

Seed Funding



2020 Call for Applicants

September 2020

Goals of this second Call for Applications

The overall aim of the Una Europa seed funding initiative is to support the initiation of long-term collaborative activities between the partners of universities, including the preparation of joint innovative formats for education or research. We strongly encourage proposals that design formats of cooperation suitable to attract third party funding in the long run. The call is open to all academic disciplines.

While this second Call for Applications is open for bottom-up projects, it strongly encourages proposals to address the impact and consequences of the post-Covid-19 era. Proposals that address different aspects are welcome e.g. from multi-disciplinary perspectives or from the perspective of managing new joint educational or research projects.

Eligibility

Seed funding projects must be coordinated by senior academic or non-academic staff from one Una Europa university and must involve senior staff from at least an additional three Una Europa universities. In addition, the participation of other university staff is possible.

For this second Call for Applications, we welcome proposals from senior academic staff or senior non-academic staff.

Third parties may participate in the proposed activities; however, this will be at their own cost.

At each Una Europa university, senior academic is defined as:

- FUB – Full professors, junior professors, extraordinary professors, associate professors (Akad. Rat), junior research group leaders (Nachwuchsgruppenleiter);
- UNIBO – Full professors, Associate professors and Researchers ("Personale Strutturato" with both permanent and fixed term contracts if the contract end date covers the project duration);
- UoE - Academic staff, excluding postdoctoral, with university contracts;
- UH – Levels 3 and 4 (University lecturer and clinical instructor; University researcher, senior researcher, research coordinator and curator; Academy Research Fellows; Assistant/associate professor – tenure track; and Professor, research director and senior curator)
- JU – university lecturer (adiunkt), associate professor (profesor uczelniany), full professor (profesor);
- KUL – ZAP/promoter (<https://idp.kuleuven.be/idp/profile/SAML2/POST/SSO?execution=e1s2>);
- UCM – Full professor (Catedrático), Professor (Professor titular) and Permanent professors (Professor contratado doctor);
- Paris 1 – Professeur, Maître de Conférences, Directeur de Recherche and Chargé de Recherche.

At each Una Europa university, Senior non-academic staff is defined as:

- FUB – Directors of central facilities (ZEH), divisions (Abt.) and subdivisions (Ref., Gruppe, Team)
- UNIBO – Directors of administrative divisions (Dirigenti) and holders of second level organizational positions with managerial roles (titolari di posizioni organizzative di secondo livello con ruoli gestionali)
- UoE – Directors, managers, and professionals holding non-academic contracts which cover the duration of the proposed project
- UH – Director of Services, Director of Development, Head of Services, or Head of Development
- JU – Directors/ Heads of units/ departments/ centres/ offices/ teams and their deputies, as well as other employees working as chief or senior specialists
- KUL – Research experts, research managers, IOF managers, directors of central services.
- UCM – Civil servants ("personal funcionario") with level 26 and above (i.e. technical staff at that level, heads of service, area directors, vice-managers, manager); other working staff ("personal laboral") with equivalent level
- Paris 1 – Directeur (adjoint) de direction centrale (Head or deputy head of central facility), Chef de pôle (Head of Unit of central facility)

The seed funding should not duplicate funding that is otherwise available.

The scheme is open to all academic disciplines and fields of academic management.

Funding and financial procedures

Applicants are invited to apply for funding according to the following maximum levels:

- For projects involving 4 Una Europa partners: up to 11.000 EUR
- For projects involving 5 Una Europa partners: up to 13.000 EUR
- For projects involving 6 Una Europa partners: up to 15.000 EUR
- For projects involving 7 Una Europa partners: up to 17.000 EUR
- For projects involving all 8 Una Europa partners: up to 19.000 EUR.

The total budget for the second call for proposals is 144.000 EUR.

The distribution of budget to successful projects will be carried out in the form of lump sums, which cover travel costs, accommodation, daily allowance and organizational support. These costs are automatically calculated via the budget template provided in the application form.

In the context of the post-Corona crisis and to promote sustainability - applicants have the freedom to develop a budget plan for projects which include little or no physical mobility.

The following costs are considered ineligible for seed funding:

- Staff costs
- Subcontracting
- Publication/proofreading/translation costs
- Conference fees
- PhD workshops
- Activities duplicated by funding that is otherwise available.

Evaluation of applications

A selection committee consisting of members of all Una Europa universities will rank proposals for funding on a competitive basis. Particular attention will be given to the following criteria:

Quality (30 points)

- Quality, clearly formulated plan and goals of the envisaged project
- Innovative and interdisciplinary approach
- Strength of the team

Contribution to the goals of second call for seed funding (30 points)

- Capacity to contribute to goals of deepening cooperation between the Una Europa universities in the longer term
- Number of Una Europa partners involved (in case of equal rating of two applications, funding will be provided to the project involving more partners)
- Approach to addressing the impact and consequences of the post-Covid-19 era (in case of equal rating of two applications, funding will be provided to the project addressing post-Covid-19)

Impact (20 points)

- Capacity to attract external funding
- Capacity to involve external stakeholders
- Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals

Implementation (20 points)

- Potential to transform a well-structured budget into a realistic working plan.

The final decision-making for the funding of projects lies with the Board of Directors of Una Europa vzw.

Submission and deadlines

Proposals for the Una Europa seed funding initiative should be submitted by the project leader in English via the online application system. The application consists of an application form and endorsement letters of the respective Dean or Faculty Head or Head of administrative department, declaring support for the envisaged project. (budget, timeline...?)

The project description should be no longer than 2500 words and should include a clear description of the proposed activities, as well as the budget and timeframe for these activities. The duration of a proposed activity can be up to one year.

Applicants can access the online application form [here](#). The template for endorsement letters and the budget can be downloaded [here](#) under the related resources section.

The deadline for proposals to this second call is 15 October 2020, at 17:00 CEST.

The proposed activities should be conducted between April 2021 and March 2022.

Reporting on projects

Beneficiaries will be requested to submit a short project and financial report after conducting their activity.

Successful applicants will be provided with a template for reporting.

About Una Europa

Una Europa mission

Una Europa brings together eight leading research universities with global reputation and reach. Our mission is to create a truly European inter-university environment, where outstanding research is continuously linked to transnational learning and innovative, critical thinking.

Una Europa partners

The Una Europa partners are Freie Universität Berlin, Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna, University of Edinburgh, Helsingin Yliopisto, Uniwersytet Jagielloński w Krakowie, KU Leuven, Universidad Complutense de Madrid and Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. Together, we will create a university of the future, where our students, researchers and staff will address the challenges of the future.

Una Europa projects

Una Europa was selected among the first prestigious 'European Universities' pilots funded by the Erasmus+ programme. Our 1Europe pilot was launched in December 2019 and aims to create a single education eco-system through the development of more than 20 Joint Innovative Formats for education and mobility, covering Bachelor, Master, Doctorate and Continuous Education.

Through top-up funding from the Horizon 2020 programme, Una Europa will launch a new pilot in early 2021 to take the first steps towards creating a single research and innovation eco-system.