

The University of Manchester-Tel Aviv University 2022 Call for Joint Research Proposals

In 2020, The University of Manchester (UoM) and Tel Aviv University (TAU) launched a joint research fund to support the development of research collaboration between the two institutions. In the first round, the fund supported 5 projects, details of which can be found [here](#). This second call seeks to encourage new initiatives with a focus on high-quality research activities that include Early Career Researchers (ECRs).

The Fund is open to applications from all research areas. The overall aim of the fund is to develop long-term academic links and to position principal investigators (PIs) to apply for external funding to support the next phase of their joint research.

Proposals will be assessed and recommended for selection by a panel composed of members of both universities.

Projects

Proposals may include targeted research support such as joint workshops, researcher exchanges, and the formation or development of a collaborative network. To be eligible, a proposal must include a PI from UoM and TAU, and at least one other researcher on each team. We encourage early career researchers to apply.

The funding envelope comprises up to £40,000 from UoM and ILS 172,000 from TAU. We aim to fund between 5-8 projects depending on the quality of applications received.

The fund is open to proposals across all research areas. Projects will be funded for a period of 18 months starting from August 2022. There is flexibility on start dates but we would expect all projects to be underway by October 2022 at the latest.

Proposals with the potential for sustainability beyond the initial funding period are encouraged.

Costs and proposal

Proposals may include workshops (face-to-face and virtual), symposia, staff exchanges, research seminars/presentations and formation or development of a collaborative network.

The funding provided is intended to support expenses, including but not limited to costs of travel between the institutions, and necessary related consumables. Details of eligible and ineligible costs are detailed in the table below.

Eligible Costs	Ineligible costs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel costs including flights, hotels and subsistence • Directly incurred staff e.g. Research Assistant (up to a maximum of 20% of the budget) • Research costs including consumables • Costs associated with organising workshops and meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement research/teaching costs • Directly allocated costs including applicants' time • Indirect costs/estates costs • Equipment • Scholarships • Conference attendance • Tuition fees • Honoraria

Each partner should pay its own costs and there can be no transfer of funds between institutions. For example, travel costs for Manchester staff should be in the Manchester budget, costs for a workshop taking place in Tel Aviv should be allocated in the TAU budget.

Eligibility

UoM: Academic staff members from all disciplines and at all levels are welcome to apply. The lead applicant must be a permanent member of staff. We encourage early career researchers to apply. Post-doctoral staff are eligible to apply on the condition that the end of their post-doctoral contract is after the end of the proposed project. Emeritus and honorary staff are not eligible to apply as PI but may be members of the project team.

TAU: Proposals can be submitted by tenured or tenure-track faculty members of TAU. The PI must be a regular, full-time faculty member at TAU.

Funding

We expect to support up to 8 projects in this round for a funding period of 18 months. Recipients will be awarded up to:

- 5k GBP from Manchester to support Manchester applicants and
- 21500 NIS from TAU to support TAU applicants.

Each institution will pay funds directly to its researchers. Approval of expenditure will be governed by each university for the portion of funding provided.

Timeline

Call for proposals opens	Monday 25 th April
Deadline for submission	Thursday 19 th May
Applicants notified	Friday 10 th June
Project start date	October 2022 at the latest

How to Apply

This is a joint call and a single application should be submitted online using [SmartSurvey](#). The form can be previewed here. Applicants can use the 'save and continue' feature to save the proposal and continue later (a link is sent to the applicant's email address).

The full proposal is comprised of the following elements:

- i. Administrative Details - includes the lead faculty members and affiliations from each institution with contact details.
- ii. Project Proposal which includes the following information:
 - Abstract that describes the project (150 words)
 - Description of the planned activities including timeline (200 words).
 - Collaborator complementarity (250 words) – a description of how the proposed activities combine mutual areas of interest and strength and the added value of these combined expertise.
 - Impact (2x 250 words)
 - Project Impact - Description of the expected academic gains for the project as a result of the proposed cooperation and mobility, and the identification of corresponding performance indicators e.g. a publication, blog, meeting report etc.
 - Early career and graduate researcher involvement: Any opportunities for their engagement and anticipated benefits to the project and the early career and graduate researchers themselves, as applicable.
 - Capacity for Future Collaboration (250 words) - A description of the potential future collaborations and outcomes that will be possible as a result of having undertaken the current collaboration. For example: joint publications, joint supervision of graduate researchers, joint teaching, joint policy documents, and joint funding applications.
 - Budget - A breakdown of the cost of the activity e.g. flights, travel, hotels etc.
 - Project Team - Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae of the team members with a selected list of publications

Evaluation Criteria

A joint review panel will assess each proposal according to the academic merit and the following criteria:

- **Project design and rationale:** How clearly presented and justified is the basis for, and design of, the Project? How do the proposed activities assist with establishing new and growing emerging research collaborations? What are the anticipated benefits of involving ECRs and/or graduate researchers? (20%)
- **Collaborator complementarity:** What is the added value of the new or emerging collaboration? How do the proposed activities combine mutual areas of interest and strength? (30%)
- **Potential impact:** What desired outcomes do the planned activities set out to achieve? What are the anticipated benefits of the activities to local or international communities? (20%)
- **Capacity for future collaboration/funding:** What is the potential for this project to foster ongoing collaboration, and through what mechanism(s)? How well does the proposed collaboration plan to access external funding? (30%)

Manchester collaborators will need to include a letter of support from their Head of Department/Research Domain which includes an explanation of how the project aligns with their Faculty's research strategy. A fEC costing is not required. The budget section of the application is straightforward and should not require input from Research Services teams. If however, you feel you need support then please follow local School procedures for submitting grant applications.

Reporting After Project Completion

All awardees must, as a condition of receiving an award under this call, complete a narrative report that describes the outcomes, nature of collaboration, project impact, trainee involvement and opportunities for future collaboration that evolved from their project.

Information about this Call

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