinafter “H.E.I.”), as determined in Article 3 of Law 4957/2022, as in force;
- Higher Military Educational Institutions (hereinafter “H.M.E.I.”) under Law 3187/2003 (A’ 233);
- Research Centres-Institutes (hereinafter “R.C.-I.”) under article 13a of Law 4310/2014 (A’ 258), as in force;
- University Research Institutes (hereinafter “U.R.I.”), i.e., private law legal entities that have been formed under the provisions of Law 2083/1992 (A’ 159) and 3685/2008 (A’ 148);
- the Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy;
- the Foundation for Economic and Industrial Research.

All potential H.I. will be available for selection on the online submission platform as a drop-down menu.

The PR-PI should attach a letter of intent¹ signed by the laboratory/clinic director or the President of the Department/Faculty where the PR-PI will be hosted for the implementation of the proposed Project.

Failure to provide the relevant letter of intent from the H.I. with the PR-PI will render the Proposal ineligible for evaluation.

9 BUDGET AND COST CATEGORIES

The research Project budget by cost category and the funding limits per cost are presented in *Table 2* below.

Table 2. Funding percentages per cost category

Cost Categories	Percentage in relation to the total Project budget
DIRECT COSTS	=90%
PR-PI remuneration	
Consumables costs	
Dissemination and travel costs	
Third-party costs	≤ 10% of the total budget
Other Costs	≤ 5% of the total budget
INDIRECT COSTS	= 10% of all direct costs

9.1 Direct Costs

The direct costs of the Project include PR-PI remuneration, consumables costs, dissemination and travel costs, third-party costs and other costs.

9.1.1.1 PR-PI remuneration

During the implementation of the research Project, the PR-PI of the Project will enter into a fixed-term private law employment contract or a Project lease agreement with the H.I.

The remuneration of the PR-PI is as follows:

¹ Instructions for the content of the H.I.'s Letter of Intent are included on the last page of the Model Document, which is available on the H.F.R.I. website.

1. In the case of a fixed-term private law employment contract, the monthly gross remuneration is determined in accordance with the provisions of Chapter B of Law 4354/2015, as in force, and is at least equal to the thresholds set in article 18 par. 12a of Law 4310/2014.
2. In the case of a Project lease agreement, monthly remuneration may amount to up to **2,000.00€** (including all contributions, regardless of human effort²), plus VAT, and in accordance with the thresholds set in article 18 par. 12a of Law 4310/2014.

For calculating the total amount of the PR-PI's remuneration for the Project, in the case of a fixed-term private law employment contract, the legitimate employer's contributions, which are eligible costs of the Project, are added to the above amounts. In the case of Project lease agreements, Value Added Tax (VAT) is added to the above amount (2,000.00€), if provided for by law, constituting an eligible cost for the Project.

9.1.2 Consumables costs

Costs for consumables are eligible if they are exclusively related to the Project implementation. Indicatively, they may relate to the purchase of consumables (ex., laboratory consumables, reagents, etc.) necessary for the implementation of the Project. This category does not include costs for general office supplies, such as forms, stationery, computer consumables, etc., as these fall under general operating costs and may be eligible only when the specific characteristics of the Project require non-routine related costs for its implementation. In this case, specific, adequate documentation is required in the Project budget.

For the procurement of consumables, the H.I. must apply the provisions of Law 4412/2016 on “Public Contracts for Projects, Procurement and Services (adaptation to Directives 2014/24/EU and 2014/25/EU)” (A' 147), as in force, when considered contracting authorities within the meaning of said law, and the provisions of Law 4957/2022 (Chapter 27 and in particular Article 250), as in force.

9.1.3 Dissemination and travel costs

These are costs incurred in disseminating the Project's results and compliance with publicity rules. Indicatively, they include costs for publications in scientific journals, costs for registration in conferences with a speech/announcement or poster, costs for the organization and hosting of workshops and/or conferences, costs for the publication of monographs and books, costs for the production of audiovisual material, for the development of websites and promotion on social media. For all the above to be eligible, they must be directly linked to the implementation of the Project.

² The P.R. is remunerated on the basis of the hourly rate set by the H.I.

It should be noted that if the Project deliverable is a scientific publication, it should be published in an open-access journal.

In addition, this category also includes costs related to travel of the PR-PI and members of the Project's Advisory Committee domestically or abroad to participate in conferences for the presentation of Project results, for field research or research cooperation.

Costs in this category are incurred in line with the provisions of Subparagraph D, "Costs for Travelling in and out of State" of Paragraph D of article 2 of Law 4336/2015 (A' 94), as in force.

Please note that in case of cancellation or postponement of conferences or meetings, or travel for reasons of force majeure, costs resulting from the cancellation of tickets, participation, accommodation and/or organization of the relevant events may be considered eligible and charged to the Project budget, provided that they were incurred at a time when the cancellation/postponement could not have been foreseen by the H.I. Furthermore, it should be ensured that the costs or part of them are not reimbursed from other sources. Any amounts reimbursed (ex., from insurance coverage, air carrier, accommodation, etc.) are not eligible costs.

9.1.4 Third-party costs

This category includes the costs required to be paid for the use of or access to research laboratory equipment, research infrastructure or other resources necessary for the implementation of the Project. Indicatively, eligible costs in this category may include, in addition to the costs for the use of or access to research laboratory equipment or infrastructure, costs for access to resources necessary for the implementation of the research Project, such as access to databases, subscriptions to libraries, archives and collections of national and international institutions, procurement of software programs for specific research purposes, software updates, conversion of printed and audiovisual files. Finally, this category also includes and is eligible for costs relating to the provision of services by academic or research institutions and/or private companies in Greece or abroad which are necessary for the implementation of the Project.

The costs of this category may amount to up to 10% of the total Project budget.

9.1.5 Other Costs

This category includes costs that cannot be included in other categories. Indicative costs included in this category are special telecommunications costs (such as the use of satellite communication), repair costs for necessary equipment, etc.

These costs are considered eligible, provided they are specifically mentioned in the Proposal, and there is special relevant justification of such need for the successful implementation of the Project.

Especially for costs related to servicing and repairing research equipment, in addition to the above, the provision should also be substantiated by a simple cost-benefit analysis and refer to equipment deemed necessary for the implementation of the Project. Eligible are costs for necessary accessories and replacement parts, labor costs and possible shipping costs.

Furthermore, this category also includes any costs for chartered accountant services.

For the implementation of the expenditure referred to in this paragraph, the H.I. are obliged to comply with the provisions of Law 4412/2016 on "Public Contracts for Works, Supplies and Services" (adaptation to Directives 2014/24/EU and 2014/25/EU)" (A' 147), as in force, when considered contracting authorities in the sense of this law, and the provisions of Law 4957/2022 (Chapter KZ and especially Article 250), as in force.

The costs of this category may amount to up to 5% of the total Project budget.

9.2 Indirect Costs

This category includes management and operating costs of the H.I., which are not directly related to the implementation of the Project and are calculated in relation to the Project's direct costs. Indirect costs include, but are not limited to, financial management support, costs for office supplies (stationery, computer consumables, etc.), energy supplies, telecommunication services, etc.

Indirect Costs are eligible without the submission of corresponding supporting documents and must be equal to 10% of the remaining (direct) costs.

10 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Applicants are required to provide the following information when submitting their Proposal:

- General information (Section A)
- Research Proposal (Sections B1 and B2)
- Additional documents [Doctoral degree or a certificate of successfully defending the Doctoral degree from the relevant institution (accompanied by an official translation in the case of a certificate issued by a foreign institution), Letter of intent from the H.I. and other documents].

10.1 Section A: General information

Section A lists the PR-PI details and information about the research Proposal, including the duration of the Project, the title, the acronym and a (short) summary of the Proposal. The summary should present a clear outline of the objectives of the research Proposal and how they will be achieved. It should be noted that in the case of Project funding, this summary is likely to be published (a fact that the PR-PI explicitly and unconditionally accepts by submitting the Proposal) and, therefore, it should

be short and precise and should not contain confidential information. In addition, in this section, the PR-PI of the Proposal selects the Scientific Area (S.A.)³ in which he/she considers his/her research Proposal falls. Specifically, in Section A, the following information is to be entered:

- **General information of the Proposal**
 - S.A., scientific field and subfield⁴
 - Title (in Greek and English)
 - Acronym
 - Proposal Summary (up to 2000 characters in Greek and English)
 - Keywords (up to 10)
 - Project duration (in months)
 - Detailed budget and documentation of expenses
 - Work packages
 - Deliverables
 - Milestones
- **PR-PI details** (Full name, contact details, VAT ID No., etc.)
- **Host Institution** (School, Department, Institute, etc.)
- **Advisory Committee Members** (*if applicable*)

In this section, an ethics table is also completed to identify possible ethical aspects of the Project. **This table must be completed even if no ethical issues are raised.**

The PR-PI will also have the option to indicate up to two (2) names of scientists he/she wishes to exclude from the evaluation of the Proposal submitted.

Section A information is to be submitted in **English** (except for the title and Proposal Summary, which is submitted in both Greek and English).

10.2 Section B: Scientific Proposal

Section B consists of two (2) subsections, Section B1 and Section B2.

Templates for these two subsections will be available on the H.F.R.I. website, indicating the sections and fields to be included, respectively, in Sections B1 and B2 of the Proposal. Each page of the Proposal must include a header with the name of the PR-PI, the acronym of the Proposal and the corresponding Section of the Proposal (Section B1, Section B2), as well as a footer with reference to the corresponding S.A. (S.A.1, S.A.2, etc.) and the total number of pages.

