

## Full text of the call

Rector of Comenius University in Bratislava (hereinafter referred to as the "Rector") in accordance with Internal Regulation No. 4/2024 Directive of the Rector Postdoctoral stays at Comenius University in Bratislava (hereinafter referred to as the "Directive")

### Launches a call

**a call for proposals for postdoctoral stays within the programme "*Postdoctoral stays at Comenius University in Bratislava 2024-2025*" (hereinafter referred to as "**the proposal**") pursuant to Article 3(1) and (2) of the Directive.**

### Objectives, objectives and priorities of the call

The main aim of the call is to develop knowledge and skills used in solving urgent tasks of excellent basic and applied research and development.

The basic mission of postdoctoral stays is targeted support of research and development at individual parts of Comenius University in Bratislava (hereinafter referred to as "CU"), support of young researchers and increase the attractiveness of scientific careers, as well as support of mobility of postdoctoral students. Details of postdoctoral stays at CU are provided in the directive. The directive builds on the recommendations of the European Charter for Researchers, which deals with transparent rules for job creation and filling for postdocs. The aim of the directive is also to fulfil the valid Long-term Intention of the CU.

Proposals are submitted by the deans together with the principal investigators of specific projects.

### Definitions

For the purposes of this call, the following definitions shall apply:

- **postdoctoral student** means a graduate of the third degree of university study who has completed his studies and successfully defended his dissertation at a higher education institution other than CU, especially at a foreign university, no later than three years before the start of the postdoctoral stay, while not exceeding the age of 35,
- **a postdoctoral student** selected by a Comenius University postdoc applicant who, on the date of commencement of the postdoctoral stay, has concluded an employment relationship with the faculty of CU, part of CU, and in the case of obtaining **a postdoctoral student** grant (young researcher) from the Early Stage Grant (ESG) recovery plan, concluded a contract for its implementation (up to a maximum of EUR 12,000),
- **Postdoctoral Student grant** (GUKPOST) grant in case of call from the Recovery Plan or other calls;
- **postdoctoral stay means a** postdoctoral student position tied to solving grant projects at faculties and other parts of Comenius University,
- **open competition** creation of a postdoctoral stay and selection procedure for filling a postdoctoral stay in accordance with the internal regulation of CU,
- **the principal investigator of the postdoctoral stay project** is the person responsible for solving the grant project (guarantor of the project from the CU component),
- **branch of CU** is faculty or another branch of CU where scientific research or development activities are carried out,

- **Dean** means the Dean of the Faculty of Comenius University and the Director or Head of another branch of CU that has labor-law personality and where scientific research, or development activities are carried out.

### **Content definition of the call**

The postdoctoral stay is tied to the grant projects of the postdoctoral stay guarantor. These projects may have the character of basic research, applied research or development as defined in § 2 par. 2 to 4 of Act no. 172/2005 Coll. on the organization of state support for research and development and on the amendment of Act no. 575/2001 Coll. on organization of government activities and organization of central state administration, as amended. The nature of the research of the project solution is clearly defined by the dean in the proposal. The proposal cannot be mixed. Different evaluation criteria for fundamental research projects and applied research and development projects will be used in the assessment of the proposal. Funding decisions will also be taken separately for proposals linked to fundamental research projects and proposals linked to applied research and development projects.

**In the academic year 2024/2025, there is the possibility for CU postdocs to receive a postdoctoral student (young researcher) grant from the Early Stage Grant (ESG) recovery plan up to €12,000. The submission of the applicant for a postdoc grant must take place simultaneously with the submission of his/her application to fill a postdoctoral stay at CU. The application for a grant of a postdoc of CU is submitted by the applicant himself/herself electronically, via the link published on the CU website: <https://kmn.sk/GUKPOST>**

The conditions for implementation the grant of a postdoctoral student (GUKPOST) are listed on the CU website: <https://uniba.sk/veda/postdotorandske-pobyty/grant-postdotoranda-uk-gukpost/>

### **Specific conditions of the call**

1. The total amount of funding earmarked under the UK budget to finance the postdoctoral stays project 2024/2025 is a maximum.
2. of **EUR 475,000**. The total funding earmarked for this purpose by the UK components is at least **EUR 237 500**. Funding will be allocated on the basis of proposals for postdoctoral assignments and in accordance with the results of the assessment of these proposals, according to the requirements for fundamental research projects and applied research and development projects. RUK funds in the maximum amount of EUR 475,000 are intended for tariff salaries of postdoctoral students and funds of CU components in the minimum amount of EUR 237,500 for personal supplements to the tariff salaries of postdocs, according to Internal Regulation No. 4/2024, Art. 2, para. 4, 5 and Art. 3, para. 4.
3. The total amount of funds provided by CU for one project is limited to a maximum amount of **EUR 18,250** for the entire postdoctoral stay. The total amount of funds provided for the solution of one project by CU branch is at least **EUR 9 125** for the entire duration of the solution.
4. One natural person can be the principal investigator of the project in only one submitted proposal. The principal investigator of the project is exclusively a person who has an employment relationship with CU branch for the established working hours.
5. Branch of Comenius University, represented by the Dean, acknowledges that in relation to its researchers, it is obliged to ensure compliance with Regulation no. 679/2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (GDPR Regulation) and Act no. 18/2018 Coll. on the protection of personal data and on amendments to certain acts.
6. Based on this call, CU will provide a part of the salary funds for the creation of a postdoctoral stay equal to the tariff salary of a postdoctoral student.

