



# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

Internationalisation and Educational Services Division  
International Services Branch  
Unit for Development Cooperation and University Networks

## CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS CO-FUNDED BY UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS

2026 edition

### Article 1 – Subject

The University of Trieste encourages intersectoral, interdisciplinary, interdepartmental and international initiatives. In line with its Strategic Plan 2023-2026 and as part of the initiatives promoted by the Centre for Research on Migration and Development Cooperation (CRMCS), the University of Trieste opens a call for international cooperation projects co-funded by university departments.

The purpose of this call is to stimulate departments to develop interdisciplinary and international partnerships across various academic disciplines related to CRMCS.

Proposals should address one of the following areas:

- a) welcoming of migrants or refugees;
- b) international cooperation;
- c) research into migration and international cooperation.

Priority should be given to projects falling within the following geographical areas that have been identified as areas of strategic interest for international cooperation for the University of Trieste:

- 1) Western Balkans;
- 2) Eastern Europe;
- 2) South America;
- 3) Horn of Africa;
- 4) Maghreb.

A total of €30,000.00 has been allocated the purposes of this call.

### Article 2 – Characteristics of the projects

The projects must have clear relevance with at least 1 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

The list of SDGs with a description of their objectives can be found [here](#).

The duration of each project may vary from 6 to 8 months. All projects must be **completed by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026**.

The project must be consistent with the chosen area and meet one of the following requirements:

1. projects related to migrants or refugees must be dedicated at least in part to a relevant country of origin or transit;
2. projects related to cooperation must be carried out at least in part in the field and in partnership with NGOs, institutions and/or third sector enterprises (including for-profit organisations) based in the country which the projects will focus on.



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Up to 5 additional points will be awarded to projects that meet one or both of the following priorities:

1. interdepartmental projects (3 points);
2. projects relating to geographical areas of strategic interest for the University of Trieste (2 points).

Both permanent teaching staff and fixed-term researchers of type A and B may propose projects for co-financing. All proposed projects must be concluded within the eventual expiry of their contract.

Formal applications, in any case, can only be submitted by the department of staff members proposing the research.

Funds must be spent within the end of the financial year 2026.

Co-funding for projects proposed by an individual applicant is capped at EUR 5,000,00.

Co-funding for projects proposed by two or more professors/researchers within the same department is capped at EUR 10,000.00.

Projects proposed by two or more professors/researchers from at least two different departments may request up to EUR 15,000.00 of co-funding. Only the leading department will actually submit the proposal.

In the case of a successful application, the department which submitted the proposal will be responsible for:

- managing the project funding and other related obligations;
- ensuring the correct use of funds for the proposed purposes and within the time frame established by this call;
- submitting financial accounts and reports for the funding received to the University's central administration.

## Article 3 – Submission of applications

Each department may submit no more than two applications through the form attached to this call (Annex 1) as the leading department. Applications must be signed by the head of the department of staff members proposing the project.

This form must be submitted along with the following documents:

- **minutes** of the Department Council meeting **approving the project**. If the scheduled council meeting does not fall within the deadline, a decree from the Head of Department;
- **a brief description of the scheduled activities** and of the objectives;
- **(in the case of projects related to cooperation) indication of the country which the projects will address;**  
or  
**(in the case of projects related to migration) indication of the countries of origin and/or transit;**
- **a financial plan (Annex 2)** indicating all costs and related activities, clearly showing the departmental funding;
- **(in case of partnerships) a manifestation of interest** from any NGOs, profit companies, and/or third sector bodies operating in the field to be involved in the project. This should be submitted as a letter and should express a clear interest in the partnership and the intention to host / support the project;



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- **(in case of more staff members involved)** a **manifestation of interest** in participating in the project activities written **by any partner professors/researchers in the working/research group** (this can be submitted as a letter or by email).

Applications must be signed by both the staff member proposing the project and their head of department and saved in pdf format. Applications complete with all the documents listed in this call must be sent to [relazioni.internazionali@amm.units.it](mailto:relazioni.internazionali@amm.units.it) **by 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 11:00**.

