

Dear colleagues,
we wish to draw your attention to the ***International Multilateral Partnerships for Resilient Education and Science System in Ukraine (IMPRESS-U)*** program in which National Science Centre participates as one of the partner institutions.

The goals of the partnership initiative are to support excellence in science and engineering research, education, innovation through international collaboration as well as promote and catalyze integration of Ukrainian researchers in the global research community.

The IMPRESS-U call for proposals is addressed at research teams from Poland which will conduct joint research together with research teams from **Ukraine and the United States (optionally from Lithuania, Latvia and/or Estonia)** within the framework of a joint research project.

The relevant partner institutions to which foreign research teams will be able to apply for co-financing of joint projects are:

National Science Foundation, NSF (US) – the lead agency, responsible for the substantive assessment of applications

US National Academy of Sciences (US NAS) - for researchers from Ukraine

Research Council of Lithuania (LMT)

Latvian Council of Science (LCS)

Estonian Research Council (ETAG).

The call for proposals at the lead agency is open between 2 August 2023 and 31 December 2025.

All proposals and supplemental funding requests are expected to be focused on a cutting-edge science, engineering, education, or technical innovation topic. Each research team submitting a proposal or supplemental funding request must engage researchers from the U.S., Ukraine, and at least one other country involved in this initiative. An eligible Ukrainian researcher may participate in only one submitted proposal or supplemental funding request. Ukrainian researchers may propose a long- or short-term stay at a host institution abroad and/or short-term visits to research laboratories of partner countries as feasible and appropriate. Of special interest are research teams that engage students and early career researchers.

The Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE) of the National Science Foundation (NSF) will accept EARly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) proposals and supplemental funding requests to existing NSF awards. EAGER proposals should leverage international collaboration to support exploratory work in its early stages on untested, but potentially transformative, research ideas or approaches. Principal Investigators (PIs) of existing NSF awards may be eligible to submit a supplemental funding request to expand their project to include collaboration with international researchers. EAGER proposals must be submitted by eligible organizations and must include international collaboration as an integral part of the work. NSF encourages proposals from diverse teams. Proposals from early career investigators are especially welcome.

Polish researchers who are part of a collaborative team applying for **EAGER grants** within the IMPRESS-U initiative, are eligible for funding from National Science Centre of Poland (NCN). The applications should be submitted in English to NCN through <https://osf.opi.org.pl> as soon as possible following submission of the joint proposal to the lead agency, within 7 calendar days.

The call announcement, together with call documents and guidelines for applicants, is available at:

In Polish: <https://ncn.gov.pl/ogloszenia/konkursy/impress-u>

In English: <https://www.ncn.gov.pl/en/ogloszenia/konkursy/impress-u>

Under the IMPRESS-U scheme, Polish researchers who are members of the team seeking **International Supplements funding** for projects already underway at the NSF can only apply for funding from the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA). Funding proposals submitted to the NAWA in English via <https://programs.nawa.gov.pl>.

The Polish part of the project must be performed over a period of **24 months**. The duration of the foreign project parts must be the same as the duration of the Polish project parts.

The call is addressed at researchers who are at least PhD holders.

Each research team involved in a project must name its Principal Investigator, whereas the Polish part of the project must be managed by a member of the Polish research team identified in the proposal as the PI. The PI of the foreign research team must meet the requirements of the respective research-funding partner agency.

The terms of the call do not specify the number of Polish research team members. Apart from the principal investigator, research tasks in the project may also be performed by co-investigators, including students and PhD students as well as post-docs.

Restrictions to submitting NCN proposals are laid down in Chapter III of the Regulations.

In Polish: https://www.ncn.gov.pl/sites/default/files/pliki/uchwaly-rady/2023/uchwala65_2023-zal1.pdf

In English: https://www.ncn.gov.pl/sites/default/files/pliki/uchwaly-rady/2023/uchwala65_2023-zal1_ang.pdf

The NCN Council has decided to allocate 10,000,000 PLN to fund research projects carried out by Polish research teams under the IMPRESS-U scheme.

The call may be suspended if the total amount of funds allocated by the NCN Council for projects performed by the Polish research teams under IMPRESS-U has been depleted or if the total amount of funds set by any partner institution has been depleted.

Looking for partners and collaborators: partnership portal is available at
<https://www2.ncn.gov.pl/partners/impressu/>.