



# ERASMUS+ INTERNATIONAL CREDIT MOBILITY PROGRAMME CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PHD STUDENTS AND STAFF MOBILITY BETWEEN A4U UNIVERSITIES AND NON-EUROPEAN PARTNER UNIVERSITIES<sup>1</sup> DURING 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEARS

#### 1. Purpose of the Call

Alliance of 4 Universities (A4U) is a strategic partnership of four Spanish public universities: Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, and Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona. One of the objectives of A4U internationalization strategy is to promote mobility with leading universities in non-European countries.

A4U has been awarded funds under Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Programme, which enables PhD students and staff from A4U universities and its partner universities to undertake a mobility stay.

The main objectives of the mobilities are:

- To offer training, research and study development opportunities to PhD students and staff at participating universities.
- To support PhD students and staff achieve sustained improvements in knowledge, teaching and research skills.
- To forge and deepen lasting links between A4U universities and its partner universities thus enhancing transnational academic cooperation.
- To improve participants' language and cultural skills, promoting mutual enrichment and understanding.

Mobilities announced in this call can be carried out in 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2021-2022 academic years during the period of academic activity at the host university, and should end by 31 July 2023.

#### 2. Participating higher education institutions and number of available grants

Please see the annex for the country-specific information.

#### 3. General conditions

The call is open to all subject areas. Applicants must check that the requested mobility proposal matches the offer available at the host university.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See annex for list of participating countries and universities.





The mobility grant consists of a travel allowance and a monthly/daily subsistence allowance according to the flat rates determined by the Erasmus+ Programme. The grant is a **contribution** towards the costs of the planned Erasmus+ mobility period<sup>2</sup>.

The beneficiaries are free to make travel and accommodation arrangements that best suit their needs. <u>Important:</u> beneficiaries need to advance their own funds for booking flights and accommodation since the mobility grant will be paid only once their stay begins (see procedures for grants payment in section 10). It is highly advisable to make bookings (flights, accommodation etc.) on conditions that allow full reimbursement in case of cancellation of travel.

An Interinstitutional Agreement between the home and the host universities must be signed before the start of the mobility.

#### 4. PhD mobility

The mobility period for PhD students is a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 5 months (check the annex for country-specific information). During their stay PhD students should engage in research towards their doctoral thesis.

PhD mobility can be conducted onsite, online or in a blended mode. The grant will be paid in case the mobility comprises an onsite stay of a minimum of 3 months.

#### 5. Staff mobility

The mobility period for staff is 5 days with 2 days for travel, covering 7 days in total.

Staff mobility can be for teaching, training, or both. Teaching and administrative staff can apply, with priority being given to the former.

- During mobility for *teaching*, staff should deliver at least 8 hours of teaching.
- During mobility for <u>training</u>, staff should engage in professional development activities such as training events (excluding conferences), job shadowing, observation periods, or training at the receiving institution.
- Mobility can also be for <u>teaching and training</u>. In this case, the minimum number of hours of teaching is 4 hours per week.

Staff mobility can be conducted onsite, in which case the grant will be paid, or online, in which case grant will not be paid as there will be no travel expenses involved.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As a guideline, the average monthly living expenses in Madrid or Barcelona are 600€ for accommodation in student residence (an apartment shared with other students might be cheaper) and €250-350 for food.





#### 6. Eligibility requisites

To be eligible, applicants must fulfill the following general conditions:

- To take responsibility for performing the mobility in 2020-2021, 2021-2022 or 2022-2023 academic year during the period of academic activity based on the academic calendar at the host university, and end the mobility by 31 July 2023.
- To submit all the required documents before the application deadline. Getting a learning/mobility agreement signed takes time, so applicants are strongly advised to start preparing their application as early as possible and to submit it well before the deadline so that there is time to check it and correct irregularities if necessary.
- If the planned mobility activities are to be be conducted in a language that is not the native language of the applicant, to have an appropriate level of the language of instruction, B2 being the minimum level. Please refer to your home institution, which will confirm whether you have the required level.

#### Specific requisites for **PhD students:**

- To be enrolled at their home institution at the time of application and during the mobility.

Specific requisites for **staff:** 

- Have a contractual relationship with their home institution at the time of application and during the mobility.
- **For staff going from Spain abroad only:** associate members of staff (professor asociado) are not eligible to apply.