³ The Scientific Area (S.A.) in which the Project falls into is chosen by the PR-PI and cannot be changed after the deadline for submission of the Proposal on the online platform.

⁴ See [Annex I](#).

Table 3 lists the recommended technical specifications for all submitted documents. The page limits for each section should be strictly applied. Only information presented within these limits will be evaluated.

Table 3. Document technical specifications

Page size	Font	Font size	Line spacing	Page Margins
A4	Times New Roman, Arial, Calibri or similar	11 pt (at least)	Single (at least)	Top-Bottom: 1,5 cm Left-Right: 2 cm

10.2.1 Section B1: PR-PI's CV & Scientific Achievements (maximum: 4 pages)

Section B1 includes the detailed CV and scientific achievements of the PR-PI submitting the Proposal, i.e., all those details that reflect the research and academic career of the PR-PI.

In addition, this section should include the list of PR-PI's publications as well as the research Project in which PR-PI is and/or has been involved in any capacity. Moreover, any other research Proposals related to the proposed scientific Project that have been submitted to national or international research funding actions and in which PR-PI participates as a member of the Research Team should be listed.

Section B1 is submitted in **English** and can be up to four (4) pages. Any text outside these limits will not be taken into account during the evaluation. Section B1 must only be submitted as a PDF ("Portable Document Format") file.

10.2.2 Section B2: Detailed Presentation of Research Proposal (maximum: 10 pages)

Section B2 provides a detailed description of the scientific, technical and/or academic aspects of the Project that substantiate the innovative nature of the research, its potential impact and the research methodology.

The detailed presentation of the Research Proposal should at least describe the following:

- **Excellence, State-of-the-art and Objectives**

This section will clearly define the Proposal's objectives in relation to the current scientific state of the art. When describing the proposed scientific Project, it should be stated how and why the research Project is important for the scientific field it is applied to, as well as its broader impact on science and/or technology and/or arts/culture and/or society and on the career of the PR-PI. This section will identify the particularly innovative or unconventional aspects (if any) of the proposed scientific Project.

Indicative units that may be included in this section are:

- Proposal objectives and challenges
- State-of-the-art & Innovation

- Scientific and/or social impact
- Impact on the PR-PI's career prospects.

▪ **Methodology and Implementation**

This section provides a detailed description of the suggested methodology, including, as per case, basic interim targets. The proposed methodology should be described and justified in terms of the scientific state of the art, including any particularly innovative or unconventional aspects concerning the “high risk/high gain” balance. In addition, any intermediate stages where results may require adjustments to Project planning should be reported.

Indicative units that can be included in this section are:

- Research Methodology
- Work Plan: Work Packages, Gantt Chart, Deliverables and Milestones Table, Table of Risks and Contingency plan.
- Advisory Committee (Advisory Board)⁵.
- Ethics issues: Description of measures that will be taken to address any Ethics issues that may arise from the implementation of the proposed Project in accordance with the PR-PI's statement in Part A (*where applicable*).

It should be noted that the detailed budget by category of expenditure should be included in Section A. Any budget figures included in Sections B1 and/or B2 will not be taken into account during the evaluation.

The cover page of the research Proposal (Section B2) should include i) the PR-PI's full name, ii) the title, iii) the acronym, iv) the Scientific Area, the scientific field and subfield of the Proposal, v) the Project duration (in months), vi) the Project budget (in €) and, vii) the suggested H.I. of the Project.

Section B2 is submitted in **English** and may be up to ten (10) pages, including the cover page and bibliography. Text outside these limits will not be taken into account during the evaluation. Section B2 shall be submitted exclusively as a PDF file.

Proposals are submitted by the PR-PI of the Project exclusively online through the H.F.R.I. web portal.

(<http://portal.hfri.gr>).

Submissions Start Date: 14 May 2024, 12:00 (EEST)

Submissions Closing Date: 20 June 2024, 13:00 (EEST)

The PR-PI is solely responsible for the accuracy of the information submitted on the online submission platform.

⁵ The formation of an Advisory Committee for the research Project is optional.

11 CHECK AND EVALUATION

The evaluation of the Proposals is conducted in **one (1) phase** by Evaluation Committees (E.C.) and external experts, if necessary, in accordance with the specific provisions of article 5 par. 5-8 of Law 4429/2016, as in force.

The main criteria for the evaluation of Proposals are the degree of scientific quality and excellence, the originality and feasibility of the proposed scientific Project, as well as the PR-PI's scientific profile.

11.1 Proposal admissibility and eligibility check

Proposals are checked for the admissibility of all the required and necessary information and documents, compliance with the conditions and restrictions of participation, and others specified in this Call, as described in detail in *Section 8* thereof. Furthermore, compliance with the following conditions is checked:

1. The proposed Project constitutes an “R&D project” as defined in item 16, point λ) of the European Commission Notice titled “Framework on state aid for research and development and innovation” (2022/C 414/01);
2. The Proposal falls under the concept of a non-financial activity according to point 20 of the abovementioned (1) Notice;
3. a. The H.I. constitutes a “research and knowledge dissemination organization” according to the definition in item 16, point λβ of the abovementioned (1) Notice or
b. The H.I. is a legal person governed by public law/legal person governed by private law that has been established by law or presidential decree and is subsidized by the state and may be financed by analogy as a “research and knowledge dissemination organization,” while the funding may be considered as non-state aid under item 19 of the abovementioned (1) Notice and receive 100% funding for all eligible costs, provided that the following conditions are met:
 - ba. Its principal activities are not economic, in accordance with the European Commission's Notice on the concept of state aid (2016/C 262/01).
 - bb. There is a provision for research activity in the H.I.'s Articles of Association.
 - bc. The research results from this research Project will be widely disseminated on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis (i.e., through teaching, databases, publications, open-access software, etc.).
 - bd. Any resulting profits will be reinvested in the H.I.'s non-financial activities.
 - be. Separate accounting records will be kept for the use of this infrastructure, as well as separate accounting records for the non-financial and (if any) financial activities of the H.I.

4. In case the H.I. engages in activities of an economic and non-economic nature, in order for the public funding of non-economic activities not to be considered as state aid, the two types of activities, as well as their costs, financing and revenues, must be clearly separated and accounted for, in order to avoid that the subsidy of the economic activity is effectively covered by the subsidy of the non-economic activity (cross-subsidy).

Notwithstanding the fact that all proposals are checked for admissibility and eligibility prior to the substantive evaluation of their content, if at any stage of the screening and evaluation process, it is found that a Proposal does not meet any of the relevant criteria, it is excluded from the evaluation process.

11.2 Evaluation

The Proposals are evaluated by E.C. consisting of five (5) to twenty (20) members per the provisions of the S.C. of the H.F.R.I. Decision No. 53660/13.09.2022 (IUN: ΩMI246M77Γ-OΞ8) titled "[Evaluation of Proposals/Applications under the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation Actions](#)", as in force, and which is posted on the H.F.R.I.'s website. If deemed necessary due to the specific scope of the Proposals, at the discretion of each E.C., a non-binding evaluation of one or more Proposals may be requested by one or more external experts. The Committee shall make the final decision on the evaluation of each Proposal. These experts and the members of the Evaluation Committees come from the Register of Certified Evaluators of paragraph 11 of Law 4429/2016 and, before that, from the Register of Certified Evaluators referred to in Article 27 of Law 4310/2014 (A' 258) and have the qualifications related to the subject matter of the Project to be evaluated. The Scientific Council of the H.F.R.I. designates the E.C. and independent experts in line with the provisions of article 5 of Law 4429/2016. If expert scientists required for a specific evaluation are not available or the existing ones do not meet the needs of the evaluation in question, expert scientists not included in the Register of Certified Evaluators, who are foreign tax residents, may be designated as members, pursuant to a decision made by the Scientific Council.

11.3 Confidentiality

The whole process is bound by strict rules of confidentiality. E.C. members and external experts are required to sign a confidentiality and non-conflict of interest declaration. All members of the E.C. and external experts shall maintain complete confidentiality before, during and after the evaluation with regard to all aspects of the evaluation process.

11.4 Evaluation process

The Proposal evaluation process will be completed in one (1) Phase, during which the Proposal will be evaluated for each of the two main Proposal evaluation criteria: the PR-PI and the Research Project.

More specifically, the entire research Proposal (Section B1 and Section B2) will be evaluated in terms of the scientific profile of the PR-PI (achievements and maturity to lead the Project) and in terms of the scientific quality and excellence of the research Proposal, the originality and feasibility of the Project, as well as in terms of the budget allocation of the proposed scientific Project.

Scoring is on a scale of 0 to 100.

0-19. The Proposal cannot be evaluated due to insufficient or incomplete information.

20-39 Weak. The Proposal either partially meets the criteria or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

40-59 Moderate. Whereas the Proposal generally meets the criteria, there are substantial weaknesses.

60-79 Good. The Proposal meets the criteria to a good level, but there are several shortcomings.

80-89 Very Good. The Proposal meets the criteria to a very good level, but there are a few shortcomings.

90-100 Excellent. The Proposal successfully meets all relevant aspects of the criteria. Any shortcomings are minor and are classified as secondary.

The evaluation criteria are detailed in *Section 11.5*, and their respective weighting factors are as follows:

Scientific profile of the PR-PI (Weighting factor: 60%)

- Scientific achievements of the PR-PI.
- Scientific maturity of the PR-PI for the implementation of the research Project.