The subject of the email must be the following: **CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS CO-FUNDED BY UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS – 2026 edition**

## **Article 4 – Evaluation committee and evaluation criteria**

Applications will be evaluated by the University Committee for Internationalisation, appointed by the Board of Directors with No 510/2025, UniTS reference number 192281/2025.

The Committee reserves the right to cut up to 25% of the requested contribution in order to increase the number of beneficiaries. This will be done when deemed necessary, at the discretion of the Committee.

The evaluation committee will evaluate all applications on the basis of the following criteria:

- a) relevance, interdisciplinarity and originality of the proposed project, (0 to 15 points);
- b) quality of the project design and implementation, including feasibility (0 to 15 points);
- c) quality of possible partnerships (0 to 10 points);
- d) impact and sustainability (0 to 10 points);
- e) priority given according to Article 2 of this call (5 points).

Applications scoring more than 24 points are eligible for funding.

All eligible projects will be submitted to the academic bodies of the University of Trieste for their approval.

After the academic bodies have approved the selection results, if additional funds are available or in case of withdrawal by any funded projects, eligible proposals may be considered for funding following the order of ranking originally established by the University Committee for Internationalisation.

## **Article 5 – Project development and financial reporting**

After the academic bodies have approved the selection results, the University will transfer the funds to the selected department(s), which shall only use them for the purposes established by this call.

At the end of the project, and in any case **no later than 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026**, the departments involved will submit the following to the Unit for Development Cooperation and University Networks:

- an informal copy of all the receipted expenses;
- a report on the activities carried out by the relevant professor(s)/researcher(s);
- and a detailed report on how the allocated funds have been used.

## **Article 6 – Advertising and conclusion of proceedings**

This call and the selection results will be published on the [University webpage dedicated to International Cooperation](#).



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For any further information or clarification please contact the Unit for Development Cooperation and University Networks: [relazioni.internazionali@amm.units.it](mailto:relazioni.internazionali@amm.units.it)

## **Article 7 – Processing of personal data**

Pursuant to EU Regulation No 679/2016 – General Data Protection Regulation, the University undertakes to respect the confidential nature of the information provided by candidates. All data provided will be processed only for purposes related to this selection procedure and the eventual management of an applicant's relationship with the University, in compliance with the provisions in force.

## **Article 8 – Staff member in charge of the administrative procedure and contacts**

Pursuant to Italian Law No 241 of 7 August 1990, the member of staff in charge of this administrative procedure for the University of Trieste, is Carla Savastano, Head of the Unit for Development Cooperation and University Networks.

## **Article 9 – Referral clause**

The English version of this call is provided for information purposes only. For the application and resolution of any dispute and for any legal effect, the Italian version shall prevail.

For matters not covered by this call, please refer to the Regulation of the University of Trieste on this matter and to the Italian laws in force.

The Rector

Prof. Donata Vianelli



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**Annex 1**  
(to be produced on the relevant department's headed paper)

**SUBJECT: Application for international cooperation/public engagement projects co-funded by UniTS departments – 2026 edition**

**Lead applicant:**

**Lead applicant's department:**

**Individual project:** Yes No

**Interdepartmental project:** Yes No

Please indicate the names of any staff members involved and their respective departments:

**Type of project** (tick the chosen area):

- A. welcoming of migrants or refugees;
- B. international cooperation;
- C. research into migration and international cooperation.

**Title of the project:**

**Duration:**

Keywords (max 5):

**Country of focus** (in the case of projects related to cooperation) or **country of origin or transit** (in the case of projects related to migration):

**Brief description of the activities**, with particular reference to the time span and expected results (max 2500 characters):

**Brief description of any external partner(s)** and their role (max 1500 characters):

**UN Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):**

(please indicate the UN 2030 Agenda SDG under which the project falls)

Lead applicant  
(full name)

Head of Department

(signature)

(signature)



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**Annex 2**  
**(to be produced on the relevant department's headed paper)**

## Financial Plan

Department co-funding:  
(distribution of man-hours of all staff involved in the project and any other contributions. \*There is no fixed ratio for co-funding)

Eligible costs:

Travel for work purposes:

Materials:

Purchase of dedicated ICT hardware and software:

Other (consultants and any other expenses):

Knowledge dissemination and/or publications

Department's share of any funding:

Lead applicant  
(full name)

(signature)

Head of Department

(signature)