Lower priority will be given to applicants (both PhD students and staff) who have received mobility grants under Erasmus Mundus consortia, Erasmus Mundus Joint Master degrees or Erasmus+International Credit Mobility (KA107) Programme.

For PhD applicants who received Erasmus grants for mobility in Europe, mobility under this call will count towards the maximum of 12 months allowed per study cycle.

#### 6. Timeline

Call opens	Upon publication on A4U website
Call closes	12 March 2021 at 24:00 Central European Time.
Publication of selection results	30 April 2021

#### 7. Application process





The call and the application form can be found on A4U website <a href="http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/">http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/</a>. All partner universities websites will refer to it by publishing an announcement.

Applicants must complete an online application form and attach the following documentation:

Level	Documents to be submitted
PhD	<ul> <li>CV</li> <li>Learning Agreement signed by the applicant, the thesis supervisor at the home university and the host academic at the receiving university. Applicants should complete ONLY the first 2 pages of the Learning Agreement. Scanned signatures are accepted.</li> <li>Recommendation letter, which should not be attached to the online application form but instead sent directly by the referee to coordinacion@a-4u.eu with "Recommendation letter" in the subject field by 12 March 2021.</li> </ul>
Staff	<ul> <li>Abridged CV</li> <li>Mobility Agreement for teaching or training, signed by the applicant, and the responsible academic (head of host Faculty or Department, or the host academic) at home and host institutions. Scanned signatures are accepted.</li> </ul>

International Offices at participating institutions can assist applicants in getting signatures for the learning/mobility agreements. For contact details of A4U universities, please check section 11. Contact details of non –European partner universities can be found in the factsheets available on A4U website.

Candidates with special needs or disabilities are welcome to apply. Additional funding to cover costs directly related to their participation in the mobility can be obtained, and is conditional on the approval of the Spanish National Agency. The request for additional financial support should be made separately from the application form.

Selection results will be published in A4U website <a href="http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/">http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/</a> and will be announced to the beneficiaries and partner universities by e-mail.

#### 8. Evaluation criteria and selection

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, based on the evaluation of quality of applications and following a procedure, which guarantees fairness and transparency.

PhD students applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

 Quality of the research proposal in the learning agreement, matching with the research areas at the host university and expected impact of the research stay,





- Academic qualifications and research experience according to CV,
- Recommendation letter,
- Motivation according to the statement in the learning agreement.

Staff applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Quality of the proposal in the Mobility Agreement, according to methodology, feasibility, teaching and learning innovation and/or curriculum development,
- Academic record of the candidate, including teaching experience, research, publications, etc. according to CV,
- Relevance and expected impact of the proposal for the host institution and added value upon return to the home institution,
- Motivation according to the statement in the mobility agreement.

The assessment will follow the standards of the "European Peer Review Guide" by the European Science Foundation:

Qualitative assessment	Alphabetic score			
Excellent	Α			
Very good	В			
Good	С			
Fair	D			
Poor	Е			

The applications will be evaluated by A4U Selection Committee consisting of 4 Vice-rectors for International Relations of A4U universities.

In case of equivalence, the decision will be guided by:

- giving priority to applicants from disadvantaged backgrounds, according to the information provided by partner institutions,
- seeking gender balance.
- seeking a balanced distribution of grants among A4U universities.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to re-distribute grants across categories (PhD, staff, IN, OUT) within the same country, depending on the number and quality of received applications.

The number of grants announced in the annex is a minimum that will be awarded. More grants may be generated or extensions granted if selected students' stays are shorter than 5 months.

Reserve candidates will be placed on a waiting list and called upon if a grant becomes available.





#### 9. Grant payment procedure

Grant amounts will be calculated according to the real arrival and departure dates reported by the host institutions, taking into consideration their academic calendars.

#### Payment of grant to students

<u>PhD students going from Spain abroad</u>: The grant will be paid in two instalments via a bank transfer into the participant's bank account. The first instalment of 70% of the total grant will be paid once the student has registered at the host university, and the student has signed the Grant Agreement. The second instalment of 30% of the total grant will be paid at the end of the mobility once the student has received a certificate of attendance from the host university, and has completed the online EU survey.

<u>PhD students coming from abroad to Spain</u>: the procedure is as above, with the only difference that upon his/her arrival to Spain, the student needs to open a Spanish bank account, to which the grant will be paid.

#### Payment of grant to staff

<u>Staff going from Spain abroad</u>: Once the participant has signed the Grant Agreement, the home university has received the certificate of attendance, and the participant has completed the online EU survey, the grant will be paid in one instalment to the beneficiary's bank account.