Research Proposal (Weighting factor: 40%)

- Excellence, state-of-the-art and objectives.
- Scientific methodology and implementation.

For a Proposal to be eligible for funding, it must receive a **threshold score of 70** in each of the two Criteria separately and in total.

11.5 Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria are listed in detail in *Table 4*.

Table 4. Evaluation criteria

Criteria	Weighting factor
Criterion 1. Principal Investigator	0.60
A. Scientific Achievements - Scientific work (scientific publications, participation in conferences, distinctions, awards, participation in international and national research programs, etc.) - Degree of scientific scope and resonance abroad	0.35
B. Competence and role for the Project Implementation To what extent does the PR-PI possess the necessary scientific expertise/experience and capacity for the successful implementation of the proposed scientific Project	0.25
Criterion 2. Research Proposal	0.40
A. Objectives, originality and potential impact of the Project - Relevance of the proposed Project to the Scientific Area in which it was submitted - Clarity of the objectives of the proposed Project - To what extent are the objectives ambitious and beyond the current scientific/technological state of the art (e.x. development of new techniques, tools, concepts, theories and/or approaches) - To what extent is the proposed research “high risk/high gain” (<i>where applicable</i>) - Innovative nature and potential impact of the proposed Project	0.25
B. Methodology and Implementation - To what extent is the proposed research methodology appropriate for achieving the Project's objectives - To what extent does the Proposal entail the development of a new methodology or the application of a methodology that will lead to progress beyond the current scientific/technological state of the art - To what extent the implementation plan, timetable and budget of the Project are necessary and justified - To what extent is it ensured that the ethical and moral standards of research (<i>where applicable</i>) are upheld	0.15

In case two or more Proposals receive the same overall score, priority is given to the Proposal that has received the highest score in sub-criterion “2A. Objectives, originality and potential impact of the

Project”. In case the Proposals have also received the same score in sub-criterion 2A, priority is given to the Proposal that has received the highest score in sub-criterion “1B. Competence and role for the Project Implementation”. In case the Proposals have received the same score also in sub-criterion 1B, priority is given to the Proposal that has received the highest score in sub-criterion “2B. Methodology and Implementation”.

11.6 Possibility of partial budget approval

The E.C. may, upon a substantiated decision, partially approve the proposed budget for the research Project.

11.7 Verification of copies

In order to verify the accuracy of the information and supporting documents submitted electronically through the Online Portal (either at the submission stage or at the implementation stage), H.F.R.I. carries out a sample check on at least five percent (5%) of the copies submitted by the beneficiaries within the next quarter, requesting the assistance of the services or institutions that issued the originals in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 11 of Law 2690/1999, as in force.

12 EVALUATION RESULTS

Upon completion of the Proposal evaluation, the results are communicated to the Project PR-PI with a personalized report, which includes an update on the Proposal score and the evaluation report from the Evaluation Committee.

The PR-PI have the right to submit **a substantiated objection on grounds of the legality of the decision** within ten (10) days of the communication of the evaluation results. The objections are judged by three-member objection committees, which shall decide within ten (10) days (article 5, paragraph 8 of Law 4429/2016). The decision of the objections committee shall be communicated to the Director of the H.F.R.I. and shared with the objecting party.

The funding decision (list of research projects to be funded) is issued by the Director of the H.F.R.I. upon conclusion of the evaluation of the research proposals, in line with the available budget. This decision is an enforceable administrative act and is subject to petitions for annulment filed with the Administrative Court of Appeals.

Following the announcement of the research projects to be funded, potential PR-PI beneficiaries receive a letter via email, in which they will be invited to submit to the H.F.R.I. Web Portal the required supporting documents for issuing the Funding Award Decision.

The Project PR-PI acknowledges that messages sent by e-mail, and in particular to the e-mail address indicated during the online submission of the Proposal, constitute notification and result in the commencement of all legitimate deadlines and procedures.

13 ISSUING THE FUNDING AWARD DECISION

Following the completion of the Proposal evaluation process, the H.F.R.I. Director issues the Funding Decision with the Final Ranking of the Project suggested for funding in line with the available budget. This decision is an enforceable administrative act and is subject to a petition for annulment before the Administrative Court of Appeal.

It should be noted that the aforementioned Funding Decision as well as the F.A.D. for each Project (see below par. 13.1.), which include, among others, the details of the H.I. and the PR-PI, as well as the general details of the Project (full title and approved budget), will be posted, for transparency reasons on the websites of H.F.R.I. (<https://www.elidek.gr/>), GSRI (<https://gsri.gov.gr/>), and DIAVGEIA (<https://diavgeia.gov.gr/>).

Following the publication of the Funding Decision, the PR-PI receive a letter of approval inviting them to submit the required supporting documents to the H.F.R.I. (see below, paragraph 13.1 - *Supporting documents and information for the issuance of the Funding Award Decision*) for the issuance of the F.A.D.

A prerequisite for the issuance of the F.A.D. and the funding of the Project is that the latter has not been funded, is not being funded, nor does any other entity fund it for part or all of its scope.

The P.T.D. is attached to the F.A.D., which includes the Proposal information, as it has been structured after its evaluation by the competent Evaluation Committee, including the updated Project budget, if any.

The H.F.R.I. determines the Project start date, which is explicitly stated in the F.A.D.

The H.I. are obliged to include the Project in their budget in order to receive the respective pre-financing payment.

It should be noted that when the Project is included in the budget of the H.I., its preparation must have been approved by the competent Research Ethics Committee (hereinafter "R.E.C.") of the H.I., in accordance with the provisions of Law 4957/2022, as in force, and the corresponding decision of the R.E.C. must be mentioned in the Host Institution Decision of the Project.

13.1 Supporting documents and information for issuing the Funding Award Decision

Following the issuing of the List of research projects to be funded, the PR-PI beneficiaries receive a letter of approval, communicated to the H.I. as well, whereby they are invited to submit to H.F.R.I.'s I.S. **within the deadline specified in the above letter** the following required supporting documents for the F.A.D. to be issued:

1. Certification of Host Institution Commitment signed (by electronic signature or via gov.gr) by its legal representative.

2. A solemn declaration of Law 1599/1986 (*Annex V*) signed (by electronic signature or via gov.gr) by the legal representative of the H.I. in which it will be stated that:

- All listed information regarding the research Project under the number “.....” and the title “.....” as well as the submitted supporting documents are true and accurate.
- The research Project to be funded under the number “.....” and the title “.....” has not been funded, is not funded, and will not be funded by any other Institution for part or all of its scope.
- The H.I. is a research and knowledge organization in the sense of point λβ) of item 16 of the European Commission Notice titled “Framework on state aid for research and development and innovation (2022/C 414/01)” and either performs activities of a non-economic nature (within the meaning of point 19 of the Notice) or its economic activity, if any, is purely ancillary and does not exceed 20% of the total annual capacity of the Institution.

or (select whichever applies)

the H.I. is a legal person governed by public law/legal person governed by private law established by law or PD and subsidized by the state, and the following conditions are met:

- a. Its principal activities are not economic, in accordance with the European Commission's Notice on the concept of state aid (2016/C 262/01).
 - b. There is a provision for research activity in the H.I.'s Articles of Association.
 - c. The research results from this research Project will be widely disseminated on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis (i.e., through teaching, databases, publications, open-access software, etc.).
 - d. Any resulting profits will be reinvested in the H.I.'s non-financial activities.
 - e. Separate accounting records will be kept for the use of this infrastructure, as well as separate accounting records for the non-financial and (if any) financial activities of the H.I.
- H.I.'s funding under the Action is for its core activity, and/or all the profits from the knowledge transfer activities will be reinvested in its core activities for its funding to be considered as non-state aid under points 19 and 20 of the European Commission Notice titled "Framework on state aid for research and development and innovation" (2022/C 414/01), and to receive 100% funding.
 - The H.I. and the PR-PI accept the terms and conditions of the Call, the MIG, as well as all their related obligations, such as the obligations to comply with the EU and national legislation and the rules of publicity

- The H.I. and the PR-PI accept that messages received by H.F.R.I. via email are considered notices and mark the initiation of all legal processes and deadlines for both the H.I. and the PR-PI.
 - There will be wide dissemination of the research results of the Project on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis (i.e., through teaching, databases, publications, open-access software, etc.).
3. Written documentation/confirmation on the possibility of accounting separation of financial and non-financial activities of the H.I. It should be noted that the separation of financial and non-financial activities concerns the organization's overall activity and not only the Project for which a Proposal is submitted.
 4. Submission of an updated budget of the H.I. in the corresponding fields of the I.S.

In the event that shortcomings are found during the verification of the Supporting documents, there will be given the opportunity to submit additional documents/elements within fifteen (15) calendar days from the notification of the shortcoming to the H.I.

Following the submission and review of all the above Supporting documents, the Director of H.F.R.I. issues the F.A.D., an integral part of which is the P.T.D., which lists the elements of the Project as it has been developed after its evaluation by the competent Evaluation Committee, including the updated Project budget.

14 FUNDING REIMBURSEMENT – REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

14.1 Overview

The maximum amount of funding for each Project is the amount indicated in the F.A.D.

The amount of funding is paid in stages (installments) over the duration of the Project. Each installment corresponds to a certain percentage of the total approved Project budget. The final installment (final balance payment) is paid after the completion of the Project, and the amount depends on the final total certified costs of the Project and the installments already deposited.

The H.F.R.I. settles each installment by transferring the corresponding amount to the H.I.'s bank account after submitting supporting documents, as they shall be designated by H.F.R.I.'s Financial Services.

