

Arqus partnership call for Twinning activities

1. Call objectives

Arqus Twinning aims to strengthen subject-related collaboration of staff and students and create possibilities to carry out joint learning and teaching activities through piloting short-term mobility schemes with a priority in Social Sciences & Humanities (SSH) and STEM disciplines.

Twinning is perceived as mobility of a team, consisting of 1 teacher and 3-6 students, moving to another partner institution within the same subject area. Length of the visit is 3-5 days (+2 additional days for travel).

2. Background of the call and examples of Twinning activities

The Arqus European University Alliance brings together the universities of Bergen, Granada, Graz, Leipzig, Lyon, Padova and Vilnius. The Alliance's aim is to respond to the societal challenges and to advance towards deeper European integration. Twinning activities are foreseen in order to contribute to the achievement of the Alliance's objectives. Detailed information about it is provided on [the webpage](#).

Twinning activities may vary in their mode and type. They may include internships, group trips, participation in international contests, joint workshops, summer schools, group projects, etc. Twinning activities might be implemented through regular (physical) or blended Twinning activities.

Examples of possible Twinning activities:

1. 6 students of sociology and their teacher from Bergen travel to Granada for 5 days to have workshops with their counterparts and compare societal interactions in different countries.
2. Students of a business administration programme in Vilnius are working virtually on a common practical project together with students from Leipzig (blended Twinning activity). At the end of the project, the teacher from Vilnius travels to Leipzig for 3 days with 6 students to complete and present results of the project to a business company.

3. Finance of Twinning activities

The Alliance has agreed on general financial terms upon which the calculations of travel and subsistence costs are made. The maximum project funded grant may be awarded for a group consisting of 1 teacher and 6 students:

- Travel costs: 400 EUR per person.
- Individual support: 120 EUR per day, covering the whole duration of visit (3-5 days+2 additional days for travel (days of travel will be covered partially - 50%)).

3. Application deadlines and procedures

Academics can apply for Twinning activities by submitting their applications to Arqus Twinning contact person of each University (contacts below) by the following dates:

- The call is open 15th October, 2020 - 31st December, 2020;

- Start of period eligible for Twinning visits: February, 2021;
- End of period eligible for Twinning visits: end of September, 2022.

4. **Selection criteria:**

1. Applications in Social Sciences & Humanities (SSH) and STEM disciplines are prioritised. Applications from other disciplines will be considered too;
2. Sustainability of the action (prior joint activities with host university and/or further and follow-up activities after the Twinning); benefit of the activities to sending and receiving institutions;
3. Teaching experience of the applicant.

Grant notification will be provided to applicants by 31st of January, 2021. If your application is approved, funding is earmarked for use until the end September of 2022. If scheduled visits need to be postponed due to the circumstances, the applicant must inform the responsible coordinator no later than 1 week prior to the scheduled visit.

After the visit, applicants need to report on the final results of their Twinning visit compared to the aims stated in the application. The report should be submitted within 1 month after the Twinning visit to the responsible coordinator of University (contacts below).

5. **Contact information**

In case of any questions related to Twinning activities, please, contact the local coordinator of each University:

University of Bergen	Kristin Torp Skogedal, Institutional Erasmus Coordinator Kristin.Skogedal@uib.no , +4755589026
University of Graz	Diana Afrashteh, Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator diana.afrashteh@uni-graz.at , +43 316 380 1247
University of Granada	Wenceslao Martín Rosales, Academic Director for Internationalization diracademic@ugr.es , 958248083
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University of Lyon	Gustavo Insaurralde, Head of International Cooperation Unit (UJM) gustavo.daniel.insaurralde@univ-st-etienne.fr , +33477437975
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