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| 3Spain - Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)  |

**Participating organisation: Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)**

**Indicative Budget: 300.000€**

Juan Climent (technical and administrative issues)

Tel.: +34 916037242

E-Mail: CONCERT-Japan@aei.gob.es

**Funding Programme:**

The framework for this funding action is the [*Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica, Tecnica e Innovación*](https://www.aei.gob.es/sites/default/files/page/field_file/2021-11/PEICTI_2021_2023.pdf) at national level, the call will be managed by the [Subdivisión de Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia (STRAN)](https://www.aei.gob.es/sobre-aei/organigrama/division-coordinacion-evaluacion-seguimiento-ct#programas-cientifico-tecnicos-transversales-fortalecimiento-excelencia) of the AEI.

**Instrument for funding the Spanish groups:**

The AEI funding instrument is the *Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional (PCI)* call.

Applicants are encouraged to consult the [PCI 2024-1](https://www.aei.gob.es/sites/default/files/convocatory_info/file/2024-02/PCI2024_1_fda.pdf) call text and the [PCI requirements document](https://www.aei.gob.es/sites/default/files/convocatory_info/file/2024-02/report_Resolucion-RequisitosPCI-STRAN_ene24.pdf) on the national call website, as well as check their eligibility with the National Contact Point prior to the submission.

**Project duration:** from 24 to 36 months (preferable 36 months)

**Maximum funding per project:**

The following **funding limits** (including direct + 25% indirect costs) **are** considered eligibility criteria. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared ineligible. The maximum **funding is for a 36 months project.**

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| **Maximum funding per project** | DC (€) | IC (25%) (€) | TOTAL (€) |
| One AEI applicant in the proposal | 120.000 | 30.000 | 150.000 |
| One AEI applicant in the proposal acting as Coordinator | 140.000 | 35.000 | 175.000 |

* Up to additional € 30.000 (direct costs) can be granted for the entire proposal if the work plan includes substantial experimental tasks to be carried out by the Spanish Partners, that must be clearly justified in the budget.

IMPORTANT:

* only ONE applicant asking funding for AEI is allowed per proposal,
* the **direct costs** in the application **must be rounded to the thousands.**
* these amounts refer to 3 years projects. In case of shorter projects, the amount will be adjusted accordingly.

Only R&I activities will be funded by the AEI. Entire communication work packages, without research associated, are not eligible costs for AEI.

To establish the final funding amount, the AEI will consider the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the added value of the international collaboration and the financial resources available.

**Eligibility**

The eligible beneficiaries are non-profit research organizations (such as universities, public research institutions, technological centres and other private non-profit institutions performing RDI activities in Spain), as the general requirements established for [PCI 2024-1](https://www.aei.gob.es/sites/default/files/convocatory_info/file/2024-02/PCI2024_1_fda.pdf) call. They must have been previously beneficiaries of any of the AEI calls. They have to ensure contractual relationship with the Principal Investigator (PI) during the whole duration of the project.

AEI’s applicants are strongly encouraged to include the Spanish industrial sector in the transnational consortia. Spanish Industrial partners can apply to CDTI or other regional funding agencies participating in this call, according to their eligibility rules.

* Spanish Principal Investigators (PIs) must:
* Be eligible according to the general requirements of [PCI2024-1](https://www.aei.gob.es/sites/default/files/convocatory_info/file/2024-02/PCI2024_1_fda.pdf) and must have experience as investigator (no necessarily as PIs)in projects funded by the Plan Nacional 2008-2011, the Plan Estatal I+D+i 2013-2016, Plan Estatal I+D+i 2017-2020, 2021-2023, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant national and international programmes.
* Spanish PIs must have a contractual relation with the beneficiary covering the expected total length of the project (2024 – end 2028).

**Incompatibilities: (t**hese must be taken into account when participating in different ERA-Nets or international initiatives:

* PIs must remain unchanged between pre-proposal and full-proposal of this transnational joint call, and the national PCI call.
* If the same PI applies to more than one proposal in this transnational joint call, or to other transnational call funded by the same PCI call and/or PCI calls of consecutive years, the PI will be declared eligible only in one of the proposals and will be declared ineligible in all the rest, with no possibility of changing the PI.
* A PI holding a PCI granted in the same or consecutive year, will be declared ineligible, with no possibility of changing the PI.

The AEI will avoid double funding and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded through other national or EU calls.

**Important:**

* The applicants shall include the PI’s full name and identification number as they appear in their DNI in the application form, as well as the full name of their institution in the original language and the CIF.
* Check the eligibility before sending the preproposal to avoid unwanted situations and damages to third parties.
* Submission of proposals at the national level will be required at a later stage.

**Eligible costs:**

* Only personnel costs for exclusive dedication to the project are eligible. The costs of permanent staff linked to the beneficiary entity or members of the research team will not be considered eligible costs.
* Direct costs such as current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses, coordination costs, and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.
* Indirect costs (overheads) are eligible costs (25% of total direct costs, including subcontracting).
* Subcontracting should not exceed 25% of total requested budget.

Please consult “*Artículo 8. Conceptos financiables*” in [PCI 2024-1](https://www.aei.gob.es/sites/default/files/convocatory_info/file/2024-02/PCI2024_1_fda.pdf) resolution since eligible cost will be similar.

**Further requirements:**

In addition to the national regulations, specific rules for the consortia may be applicable within the transnational call; please read carefully the Joint Call text and all the related instructions.

**Acknowledgement:**

Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge funding by the Agencia Estatal de Investigación according to AEI’s web [guidelines](https://www.aei.gob.es/ayudas-concedidas/comunicacion-publicidad-ayudas-concedidas)

**Data Protection:**

By submitting a grant application, the applicants consent to communication of the data contained in the application to other public administrations, with the aim of further processing of the data for historical, statistical or scientific purposes, within the framework of the Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, on Personal Data Protection and Guarantee of Digital Rights.

**Open Access and Open Data policy**

Applicants should comply with Open Access/Open Data specified in the respective PCI call or equivalent. The results of the funded research actions, including both the results disseminated through scientific publications and the data generated in the research, must be available in open access, with the exceptions indicated in the PCI call or equivalent.