14.2 Funding Reimbursement

14.2.1 Pre-financing payment

After the F.A.D. is issued and the Supporting documents defined in *Annex III* are submitted, upon the request of the H.I., a pre-financing payment of 60% of the approved Project budget is granted.

14.2.2 Interim payment

The interim payment amounts to 30% of the approved Project budget and is remunerated upon the H.I.'s request and if, after auditing the physical and financial scope (verification of the interim progress report), which will be carried out by the competent H.F.R.I. agent, in accordance with the provisions in Paragraphs 9 and 15 hereof, it is established that costs have been incurred to a percentage of at least forty percent (40%) of the total approved budget of the Project.

14.2.3 Final balance payment

The final installment (final balance payment) is deposited following an audit – verification of the completion of the Project as to its physical and financial scope, its final receipt and the issuance of a Project Completion Certificate. In this stage, the final cost of the Project eligible for funding is finalized, and the F.A.D. requirements are examined to determine whether they have been met.

15 IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS - PROJECT MONITORING

The H.F.R.I. is responsible for monitoring and controlling the implementation of the approved physical and financial scope of the Project of this Action. In particular, H.F.R.I. monitors the progress of the project, their financial progress, the achievement of the objectives through the deliverables and milestones of each Project, and takes appropriate measures for the seamless flow of funds to the project, while, when required, it takes corrective measures.

The PR-PI and H.I. are solely liable to the H.F.R.I. for the implementation and ensuring the progress of the Project, the correct observance of the time schedules and other conditions and restrictions, as well as the completion of the physical and financial scope of the Project in accordance with the F.A.D.

The H.F.R.I. reserves the right to control, whenever deemed necessary, the progress of the implementation of the physical and financial scope of the projects by visiting the execution site and the H.I.'s headquarters and/or by administrative verification of the information submitted by the H.I. and the PR-PI. In any case, the PR-PI and the H.I. will be informed in advance by the H.F.R.I. of the time and place that the H.F.R.I. considers most appropriate for the audit.

The audit - verification of the Project includes both its physical and financial scope and can be conducted by consulting experts.

15.1 Progress Reports

The Project Progress Reports are submitted exclusively by the PR-PI and the H.I. and are accompanied by the required supporting documents defined in the “Cost Eligibility and Verification Guide under H.F.R.I.’s Actions.”

For each Project, submitting an Interim⁶ and Final (upon completion of the Project) Progress Report is mandatory. The Interim Progress Report⁷ is submitted if the Project has a duration of more than eighteen (18) months and at least 40% of the financial scope of the Project has been implemented, while the Final Report is submitted within an exclusive period of seventy-five (75) calendar days from the completion date of the Project.

Project progress reports are submitted to the H.F.R.I. and include:

1. Reference to the physical scope of the Project that has been implemented within the reporting period (including any Project dissemination and publicity actions).
2. Deliverables completed within the reporting period.
3. Milestones reached within the reporting period.
4. Reference to the Project's financial scope, as implemented within the reporting period.
5. Copies of cost receipts within the reporting period.
6. A detailed description of any amendments and other changes in the physical and financial scope.

The Final Project Report should include the following:

1. Reference to the entire physical scope of the Project that has been implemented (including any Project dissemination and publicity actions).
2. Deliverables completed within the reporting period.
3. Milestones reached within the reporting period.
4. Reference to the Project's financial scope, as implemented within the reporting period by submitting the necessary information and supporting documents for the costs in order to verify the eligibility of the Project's costs.
5. An Extended Synopsis of the Final Report (1.000 to 2.500 words in both Greek and English) in a format suitable for posting/publication on the H.F.R.I. website or where deemed appropriate by the H.F.R.I. The summary shall include, among other things, the objectives and conclusions reached during the implementation of the Project.
6. A detailed description of any amendments and other changes in the physical and financial scope.

⁶ For Projects with a duration of up to 18 months, the Interim Report verification and interim payment process shall not apply.

⁷ The Interim Report is validated if it is submitted at least six (6) months before the Project completion date. If it is not submitted within the above deadline, the interim installment will not be paid.

If, for specific scientific, research or academic reasons, the Project cannot reach the results foreseen in the P.T.D., a documented scientific report should be prepared by the PR-PI, which is submitted to the H.F.R.I. and communicated to the H.I. the H.F.R.I. will evaluate the overall research effort and interim deliverables and will proceed to review and approve/verify or not the expenses already incurred.

15.2 Audit - Verification Process

The verifications/audits of the Project under this action are divided into administrative and on-site. The administrative verification is conducted remotely based on the information and documents submitted by the PR-PI and the H.I. of the Project (within the framework of an interim, final or extraordinary progress report), while the on-site verification is conducted by the competent verification body at the Project implementation site.

In order for the PR-PI and the H.I. to be adequately prepared for the onsite verification, the H.F.R.I. shall inform in writing at least fifteen (15) calendar days before the onsite verification is to take place, mentioning the date and place of the onsite verification, the estimated duration and method of implementation, as well as of all elements or personnel that have to be at the disposal of the verification body. The beneficiaries (the PR-PI and the H.I.) are expected to facilitate the verification body and comply with its instructions and the dates for sending additional information on any unresolved issues identified. The presence of the competent officials of the above beneficiaries during the onsite verification is an essential condition for its smooth implementation.

Shortcomings that may have been identified during a verification process may be covered within a deadline of fifteen (15) calendar days from the date the H.I. was notified (either by post or email).

Once the verification has been carried out and any shortcomings detected have been remedied or the time limit has elapsed without compliance, the verification is completed by drawing up the corresponding report. The verification report shall set out the elements to be verified (checkpoints), the corresponding findings and any recommendations or corrections. In case the onsite verification is carried out via sampling, the H.F.R.I. shall record the relevant sample selection methodology.

15.3 Approval of Verification Results –PR-PI/ H.I. Objections

Upon completion of the verification (onsite or administrative) and in order for the funding to be awarded, the body that carried out the verification prepares and submits to the H.F.R.I. the verification report, which is communicated to the PR-PI and the H.I. with the Finalization Decision.

The H.I. and the PR-PI are informed in writing of the results of the verification in order to:

- i. object if they disagree with the verification results or
- ii. receive the balance of the funding if no irregularities are found in the verification or if the H.I. and the PR-PI accept the report results.

Once the results of the verification report have been communicated, the PR-PI has the right to submit substantiated objections to the results to the H.F.R.I. The timeframe within which this right can be exercised, the timeframe within which a positive or negative decision must be issued, and the relevant administrative procedures are specified in the current Internal Regulation of the H.F.R.I., which is posted on the H.F.R.I. website. After the deadline for submitting objections has passed without any action being taken, the verification results are presumed to have been accepted by the H.I. and the PR-PI.

The H.F.R.I. is responsible for sending the investigation results of the objections raised against the results of the audit-verification report to the PR-PI and the H.I.

Upon investigation of the objections raised against the results of the verification report by the H.F.R.I. or failure to meet the deadline, the verification report shall be finalized and communicated to the H.I. and the PR-PI. In case the final verification report contains a recommendation for corrective action, it is approved by the Director of the H.F.R.I., the amount of the financial correction is entered in the I.S., and the amount of the Project's financing, if any, already registered, is reduced accordingly. The final verification report and the revocation and recovery decision (see paragraph 19 below) are communicated to the H.I. and the PR-PI.

The verification request, the approved verification report, any objections raised, and all relevant supporting material are kept in the Project file in the I.S. of the H.F.R.I.

15.4 Extraordinary Progress Check

An Extraordinary Progress Check is carried out when it is assessed by the H.F.R.I. that the required progress in the implementation of the physical and/or financial scope of a Project has not been achieved or that the terms and conditions of the F.A.D. and the MIG as well as the applicable national and European legislation are not adhered to.

The Extraordinary Progress Check is carried out on a case-by-case basis by one or more experts or by a Committee appointed by the decision of the Director of the H.F.R.I. The conclusion of the Extraordinary Progress Check assesses the progress of implementation and the possibility of successfully completing the Project.

For the rest, the administrative procedures of par. 15.2 and 15.3 above shall apply.

16 PR-PI AND H.I. RESPONSIBILITIES

The PR-PI takes all necessary measures for the effective supervision of the Project's implementation from a scientific point of view and guides the RT in all phases of the Project's implementation. He/she is responsible for promptly informing the H.F.R.I. of any event or change in circumstances that are likely to affect the progress of the Project, the achievement of the objectives, the adherence to the approved schedule, and the production of deliverables. He/she is responsible for submitting relevant requests for modifications.

16.1 PR-PI and H.I. obligations

The PR-PI, with the assistance of the H.I., is solely responsible for the proper implementation of the Project. Both the PR-PI and the H.I. should:

1. Observe the terms of the Call, the MIG and the F.A.D.
2. Observe EU and National Legislation when implementing the Project, especially regarding the law on public contracts, state subsidies, sustainable development, gender equality, non-discrimination and accessibility for People with Disabilities [article 7 of the Regulation (EU) 1303/2013].
3. Observe the commitments of the Regulation (EU) 2021/240, including the achievement of green and digital goals in the transmission process, the principle of “do no significant harm,” the sound financial management, the effective prevention of fraud and conflict of interest, the avoidance of double funding.
4. Keep a separate accounting section for the Project or have adequate accounting coding showing the recording of all costs fully corresponding to the declared costs.
5. Keep a separate bank account that will be used exclusively for the Project.
6. Take all necessary actions to update H.F.R.I. and/or the I.S. with information and documents on the Project, thus ensuring the accuracy, quality, and admissibility of the submitted information.
7. Not receive any subsidies from another Institution for the implementation of the Project or part thereof and/or part of the eligible costs in violation of restrictions regarding the accumulation of state subsidies.
8. Place posters at the location of the Project mentioning that **The Research Project under the title “.....” is implemented within the framework of the H.F.R.I. action “4th Call for H.F.R.I.’s Research Project to support Postdoctoral Researchers” (H.F.R.I. Project No.:.....).**
9. Mention the funding of the Project from national and EU funds through this Call, using the above (under 8) wording, but also the relevant logos that will be indicated by the H.F.R.I. in any kind of publicity action concerning the Project (ex., announcements in the printed and electronic press, presentations in workshops and conferences, scientific papers in national and international journals, events, etc.), as well as by posting on their website. This information shall be included in all documents used in the implementation of the Project or issued within the framework of the Project.
10. For every cost related to the Project, the Project No. (H.F.R.I.) **must** be mentioned in the corresponding document.