<u>Staff coming to Spain from abroad</u>: Once the Grant Agreement and the certificate of attendance from the host university have been issued, the grant will be paid in one instalment by a cheque. The participant should also complete the online EU survey.

#### 10. Rights of the beneficiary

- To perform the entire mobility period awarded.
- To receive the grant according to the rates and conditions set out in the Erasmus+ Programme guidelines.
- To benefit from tuition fee waiver as a student, notwithstanding other fees for the use of certain services or activities that might be applicable.
- To receive information and advice on the application procedure from the home university, as well as pre-departure and on-site guidance from the host university.
- To have the study or teaching period abroad recognized by their home university.

#### 11. Obligations of the beneficiary

 To be in possession of adequate insurance throughout the mobility period according to Erasmus+ programme rules. All participants must be insured against the risks linked to their participation in mobility activities.

The insurance must cover:

travel insurance,





- medical expenses and accidents, including permanent or temporary incapacity,
- death, including repatriation,
- third party liability.

The cost of the insurance will be covered by the participants themselves. A4U recommends OnCampus insurance for staff, and OnCampus Estudia insurance for PhD students. The participant however is free to choose a different product as long as it meets the above requirements above.

- To obtain the visa for the stay in the receiving country and bear the costs of obtaining the visa.
- To book flights and accommodation in the country of destination. For this, beneficiaries will need to advance their own funds since the mobility grant will be paid only once their stay begins. Host universities can provide information to participants on how to find suitable accommodation.
- To carry out the mobility stay according to the proposal and dates committed, during 2020-2021, 2021-2022 or 2022-2023 academic years, always ending by 31 July 2023.
- To participate, if requested, in sharing their mobility experience.
- To complete the required procedures and fill in the necessary documents as per Erasmus+ Programme before, during and after the mobility period, meeting the deadlines established by A4U. Before mobility: signature of the learning/mobility agreement and grant agreement. After mobility: submission of the certificate of attendance and completion and online EU survey.
- Any other obligation inherent to the Erasmus+ Programme and the internal regulations of the home and host institutions.

#### 12. Information

Should any doubt arise over the interpretation of this Call, the Selection Committee will decide on the case and interpret it in the light of the guidelines of Erasmus+ Programme.

A4U International Project Manager will be in charge of the general coordination and management of this call, and will be the initial point of contact for applicants and beneficiaries.

Dr Olga Belova International Project Manager coordinacion@a-4u.eu +34 935 422 079

International Relations Services at A4U universities will provide advice to incoming and outgoing applicants at the application stage and during mobility.

Mobility Office at Universitat Autónoma de Barcelona (UAB): <a href="mailto:erasmus.ka107@uab.cat">erasmus.ka107@uab.cat</a> / +34 93 581 3734

Mobility Office at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM): erasmus.ka107.em@uam.es / +34 91 497 2935, + 34 91 497 3283

Mobility Office at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M): proyectos internacionales@uc3m.es / +34 91 6249596





International Relations Office at Universidad Pompeu Fabra (UPF): <a href="mailto:silvia.vilanova@upf.edu">silvia.vilanova@upf.edu</a> / +34 935 42 2063

Please note that A4U universities will be closed from 24 December 2020 until 7 January 2021 for Christmas holidays and from 29 March until 6 April 2021 for Easter holidays.

Any additional information related to this call will be published on A4U website <a href="http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/">http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/</a>

Prof. Carmela Calés Vice-Rector for International Relations of Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, on behalf of Alianza 4 Universidades Selection Committee

Madrid, 18 December 2020





#### **ANNEX: COUNTRY-SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

#### **RUSSIA**

#### 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

#### **SPAIN**

- 1. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- 2. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- 3. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- 4. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona

#### **RUSSIA**

- 1. Lomonosov Moscow State University
- 2. Higher School of Economics
- 3. Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA)
- 4. North-West Institute of Management, Branch of RANEPA (St. Petersburg)
- 5. Russian State University for the Humanities
- 6. St. Petersburg State Polytechnic University
- 7. Moscow Power Engineering Institute
- 8. Southern Federal University

From		Number	Duration of	Grant amount			
	То	Level	of grants	stay	Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
Russia Spair	Spain	PhD	2*	3-5 months	€850/month	€530	€3.080 - €4.780
	·	Staff	2	5 days	€160/day	€530	€1.650
Spain	Russia	PhD	1	3-5 months	€700/month	€530	€2.630- €4.030
		Staff	2**	5 days	€180/day	€530	€1.790

<sup>\*</sup>While there are 2 grants available in the category of staff going from Russia to Spain, one grant has been reserved for staff selected under project 2018 and whose mobility could not take place due to COVID-19 pandemic. The other grant in this category will be awarded in open competition under this call.