## **Proposals**

**This call for submission of proposals is open from April 1 to April 30, 2024.**

Proposals are submitted through the Department of Scientific Research and Doctoral Studies of CU (hereinafter referred to as "OVČDŠ") electronically to the e-mail address [jana.badurova@uniba.sk](mailto:jana.badurova@uniba.sk) and in writing to:

*Comenius University in Bratislava  
Department of Scientific Research and Doctoral Studies  
Šafárikovo nám. No. 6  
814 99 Bratislava*

**Proposals are submitted by the deans together with the principal investigators of specific projects.** The proposal must demonstrate support for science, research or development, timeliness of solved problems, fulfilment of other objectives of the directive and related contribution to the implementation of tasks and mission of Comenius University.

In the proposal, the CU component must demonstrate/declare that it has the means to provide a personal surcharge in the amount of 50% of the tariff salary from its own resources or from the resources of the grant project in which the postdoc will be involved.

Applications submitted electronically and in writing by the deadline will not be included for consideration.

The expected start of the postdoctoral stay is from October 1.2024. The employment of a postdoc on a postdoctoral stay is concluded for a fixed period of one year. The employment of a postdoctoral student on a postdoctoral stay may be extended by a maximum of one year twice, according to the relevant legislation. There is no legal right to renew or renegotiate the employment relationship.

### Consideration of proposals

The submitted proposals will be evaluated by a committee appointed by the Rector and the results of the assessment of proposals will be submitted to the Rector of Comenius University.

The dean decides on the establishment of postdoctoral stays. **If the dean does not establish a postdoctoral stay, he is obliged to immediately return the funds provided for this purpose.**

The binding outline of the project is set out in Annex 1 of this call. The project assessment procedure and evaluation criteria are set out in Annex 2 of this call.

### **Publication of decisions on proposals**

Decisions on CU proposals will be published immediately via the CU's website. Information about all proposals will be published on the CU website in the scope of: proposal number, name of the project to which the postdoctoral stay is linked, part of CU, principal investigator of the project and decision on providing funding. In case of non-provision of funds, the name of the principal investigator is not given.

Branch of CU announces a selection procedure to fill established postdoctoral stays with applicants. The notice of competition (hereinafter referred to as the 'notice') is public and published on the university's website. The notification shall contain the particulars referred to in Article 3(7) and (8) of the Directive.

**Together with the application for admission to the position of postdoc, the applicant for a postdoctoral fellowship also submits an application for a postdoc grant (young researcher) from the Early Stage Grant (ESG) recovery plan for a maximum amount of EUR 12,000. The applicant himself/herself submits the grant application via the link: <https://kmn.sk/GUKPOST> published on the CU website.** The conditions for implementation the grant of a postdoctoral student (GUKPOST) are listed on the CU website: <https://uniba.sk/veda/postdoktorandske-pobyty/grant-postdoktoranda-uk-gukpost/>

The selection procedure to fill the postdoctoral stay must meet the conditions laid down in Article 3(9) and (10) of Internal Regulation No. 4/2024.

The organization of the postdoctoral stay is governed by Article 4 of Internal Regulation No. 4/2024.

### **Provision of funding**

**Funds for postdoctoral stay** are provided by the CU and branch of CU on the basis of a modification of the subsidy contract for the CU branch, as soon as possible from the date of publication of decisions on proposals for postdoctoral stays.

**Funds for the postdoctoral grant** are provided by CU to a CU postdoc from the Recovery Plan, while the condition for releasing the allocated funds is the signing of an affidavit of its researcher, the content of which is the prohibition of double funding stated under the ESG conditions published on the CU website: <https://uniba.sk/veda/postdoktorandske-pobyty/grant-postdoktoranda-uk-gukpost/>, submission of the final report before the end of the postdoctoral stay within the set deadline and other conditions for implementing grant funds and binding deadlines for solving the grant published on the CU website: <https://uniba.sk/veda/postdoktorandske-pobyty/grant-postdoktoranda-uk-gukpost/>

Contact person

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Annex

The following annexes are part of the open call:

Annex 1: Binding project outline

Annex 2: Project appraisal procedure and evaluation criteria

Annex 3: Internal Regulation No. 4/2024 - Rector's *Directive Postdoctoral stays at CU*