11. Accept their inclusion in the List of the H.F.R.I. project/beneficiaries published on the web portals <https://gsri.gov.gr/> and <https://www.elidek.gr/> and which indicates the name of the H.I. Project summary, Project start and end date, total eligible costs, etc.
12. To notify immediately and mandatorily to the competent department of the H.F.R.I.: a) any information that becomes necessary regarding the Project, in the form of reports or providing specific information, b) any modification that occurs in the physical or financial scope of the Project that implies a modification of the P.T.D., and c) possible inability of the PR-PI or the H.I. to implement the Project.

In addition, the PR-PI and H.I. are responsible for:

1. Gathering all required information, supporting documents and documentation.
2. Completing the forms and sending them in time to the competent department of the H.F.R.I.,
3. Cooperating with the H.F.R.I. when carrying out audits - verification checks.

Any violation of the terms of the Notice or the F.A.D. shall entail the adoption of corrective measures in accordance with the specific provisions of the Internal Regulation of the H.F.R.I. and other legislation in force.

16.2 Obligations following the Project completion

1. The H.I. is obliged to return the interest generated to the bank account held exclusively for the Project payments. It should be noted that any generated income (from any cause) and interest shall be offset against the final installment of the funding, and any bank charges associated with the account activity and/or taxes may be deducted from the interest.
2. All original supporting documents and invoices of the Project costs shall be kept by the H.I. throughout the duration of the Project and after that for **at least five (5) years** from the date of payment of the last installment of the funding and shall be made available to the competent inspection bodies of the H.F.R.I. or the EU, if an audit is requested, regardless of the fact that other provisions of national legislation do not require them to keep the supporting documents and invoices of the Project's implementation. The information mentioned above and supporting documents shall be kept either in originals or certified copies of the originals or in commonly accepted information carriers, including electronic versions of the original documents or documents existing only in electronic form.
3. The H.I. should provide the evidence required to document the separation between financial and non-financial activities according to point 19 of the European Commission's Notice on the "Framework on state aid for research and development and innovation" (2022/C 414/01) and the Special State Aid Service (EYKE) Circular under Ref. No. 49939/EYKE1942/13.05.2016 (*ANNEX VII*). The H.F.R.I. checks, in particular, that the

conditions under which the H.I. was considered to fall within the provisions of points 19-21 of the abovementioned Commission Notice are fulfilled.

4. The H.I. and the PR-PI shall take all necessary steps to ensure that any original intellectual creation of discourse, art or science with content created within the framework of the implementation of the Project is made available to the public free of charge and does not generate any income for a period of five (5) years from the termination of the Project. More specifically, in the case of a book publication, it should either be made available free of charge or be in e-book format and free access to the Internet should be ensured.

17 PUBLICITY OBLIGATIONS

Each dissemination and publicity action under the Project should clearly indicate that it is funded through this Action, using appropriate wording and logos.

Among other things, dissemination actions may take the form of:

- Communication and/or publication in scientific or non-scientific journals.
- Promotion on websites and social media.
- Printing of brochures (ex., flyers).
- Participation in conferences, seminars, workshops, etc.
- Creation of audiovisual material.

Regarding publications in scientific or non-scientific journals, it should be noted that this obligation is irrespective of the completion of the Project and depends only on whether the research published has been carried out within the framework of the funded Project (also applicable to publications after the completion of the Project).

The PR-PI is responsible for complying with this obligation, which is noted to be a necessary minimum condition for eligibility for the specific costs and/or the costs of associated transportation (*if any*).

Below is the text that should accompany each dissemination/publicity action related to the Project as a minimum requirement for the eligibility of the corresponding budget costs ⁸:

Το ερευνητικό Έργο με τίτλο «.....» υλοποιείται στο πλαίσιο της δράσης του ΕΛ.ΙΔ.Ε.Κ. «4η Προκήρυξη Ερευνητικών έργων ΕΛ.ΙΔ.Ε.Κ. για την ενίσχυση Μεταδιδακτορικών Ερευνητών/τριών» (Αριθμός Έργου ΕΛ.ΙΔ.Ε.Κ.:.....).

⁸ The relevant logos will be available on H.F.R.I.'s website.

The Research Project is implemented in the framework of H.F.R.I call “4th Call for H.F.R.I.’s Research Project to Support Postdoctoral Researchers” (H.F.R.I. Project Number:).

Failure to implement the information and communication measures may result in a flat-rate correction of all Project costs.

18 AMENDMENTS

18.1 Overview

The terms for implementing the Project, as specified in the Call and the Funding Award Decision, are binding and essential. Any unilateral change by the H.I. or the PR-PI without prior approval from the Director of the H.F.R.I. constitutes a reason to discontinue the Project’s funding.

At the request of the H.I. or the PR-PI, it is possible, by decision of the Director of the H.F.R.I., to modify the F.A.D. and the approved P.T.D. The request shall document the necessity of the proposed change in the Project's aspects in order to achieve its objectives, which may relate to its physical or financial scope, as well as the corresponding terms of the F.A.D. The request shall be submitted through the H.F.R.I.'s I.S. within a reasonable time before the required implementation of the modification and shall be accompanied by all documents and information supporting the need for the modification.

In order for the amendment request to be accepted, the proposed changes must not affect the original objectives of the approved Proposal and must not alter information in such a way as to invalidate eligibility and/or positive evaluation based on the criteria of the Call and must not increase the total approved budget.

An amendment request submitted less than thirty (30) calendar days from the Project completion date shall not be reviewed.

Amendment requests shall not be reviewed until all necessary accompanying information and supporting documents provisioned below or in the F.A.D. have been submitted. Provided all the required documents and information have been submitted, requests are reviewed on a case per case basis, with/or without the assistance of an external expert and/or a competent committee appointed by the H.F.R.I.

In the event that the amendment request is accepted, the individual information of the Project and the F.A.D. are amended accordingly by decision of the H.F.R.I. Director. The HI and the PR-PI are notified of the relevant decision, and the relevant documents are registered in H.F.R.I.’s Project file.

If the amendment request is not accepted, the Director of the H.F.R.I. shall issue a substantiated decision rejecting the request. The decision is communicated to the H.I. and the PR-PI, who hereinafter commit to implementing the Project in accordance with the original F.A.D. **It should be noted that in the context of Project implementation, the P.T.D. may be amended a maximum of three (3) times.**

18.2 Amendment cases

1. An extension to the Project implementation period may be granted for **one (1) time only** (except for reasons of force majeure), provided that it is necessary to complete the Project successfully.
2. Amendment of information that significantly affects the extent and implementation method of the Project's physical scope (ex., use of techniques/methodology to conduct research of lesser technical weighting, restriction of provisioned deliverables, etc.).
3. Transfer of amounts between Project cost categories which results in an increase or decrease in the current approved budget of the cost categories concerned (i.e., the cost category that is decreased and the cost category that is increased, respectively) **of more than 25%**, provided that the terms and conditions of the F.A.D. are met.
4. Transfer of an amount to a non-approved but eligible cost category/ies that results in a reduction of **more than 10%** of the initially approved budget of the category from which the amount is being transferred, provided that the terms and conditions of the F.A.D. are met.
5. A change of the H.I. is allowed only in special cases with complete and justified documentation on the necessity of the change and provided that adequate safeguards are provided that the achievement of the Project's objectives is not affected by this change.
6. A change in human effort (increase or decrease) of more than 25%, provided that the conditions of the F.A.D. are met.

18.3 Amendments regarding H.I. information

The H.I. is obliged to inform the H.F.R.I. in every case of change of its information by sending the new information and/or entering it in the respective fields of the I.S., as indicatively:

- change in the trade name and/or legal form,
- change of legal representative,
- change of registered office or Project implementation venue.

The above changes are reviewed by the Department of Research Project of the H.F.R.I. and, if necessary, the F.A.D. is amended, and the H.I. is informed accordingly.

18.4 Changes that do not constitute amendments

In the context of the Project implementation, the following changes are allowed without the need to submit an amendment request, which do not constitute an amendment in the sense of par. 18.2-18.3 above, and the PR-PI shall include them in the Project Progress Reports. Indicatively:

1. Transfer of amounts between cost categories of the Project which changes (increases/decreases) the existing approved budget of these cost categories (i.e., the cost category that decreases and the one that increases respectively after the transfer) in total/aggregate up to 25%, provided that the terms and conditions of the F.A.D. are met.
2. Transfers of amounts to a non-approved but eligible cost category/ies that change (reduce) the total amount of the cost categories from which the transfer is made up to a total/aggregate of 10%, provided that the terms and conditions of the F.A.D. are met.
3. Transfer of amounts between more specific cost subcategories within the same cost category (ex., personnel cost) without any limitation. Furthermore, adding new subcategories within the same expenditure category is allowed if it is documented that they are directly linked to the implementation of the physical scope of the Project.
4. A change in human effort (increase or decrease) of more than 25%, provided that the conditions of the F.A.D. are met.
5. Changes in the duration of the work modules and the time to reach the deliverables and milestones within the approved overall Project schedule.