<sup>\*\*</sup>The same applies to the category of staff going from Spain to Russia.





#### **SOUTH AFRICA**

#### 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

#### **SPAIN**

- 1. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- 2. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- 3. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- 4. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona

#### **SOUTH AFRICA**

- 1. University of Pretoria
- 2. University of the Witwatersrand
- 3. Stellenbosch University
- 4. University of Cape Town
- 5. University of Western Cape
- 6. University of the Free State

F		11	Number	Duration of	Grant amount			
From	То	Level	of grants	stay	Subsistence	Travel	Total grant	
South	Spain	PhD	2	3-5 months	€850/month	€1.500	€4.050- €5.750	
Africa	- 1	Staff	10*	5 days	€160/day	€1.500	€2.620	
Spain	South Africa	PhD	2	3-5 months	€700/month	€1.500	€3.600- 5.000	
			PhD traineeship (prácticas)**	1	3 months	€700/month	€1.500	€3.600
		Staff	4	5 days	€180/day	€1.500	€2.760	

<sup>\*</sup> While there are 10 grants available in the category of staff going from South Africa to Spain, one grant has been reserved for staff selected under project 2018 and whose mobility could not take place due to COVID-19 pandemic. The other 9 grants in this category will be awarded in open competition under this call.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Priority will be given to applicants from UAB.





#### **IRAN**

#### 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

# SPAIN 1. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona 2. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid 3. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid 4. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona IRAN 1. University of Tehran 2. Allameh Tabataba'i University 3. Amirkabir University of Technology

_	To Lovel	Number Duration	Duration of	Duration of Grant amount			
From	То	Level	of grants	stay	Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
Iran Sp	Spain	PhD	2	3-5 months	€850/month	€820	€3.370- €5.070
	·	Staff	2	5 days	€160/day	€820	€1.940
Spain	Iran	PhD	2	3-5 months	€700/month	€820	€2.920- €4.320
		Staff	2*	5 days	€180/day	€820	€2.080

<sup>\*</sup> While there are 2 grants available in the category of staff going from Spain to Iran, one grant has been reserved for staff selected under project 2018 and whose mobility could not take place due to COVID-19 pandemic. The other grant in this category will be awarded in open competition under this call.





#### **INDIA**

#### 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

# SPAIN INDIA

- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- 2. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- 3. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- 4. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona
- 1. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Delhi
- 2. Indian Institute of Science of Bangalore
- 3. Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
- 4. Indian Institute of Technology of Delhi
- 5. Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
- 6. Symbiosis International University, Pune
- 7. St. Xavier's College, Mumbai

#### 2. Grants to be awarded

F	To	Lavial	Number	Duration of	Grant amount		
From	То	Level	of grants	stay	Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
India	Spain	PhD	1	3-5 months	€850/month	€820	€3.370- €5.070
	Spain	Staff	1*	5 days	€160/day	€820	€1.940
Spain	India	PhD	1	3-5 months	€700/month	€820	€2.920- €4.320
		Staff	1**	5 days	€180/day	€820	€2.080

## Note:

<sup>\*</sup>While there is 1 grant available in the category of staff going from India to Spain, it has been reserved for staff selected under project 2018 and whose mobility could not take place due to COVID-19 pandemic. So no grants in this category will be awarded in open competition under this call

<sup>\*\*</sup>The same applies to the category of staff going from Spain to India.