The above changes may be implemented under the responsibility of the PR-PI and/or the H.I. throughout the duration of the Project without prior approval. They shall accompany the corresponding verification request and be submitted to the H.F.R.I., where they shall be clearly reflected in relation to the applicable F.A.D. information. Their acceptance shall be subject to the approval of the verification entity, which shall examine the inclusion of the change in the above cases of permitted changes and its compliance with the other terms of the Call and the F.A.D.

Any other issue or amendment not falling under any of the above (under 18.2-18.4) cases of change of Project aspects shall be brought to the attention of the H.F.R.I., reviewed by the Department of Research Project of the H.F.R.I. and, if necessary, the F.A.D. shall be amended.

18.5 Discontinuation of the Research Project

Discontinuation of the Project may occur either upon a justified request of the PR-PI or on behalf of the H.F.R.I. in case of the PR-PI's inability to implement the Project in accordance with the F.A.D., as well as in any other case of objective inability to implement the Project.

In each case of discontinuation, an Extraordinary Progress Report is submitted, including the deliverables that have been completed up to the point of the discontinuation. Once these have been evaluated, funding is limited to the costs already incurred and approved/certified in the framework of the above evaluation. If an amount greater than the final approved amount has been paid to the H.I. by the time of discontinuation, the excess amount will be returned to the H.F.R.I.

19 REVOCATION OF FUNDING

The F.A.D. may be revoked by decision of the H.F.R.I. Director in the following cases:

1. In case the PR-PI submits a written resignation to the H.F.R.I. before the approved implementation schedule is terminated, stating that the Project cannot be implemented.
2. As a sanction for non-compliance with the F.A.D. conditions, as evidenced by the relevant certifications. Indicatively, the process is initiated when it is established:
 - i. expiry of the Project implementation deadline,
 - ii. inability to verify the physical scope of the Project,
 - iii. inability to certify the financial scope and eligibility of Project costs based on the original supporting documents and other supporting documents and documentation resulting from the verification process,
 - iv. inability to confirm the existence of an adequate verification trail,
 - v. in case of non-compliance of the H.I. or the PR-PI with the recommendations of an administrative or onsite verification by the H.F.R.I.
3. Failure to submit the Final Progress Report within six (6) months after its submission end date.

The occurrence of the aforementioned events is confirmed by the H.F.R.I.'s Department of Research Project, and the H.F.R.I. issues a documented Funding Revocation Decision. Director, which is then communicated to the H.I. and the PR-PI. Relevant documents are placed in the pertinent Project file kept by H.F.R.I.

In the event of a search for unduly or illegally paid amounts, the provisions of Articles 51 and 52 of the H.F.R.I. Internal Regulation shall apply.

20 COMPLETION OF PROJECTS

Based on the verification report results and overall information on the Project, the H.F.R.I. Director drafts and publishes through the I.S. the Project Completion Certificate.

The necessary conditions for Project completion are:

- The verification of the completion of the physical scope through the completion of the planned deliverables, milestones and the achievement of the key Project objectives or the identification of the individual deliverables and milestones that have been fully or partially realized.
- Compliance by the PR-PI and the H.I. with the obligations described in the F.A.D.

- The compliance of the PR-PI and the H.I. with any recommendations of prior verifications/inspections/audits carried out on the Project.

The Project Completion Certificate:

- Certifies that the implementation of the physical scope (Project deliverables and objectives) has been completed.
- Certifies the completion of the financial scope of the Project and reflects the final result of the expenditure verification carried out on the whole Project.
- Specifies the final funding amount to be paid, reflecting amounts that have already been paid, as well as the amount remaining to be paid.
- Specifies the final funding scheme.
- Establishes whether the PR-PI and the H.I. obligations have been met, as specified in the Funding Award Decision, including any publicity-related obligations.
- Ascertains the compliance of the PR-PI and the H.I. with any recommendations of previous verifications/inspections/audits carried out on the Project.
- Determines the exact date of incurrence of each H.I. Long-Term Obligation as stipulated in the F.A.D.

The H.F.R.I. shares the Project Completion Certificate with the H.I. and the PR-PI. All relevant documents and documentation are filed in the electronic Project file.

21 PUBLICITY

This Call will be posted on the websites of the H.F.R.I. (www.elidek.gr), the GSRI (<https://gsri.gov.gr/>) and the Ministry of Development and Investment.

22 COMMUNICATION - INFORMATION

Detailed information and briefing on this Call will be provided by H.F.R.I.'s Department of Research Project via email: researchdepartment@elidek.gr and by calling at +30 210 6412410 and +30 210 6412420.

The Call and its Management and Implementation Guide will be posted on the H.F.R.I. website www.elidek.gr as well as on the GSRI website <https://gsri.gov.gr/>.

The Director of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation

Dr. Aikaterini Kouravelou

ANNEX I. Scientific Areas, Scientific fields and subfields⁹

SA1 “Physical Sciences”

1.1. Physical Sciences

- 1.1.1. Acoustics
- 1.1.2. Atomic Physics
- 1.1.3. Molecular and chemical physics
- 1.1.4. Condensed matter physics
- 1.1.5. Nanosciences and nanotechnology
- 1.1.6. Fluids and plasma physics
- 1.1.7. Nuclear physics
- 1.1.8. Optics
- 1.1.9. Quantum optics
- 1.1.10. Laser Physics
- 1.1.11. Particles and field Physics
- 1.1.12. Nanotechnology

1.2. Chemical Sciences

- 1.2.1 Analytical chemistry
- 1.2.2 Applied and industrial chemistry
- 1.2.3 Colloid chemistry
- 1.2.4 Inorganic and nuclear chemistry
- 1.2.5 Organic chemistry
- 1.2.6 Physical chemistry
- 1.2.7 Electrochemistry
- 1.2.8 Nanotechnology
- 1.2.9 Molecular architecture
- 1.2.10 Chemical theory

1.3. Material sciences

- 1.3.1. Material synthesis
- 1.3.2. Structure-Property relation
- 1.3.3. Functional and Advanced materials
- 1.3.4. 2D Materials
- 1.3.5. Materials properties (e.g. thermal, electrical, mechanical)
- 1.3.6. Polymer science
- 1.3.7. Composite materials
- 1.3.8. Nanotechnology

1.4. Universe Sciences

⁹ The scientific fields and subfields are indicative and there may be variations in the online submission platform.

- 1.4.1 Astronomy
- 1.4.2 Astro-physics/chemistry/biology
- 1.4.3 Solar system
- 1.4.4 Stellar
- 1.4.5 Galactic and extragalactic astronomy
- 1.4.6 Planetary systems
- 1.4.7 Cosmology
- 1.4.8 Space science
- 1.4.9 Instrumentation

1.5. Other physical sciences

SA2 “Engineering Sciences & Technology”

2.1 Civil, Surveying & Architectural engineering

- 2.1.1 Civil engineering
- 2.1.2 Architecture engineering
- 2.1.3 Construction engineering
- 2.1.4 Municipal and structural engineering
- 2.1.5 Transport engineering
- 2.1.6 Structural Engineering
- 2.1.7 Other

2.2 Electrical, electronic & communication engineering

- 2.2.1 Electrical and electronic engineering
- 2.2.2 Optical and systems engineering
- 2.2.3 Communication engineering and systems
- 2.2.4 Telecommunications
- 2.2.5 Computer hardware and architecture
- 2.2.6 Robotics and automatic control
- 2.2.7 Automation and control systems
- 2.2.8 Other

2.3 Mechanical engineering

- 2.3.1 Applied mechanics
- 2.3.2 Thermodynamics and thermal engineering
- 2.3.3 Fluid mechanics and turbomachinery
- 2.3.4 Aerospace engineering (aeronautics & astronautical engineering)
- 2.3.5 Manufacturing engineering and machine design
- 2.3.6 Automotive engineering
- 2.3.7 Naval engineering
- 2.3.8 Nuclear related engineering
- 2.3.9 Other

2.4 Environmental engineering & biotechnology

- 2.4.1 Environmental engineering
- 2.4.2 Ocean and coastal engineering
- 2.4.3 Other environmental engineering
- 2.4.4 Environmental biotechnology
- 2.4.5 Bioremediation
- 2.4.6 Bioprocessing technologies, biocatalysis
- 2.4.7 Bioproducts, biomaterials, biofuels etc.
- 2.4.8 Bio-derived novel materials
- 2.4.9 Other

2.5 Computer and telecommunications engineering

- 2.5.1 Information and intelligent systems engineering
- 2.5.2 Computer engineering
- 2.5.3 Computational methods in engineering
- 2.5.4 Other

2.6 Chemical and materials engineering

- 2.6.1 Chemical process engineering
- 2.6.2 Other chemical engineering
- 2.6.3 Petroleum engineering (fuels, oils)
- 2.6.4 Energy and fuels
- 2.6.5 Materials engineering
- 2.6.6 Mining and mineral processing
- 2.6.7 Nanotechnology
- 2.6.8 Catalysis
- 2.6.9 Energy production/processes (fuel cells, batteries, etc.)
- 2.6.10 Other

2.7 Medical engineering

- 2.7.1 Medical engineering
- 2.7.2 Medical laboratory technology
- 2.7.3 Biomedical engineering
- 2.7.4 Other

2.8 Other Engineering Sciences and Technology

SA3 “Life Sciences”

3.1 Molecular and Structural Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular biophysics

- 3.1.1 Molecular synthesis, modification, mechanisms and interaction
- 3.1.2 Biochemistry
- 3.1.3 Molecular biophysics
- 3.1.4 Structural biology

3.1.5 Metabolism

3.1.6 Signalling pathways

3.2 Genetics, 'Omics', Bioinformatics and System Biology

3.2.1 Molecular and population genetics

3.2.2 Quantitative genetics

3.2.3 Genomics

3.2.4 Metagenomics

3.2.5 Transcriptomics

3.2.6 Proteomics

3.2.7 Metabolomics

3.2.8 Glycomics

3.2.9 Bioinformatics

3.2.10 Computational Biology

3.2.11 Biostatistics

3.2.12 System Biology

3.2.13 Genetic Epidemiology

3.2.14 Epigenetics

3.3 Cellular and Developmental Biology

3.3.1 Cell biology

3.3.2 Cell physiology

3.3.3 Signal transduction

3.3.4 Organogenesis

3.3.5 Developmental genetics

3.3.6 Pattern formation in plants and animals

3.3.7 Stem cell Biology

3.4 Physiology, Pathophysiology and Endocrinology

3.4.1 Organ physiology

3.4.2 Pathophysiology

3.4.3 Endocrinology

3.4.4 Metabolism

3.4.5 Ageing

3.4.6 Tumorigenesis

3.4.7 Cardiovascular disease

3.4.8 Metabolic syndrome

3.5 Neurosciences and Neural Disorders

3.5.1 Neural cell function and signalling

3.5.2 Neural bases of cognitive and behavioral processes

3.5.3 Neuroanatomy and neurophysiology

3.5.4 Neurochemistry and neuropharmacology

3.5.5 Neuroimaging

- 3.5.6 Systems neuroscience
- 3.5.7 Neurological and psychiatric disorders

3.6 Oncology and Cancer Research

- 3.6.1 Cancer biology
- 3.6.2 Cancer diagnosis research
- 3.6.3 Cancer treatment research

3.7 Immunity and Inflection

- 3.7.1 The immune system and related disorders
- 3.7.2 Biology of infectious agents and infection
- 3.7.3 Biological basis of prevention and treatment of infectious diseases

3.8 Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies and Public Health

- 3.8.1 Diagnostic tools
- 3.8.2 Diagnosis and treatment of disease
- 3.8.3 Epidemiology and public health
- 3.8.4 Pharmacology
- 3.8.5 Clinical medicine
- 3.8.6 Regenerative medicine
- 3.8.7 Medical ethics

3.9 Ecology, Evolution, Population and Environmental Biology

- 3.9.1 Evolutionary biology
- 3.9.2 Population, community and ecosystem ecology
- 3.9.3 Animal behavior
- 3.9.4 Biodiversity
- 3.9.5 Biogeography
- 3.9.6 Marine Biology
- 3.9.7 Eco-toxicology
- 3.9.8 Microbial ecology

3.10 Applied Life Sciences, Biotechnology, and Molecular and Biosystems Engineering

- 3.10.1 Applied plant and animal sciences
- 3.10.2 Applied biotechnology
- 3.10.3 Environmental and marine biotechnology
- 3.10.4 Genetic engineering
- 3.10.5 Synthetic and chemical biology
- 3.10.6 Applied Bioengineering

3.11 Other Life Sciences

SA4 “Agricultural Sciences – Food Science & Technology”

4.1 Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries

- 4.1.1 Agriculture

4.1.2 Forestry

4.1.3 Fishery

4.1.4 Soil science

4.1.5 Horticulture

4.1.6 Viticulture

4.1.7 Agronomy

4.1.8 Plant breeding

4.2 Animal and Veterinary science

4.2.1 Animal breeding

4.2.2 Animal nutrition

4.2.3 Animal physiology

4.2.4 Other animal and veterinary sciences

4.3 Biodiversity

4.4 Agricultural biotechnology

4.4.1 Agricultural biotechnology

4.4.2 Food biotechnology

4.4.3 Molecular and genomic plant breeding, market assisted selection

4.4.4 Biomass feedstock production technologies

4.4.5 Agricultural biotechnology and food biotechnology related ethics

4.5 Ecology – Synthetic Biology

4.6 Food sciences and Technology

4.6.1 Dairy science and technology

4.6.2 Food chemistry

4.6.3 Food engineering

4.6.4 Food microbiology

4.6.5 Food packaging

4.6.6 Food processing

4.6.7 Food technology

4.6.8 Molecular gastronomy

4.6.9 New product development

4.6.10 Quality control

4.7 Computational biology, systems biology, Genetics, "omics" and Bioinformatics

4.8 Applied Technologies, Diagnostics, Public Health

4.8.1 Rapid methods/Diagnostic tools

4.9 Epidemiology public health

4.10 AI and Data Science in Agriculture & Food Science

4.11 Other Agricultural Sciences and Food sciences and Technology

SA5 “Mathematics & Information Sciences”

5.1 Mathematics

- 5.1.1 Logic and foundations
- 5.1.2 Algebra and number theory
- 5.1.3 Algebraic and complex geometry
- 5.1.4 Geometry and topology
- 5.1.5 Lie groups, Lie algebras
- 5.1.6 Analysis
- 5.1.7 Operator algebras and functional analysis
- 5.1.8 ODE, PDE and dynamical systems
- 5.1.9 Mathematical physics
- 5.1.10 Probability and statistics
- 5.1.11 Discrete mathematics and combinatorics
- 5.1.12 Numerical analysis
- 5.1.13 Mathematical aspects of computer science
- 5.1.14 Scientific computing, computational science and symbolic computation
- 5.1.15 Control theory, optimization and mathematical finance
- 5.1.16 Application of mathematics in sciences, industry and society

5.2 Computer and information sciences

- 5.2.1 Computer architecture, pervasive computing, ubiquitous computing
- 5.2.2 Computer systems, parallel/distributed systems, sensor networks, embedded systems, cyber-physical systems
- 5.2.3 Software engineering, operating systems, computer languages
- 5.2.4 Theoretical computer science, formal methods, and quantum computing
- 5.2.5 Cryptology, security, privacy, quantum crypto
- 5.2.6 Algorithms, distributed, parallel and network algorithms, algorithmic game theory, computational geometry
- 5.2.7 Artificial intelligence, intelligent systems, multi agent systems
- 5.2.8 Computer graphics, computer vision, multimedia, computer games
- 5.2.9 Human computer interaction and interface, visualization, robotics
- 5.2.10 Web and information systems, database systems, information retrieval and digital libraries, information fusion
- 5.2.11 Machine learning and information processing
- 5.2.12 Natural language processing and signal processing (e.g. speech, image, video)
- 5.2.13 Scientific computing, computational methods, simulation and modelling tools
- 5.2.14 Bioinformatics, computational biology, systems biology, biocomputing and DNA and molecular computation

5.3 Other mathematics

5.4 Other Computer and information sciences

SA6 “Social Sciences”

6.1 Anthropology, Ethnology

- 6.1.1 Anthropology of gender
- 6.1.2 Anthropology of religion
- 6.1.3 Cultural anthropology
- 6.1.4 Economic anthropology
- 6.1.5 Medical anthropology
- 6.1.6 Political anthropology
- 6.1.7 Visual anthropology

6.2 Economics and Business

- 6.2.1 Economics
- 6.2.2 Finance
- 6.2.3 Management/Marketing
- 6.2.4 (Applications of) quantitative methods to economics and business
- 6.2.5 (Economy of) Sustainable growth/economic alternatives (circular economy, social and solidarity economy)

6.3 Educational Sciences

- 6.3.1. Lifelong learning
- 6.3.2. New technologies in education
- 6.3.3. Non formal education/museum education
- 6.3.4. Politics of education/education policies
- 6.3.5. Sociology of education/history of education
- 6.3.6. Special education
- 6.3.7. Teaching and learning art and humanities
- 6.3.8. Teaching and learning natural sciences/mathematics

6.4 Law, Organization Theory, Public Administration

- 6.4.1. Civil law
- 6.4.2. Commercial law
- 6.4.3. Comparative law
- 6.4.4. Constitutional law
- 6.4.5. Criminal law/Criminology
- 6.4.6. International law
- 6.4.7. Philosophy/History of law
- 6.4.8. Public administration law

6.5 Media and Communications

- 6.5.1. Computational media studies
- 6.5.2. Cultural media studies
- 6.5.3. Journalism
- 6.5.4. Semiotics
- 6.5.5. Visual communication
- 6.5.6. Visual semiotics

6.6 Political Science

- 6.6.1. Comparative politics
- 6.6.2. Contentious politics
- 6.6.3. Greek politics
- 6.6.4. International relations
- 6.6.5. Political sociology
- 6.6.6. Political theory

6.7 Psychology and Cognitive Sciences

- 6.7.1. Clinical/Counseling psychology
- 6.7.2. Cognitive psychology/Neurosciences
- 6.7.3. Critical psychology
- 6.7.4. Cross-cultural psychology
- 6.7.5. Developmental psychology
- 6.7.6. Educational/School psychology
- 6.7.7. Health psychology
- 6.7.8. Organizational/Occupational psychology
- 6.7.9. Political psychology
- 6.7.10. Social psychology