#### **BOTSUANA**

#### 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

#### **SPAIN**

- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- 2. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- 3. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- 4. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona

#### **BOTSUANA**

- 1. University of Botswana (UB)
- 2. Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN)
- 3. Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST)
- 4. Botswana Accountancy College (BAC)

From	T-0	Laural	Number Duration	Duration of	Grant amount		
	То	Level	of grants	stay	Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
Botsuana Spain	PhD	2	4 months	€850/month	€820	€4.220	
	·	Staff	6	5 days	€160/day	€820	€1.940
Spain Bo	Botsuana	PhD	2	3,5 months	€700/month	€820	€3.795
	botsuaria	Staff	2	5 days	€180/day	€820	€2.080





### **NAMIBIA**

# 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

#### **SPAIN**

- 1. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- 2. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- 3. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- 4. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona

#### **NAMIBIA**

- 1. University of Namibia (UNAM)
- 2. Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST)

_	-	To Level	Number	Duration of	Grant amount		
From	10		of grants	stay	Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
Namibia Spain	Spain	PhD	2	3-5 months	€850/month	€820	€3.370- €5.070
		Staff	4	5 days	€160/day	€820	€1.940
Spain	Namibia	PhD	2	3-5 months	€700/month	€820	€2.920- €4.320
		Staff	2	5 days	€180/day	€820	€2.080





#### **INDONESIA**

#### 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

#### **SPAIN**

- 1. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- 2. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- 3. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- 4. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona

#### **INDONESIA**

- 1. Universitas Indonesia
- 2. Institute of Technology of Bandung
- 3. Universitas Gadjah Mada
- 4. Universitas Airlangga
- 5. BINUS University
- 6. Telkom University
- 7. Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

#### 2. Grants to be awarded

From		Lavel	Number Number	Duration of	Grant amount		
	То	Level	of grants	stay	Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
Indonesia Spair	Cooin	PhD	1***	3,5 months	€850/month	€1.500	€4.475
	Spain	Staff	1*	5 days	€160/day	€1.500	€2.620
Spain	Indonesia	PhD	1***	3 months	€700/month	€1.500	€3.600
		Staff	1**	5 days	€180/day	€1.500	€2.760

#### Note:

<sup>\*</sup>While there is one grant available in the category of staff going from Indonesia to Spain, it has been reserved for staff selected under project 2018 and whose mobility could not take place due to COVID-19 pandemic. So no grants in this category will be awarded in open competition under this call.

<sup>\*\*</sup>The same applies to the category of staff going from Spain to Indonesia.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> The duration of PhD stays has been reduced in order to generate one more grant, which will be reserved for one staff going from Spain to Indonesia, selected under project 2018 and whose mobility could not take place due to COVID-19 pandemic.





# **VIETNAM**

# 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

	SPAIN	VIETNAM
1. 2. 3. 4.	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Universidad Autónoma de Madrid Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	<ol> <li>Vietnam National University in Ho Chi Minh City</li> <li>Vietnam National University in Hanoi</li> <li>Hanoi University of Science and Technology</li> <li>RMIT Vietnam</li> <li>University of Hanoi (HANU)</li> </ol>

From	То	To Level	Number of grants	Duration of stay	Grant amount				
					Subsistence	Travel	Total grant		
Vietnam Spa	Spain	PhD	1	3-5 months	€850/month	€1.500	€4.050- €5.750		
			·	·	Staff 2	2	5 days	€160/day	€1.500
Spain	Vietnam	Staff	1	5 days	€180/day	€1.500	€2.760		





# **THAILAND**

# 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

SPAIN	THAILAND			
<ol> <li>Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona</li> <li>Universidad Autónoma de Madrid</li> <li>Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona</li> <li>Universidad Carlos III de Madrid</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Chulalongkorn University</li> <li>Mahidol University</li> <li>Thammasat University</li> <li>Khon Kaen Uinversity</li> </ol>			

From	То	Level	Number of grants	Duration of stay	Grant amount		
					Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
Thailand S	Spain PhD Staff	PhD	1	3-5 months	€850/month	€1.500	€4.050- €5.750
		2	5 days	€160/day	€1.500	€2.620	
Spain	Thailand	Staff	1	5 days	€180/day	€1.500	€2.760





#### **MALAYSIA**

# 1. Higher Education Institutions participating in the exchange

#### **SPAIN**

- 1. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- 2. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- 3. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona
- 4. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

#### **MALAYSIA**

- 1. University of Malaya
- 2. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia
- 3. Universiti Putra Malaysia
- 4. Universiti Sains Malaysia

From	То	Level	Number of grants	Duration of stay	Grant amount		
					Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
Malaysia Sp	Spain	PhD	1	3-5 months	€850/month	€1.500	€4.050- €5.750
		Staff	1	5 days	€160/day	€1.500	€2.620
Spain N	Malaysia	PhD	1	3-5 months	€850/month	€1.500	€3.600- €5.000
		Staff	1	5 days	€180/day	€1.500	€2.760