6.8 Social and Economic Geography

- 6.8.1. Applied economic geography
- 6.8.2. Critical geography
- 6.8.3. Cultural geography
- 6.8.4. Theoretical economic geography
- 6.8.5. Urban geography
- 6.8.6. Urban sociology

6.9 Sociology

- 6.9.1. Applied sociology

- 6.9.2. Community informatics/social network
- 6.9.3. Critical sociology
- 6.9.4. Cultural/leisure sociology
- 6.9.5. Demography
- 6.9.6. Educational sociology
- 6.9.7. Ethnographic sociology
- 6.9.8. Sociology of work
- 6.9.9. Sociology of youth
- 6.9.10. Visual/Cyber sociology

SA7 “Humanities & Arts”

7.1 History and archaeology

- 7.1.1 Classical archaeology
- 7.1.2 Byzantine archaeology
- 7.1.3 Archaeometry
- 7.1.4 Prehistory and protohistory
- 7.1.5 Ancient history
- 7.1.6 Medieval history
- 7.1.7 Early modern history, modern and contemporary history
- 7.1.8 Colonial and post-colonial history, global and transnational history, entangled histories, history of international relations
- 7.1.9 Social history, economic history
- 7.1.10 Oral history, public history
- 7.1.11 Institutional history, political history
- 7.1.12 Military history, war history
- 7.1.13 Gender history, history of ideas, intellectual history and history of sciences and techniques, cultural history, history of collective identities and memories
- 7.1.14 Historiography, theory and methods of history
- 7.1.15 Other

7.2 Languages and literature

- 7.2.1 General Language Studies
- 7.2.2 Specific languages
- 7.2.3 General literature studies
- 7.2.4 Literary theory
- 7.2.5 Specific literatures
- 7.2.6 Linguistics

7.3 Philosophy, ethics and religion

7.3.1	Philosophy, history and philosophy of science and technology
7.3.2	Philosophy of mind, epistemology and logic
7.3.3	Ethics (except ethics related to specific subfields)
7.3.4	Theology
7.3.5	Religious studies
7.4	Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)
7.4.1	Arts, Art history
7.4.2	Architectural design
7.4.3	Performing arts studies (Musicology, Theater science, Dramaturgy)
7.4.4	Cultural studies
7.4.5	Studies on Film, Radio and Television
7.5	Other humanities

SA8 “Environment & Energy”

8.1 Climate change

- 8.1.1. Observations and remote sensing
- 8.1.2. Modelling and projections
- 8.1.3. Impact studies
- 8.1.4. Adaptation and mitigation strategies

8.2 Ecology

- 8.2.1. Molecular ecology
- 8.2.2. Organismal ecology
- 8.2.3. Population ecology
- 8.2.4. Community ecology
- 8.2.5. Human ecology

8.3 Meteorology

- 8.3.1. Weather forecasting
- 8.3.2. Experimental meteorology
- 8.3.3. Hydrometeorology
- 8.3.4. Agricultural meteorology
- 8.3.5. Environmental meteorology

8.4 Oceanography

- 8.4.1. Chemical oceanography
- 8.4.2. Marine biology – Ichthyology

8.4.3. Coastal morphodynamics and marine geology

8.4.4. Physical oceanography

8.5 Earth and related environmental sciences

8.5.1. Climatology

8.5.2. Geochemistry and geophysics

8.5.3. Geology

8.5.4. Hydrology

8.5.5. Atmospheric sciences

8.5.6. Mineralogy

8.5.7. Marine sciences

8.5.8. Paleontology

8.5.9. Physical geography

8.5.10. Water resources

8.6 Energy resources

8.6.1. Fossil and nuclear energy

8.6.2. Energy grids

8.6.3. End use efficiency

8.6.4. Policies and economics

8.7 Renewable energy resources and systems

8.7.1. Bioenergy

8.7.2. Geothermal energy

8.7.3. Hydraulic energy

8.7.4. Solar energy

8.7.5. Wind energy

8.7.6. Hydrogen and fuel cells

8.7.7. Wave and tidal energy

8.7.8. Hybrid systems

8.7.9. Energy storage

8.7.10. Emerging technologies

8.8 Energy and the built environment

8.8.1. Sustainable building design

8.8.2. Sustainable urban living

8.8.3. Energy technologies for buildings

8.8.4. Smart innovative materials

8.8.5. Smart buildings in smart cities

8.9 Sustainable mobility and logistics

- 8.9.1. Sustainable urban mobility
- 8.9.2. Freight transport and logistics

8.10 Circular economy

- 8.10.1. Bioeconomy
- 8.10.2. Sustainable industry and manufacturing systems
- 8.10.3. Waste and resource management
- 8.10.4. Water in the circular economy

SA9 “Management & Economics of Innovations”

- 9.1 Innovation Systems, Innovation Policy, Innovation Governance and Metrics**
- 9.2 Innovation and Entrepreneurship**
- 9.3 Innovation Strategy, Organization and Management at the Business, Industry and Sectoral Level**
- 9.4 ICT enabled Innovation, Digitisation and Industrial Renewal**
- 9.5 Globalization of Innovation, global value chains, and catch-up processes**
- 9.6 Innovation and Finance**

ANNEX II

SOLEMN DECLARATION

(article 8 of Law 1599/1986)

The accuracy of the information submitted in this declaration may be verified based on the records of other services (Article 8, par. 4 of Law 1599/1986)

TO:	Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.)						
Name:				Surname:			
Father's Full Name:							
Date of Birth:							
ID Card No.:				Tel.:			
VAT No.:							
Place of residence:		Street:		No.:		P.C.:	
E-mail:							

I am solely responsible and aware of the sanctions⁽¹⁰⁾ provided for by the provisions of par. 6 of article 22 of Law 1599/1986; as the legal representative of [*name of Institution*], I declare that:

- a. All listed information regarding the research Project under the number "....." and the title "....." submitted in the framework of the "4th Call for H.F.R.I.'s Research Project to support Postdoctoral Researchers" as well as the submitted supporting documents are true and accurate.
- b. The research Project to be funded under the number "....." and the title "....." has not been funded, is not funded, and will not be funded by any other Institution for part or all of its scope.
- c. The H.I. is a research and knowledge organization in the sense of point λβ) of item 16 of the European Commission Notice titled "Framework on state aid for research and development and innovation (2022/C 414/01)" and either performs activities of a non-economic nature (within the meaning of point 19 of the Notice) or its economic activity, if any, is purely ancillary and does not exceed 20% of the total annual capacity of the Institution.

⁽¹⁰⁾ Any person who knowingly states false facts, or denies or conceals true facts, by means of a written solemn declaration in line with article 8 shall be punished with imprisonment of at least three months. If the same person intended to obtain proprietary benefit for himself/herself or for another person to the detriment of a third party, or if said person intended to harm a third party, she/he may be sentenced up to ten (10) years of imprisonment.

OR (SELECT WHICHEVER APPLIES)

- d. the H.I. is a legal person governed by public law/legal person governed by private law established by law or PD and subsidized by the state, and the following conditions are met:
 - 1. Its principal activities are not economic, in accordance with the European Commission's Notice on the concept of state aid (2016/C 262/01).
 - 2. There is a provision for research activity in the H.I.'s Articles of Association.
 - 3. The research results from this research Project will be widely disseminated on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis (i.e., through teaching, databases, publications, open-access software, etc.).
 - 4. Any resulting profits will be reinvested in the H.I.'s non-financial activities.
 - 5. Separate accounting records will be kept for the use of this infrastructure, as well as separate accounting records for the non-financial and (if any) financial activities of the H.I.
- e. H.I.'s funding under the Action is for its core activity, and/or all the profits from the knowledge transfer activities will be reinvested in its core activities in order for its funding to be considered as non-state aid under points 19 and 20 of the European Commission Notice titled "Framework on state aid for research and development and innovation" (2022/C 414/01), and to receive 100% funding.
- f. The Host Institution and the Principal Investigator accept the terms and conditions of the Call, the Management - Implementation Guide for the Action, the Recovery Fund and the Management and Control System, as well as all their related obligations, such as the obligations to comply with the EU and national legislation and the rules of publicity, the acceptance of the audits carried out by the competent national and European institutions and any other obligations arising from the Regulation, the NRRP and the Funding Award Decision. In addition, they accept the specific conditions resulting from the EU Regulation 651/2014.
- g. The Host Institution and the Principal Investigator accept that the messages received from the H.F.R.I. via e-mail at the designated address(es) have the status of notification and entail the commencement of all legal consequences and deadlines for both the Host Institution and the Principal Investigator.
- h. The Institution and the Principal Investigator consent to the H.F.R.I. publishing information concerning the Project's implementation online.
- i. There will be wide dissemination of the research results of the Project on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis (i.e., through teaching, databases, publications, open-access software, etc.).

City

Date

The undersigned

[SIGNATURE]

(Stamp, legal representative details)

ANNEX III

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR FUNDING REIMBURSEMENT

To reimburse the funding, the following supporting documents shall be submitted (where required):

1. The decision to include the Project funding in the budget of the Host Institution.
2. Tax clearance note for collecting money from entities other than the Central Administration or clearance note for debts towards the State (*where required*).
3. Social insurance clearance certificate for collecting cleared receivables of a fixed amount from the State or a Certificate for withheld (settled) social insurance contributions (*where required*).
4. Bank account number (IBAN).

The corresponding bill of collection should be issued upon payment of each installment and sent and/or submitted to the I.S. of the H.F.R.I.