



**GROWING IDEAS
THROUGH GLOBAL NETWORKING**

What is the COST Programme?

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is an EU-funded programme that enables researchers and innovators to set up interdisciplinary research networks in Europe and beyond. We support the creation of platforms and international scientific networking. COST does not fund research itself but supports networking activities carried out within COST Actions.

The networks, called COST Actions, receive funding to organise conferences, meetings, training schools, short scientific missions and other networking on a wide range of scientific topics.

By creating open spaces where people and ideas can grow, we unlock the full potential of science.

COST invites researchers from all over the world to form networks of researchers. These are formed by submitting proposals for COST Actions in response to an ongoing Open Call, or by joining ongoing, already funded COST Actions, whatever their field of interest.

COST is proud to serve the global networking of researchers. Our bottom-up networks have proven to be fertile ground for researchers to collaborate with their peers from Europe and beyond. The links and collaborations established through COST are important building blocks of science diplomacy and scientific excellence. These activities are characterised by the free circulation of knowledge and people, which is how COST makes a valuable contribution to the global advancement of science.

"Networking brings up benefits such as tolerance, diversity, friendship, and faith on top of all the sociological advantages of working with scientists from other continents."

**Prof. Luciano Rezzolla - Goethe University,
Chair of Action NewCompStar**

"With global collaboration we can address diverse privacy concerns, ensure adherence to international standards, and create trustworthy AAL technologies that cater to the needs of users across different regions."

**Dr Liane Colonna - the Swedish Law and Informatics
Research Institute, Vice Chair of Action GoodBrother**



What is COST Action?

Since its creation, COST has operated one main instrument, the COST Action.

A COST ACTION IS A NETWORK:

- bringing together researchers and innovators
- collaborating in fields of science and technology of common interest to at least seven COST Members/ Cooperating Member* and additional partners from non-COST members
- based on a joint work programme lasting four years
- answering to the COST Open Call for proposals.

*See pages 6 and 7.

A COST ACTION IS OPEN TO:

- all fields of science and technology (including interdisciplinary and new emerging fields)
- all types of institutions (academia, public institutions, SME/industry, NGO, European/ international organisations, etc.)
- all career stages (both young and experienced researchers and innovators)
- all COST Members, as well as COST Near Neighbour Countries* and Third States (International Partner Countries)*.

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION:

Scientific: work on emerging scientific topics, maximising the production of new knowledge and breakthrough discoveries, international recognition, co-publication, access to research infrastructure including databases.

Networking: joint projects, identification of potential partners for future collaboration.

Mobility, visibility.

Career advancement and opportunities for training.

Financial support: COST Near Neighbour Countries* are eligible for COST funding, Third States* have limited financial support, a COST Partner Member* provides national funding.



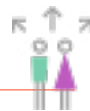
Networking tools

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES



Meetings are organised by COST Action Management Committees in any COST Member State joining the network. They may be open to the wider community and provide opportunities to enhance the COST Action's visibility.

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES



COST encourages and supports Action participants to disseminate the results of their research to other COST networks, the wider scientific community, policymakers, the media, and society at large, through publications, on-line media, press releases, events, success stories, etc.

TRAINING SCHOOLS



Training schools offer intensive training on an Action topic at the premises of one of the Action participants.

CONFERENCE GRANTS



These grants are aimed at Action participants and in particular at young researchers from Inclusiveness Target Countries (less research intensive countries). They help individuals attend beneficial international conferences that are not organised by COST Actions.

SHORT-TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS (STSMS)



These scientific missions allow researchers involved in a COST Action to visit an institution or laboratory in any country in the world.

VIRTUAL MOBILITY GRANTS



Virtual Mobility consists of a collaboration in a virtual setting among researchers or innovators within the COST Action, to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, etc.



Who can participate?

Researchers and innovators from research performing organisations, public and private institutions, NGOs, industry and SMEs.

COST Actions are open to all participants, not only to COST Full Members but also to peers from around the world.

Find out what opportunities are available depending on your location: [Am I eligible?](#)



How can international researchers participate?



Join a running COST Action:

- Become a Working Group member
- Host a Short Term Scientific Mission
- Be a Trainer/ Trainee of a Training School
- Attendee of a workshop or conference
- Be an invited speaker

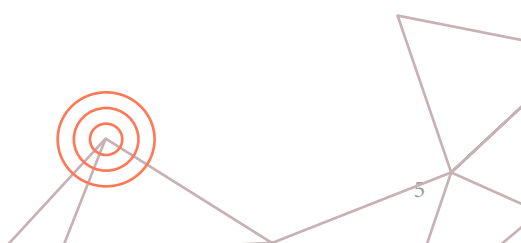
Become an expert:

- Evaluate proposals submitted to the COST Open Call
- Assess progress of running COST Actions

Become a member of a proposing team for a new COST Action:

Individuals from non-COST countries cannot be a main proposer but they can be included as secondary proposers at the submission stage.

[Documents & Guidelines](#)



Programme outreach

41 COST Members

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, The Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom.

COST Near Neighbour Countries

Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus¹, Egypt, Faroe Islands, Jordan, Kosovo*, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine**, Russia¹, Syria, Tunisia.

Third States (International Partner Countries)

Third States are countries from any of the seven continents, Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, and Australia, that are not included in the lists of COST Members or COST Near Neighbourhood Countries.

1 Cooperating Member: Israel

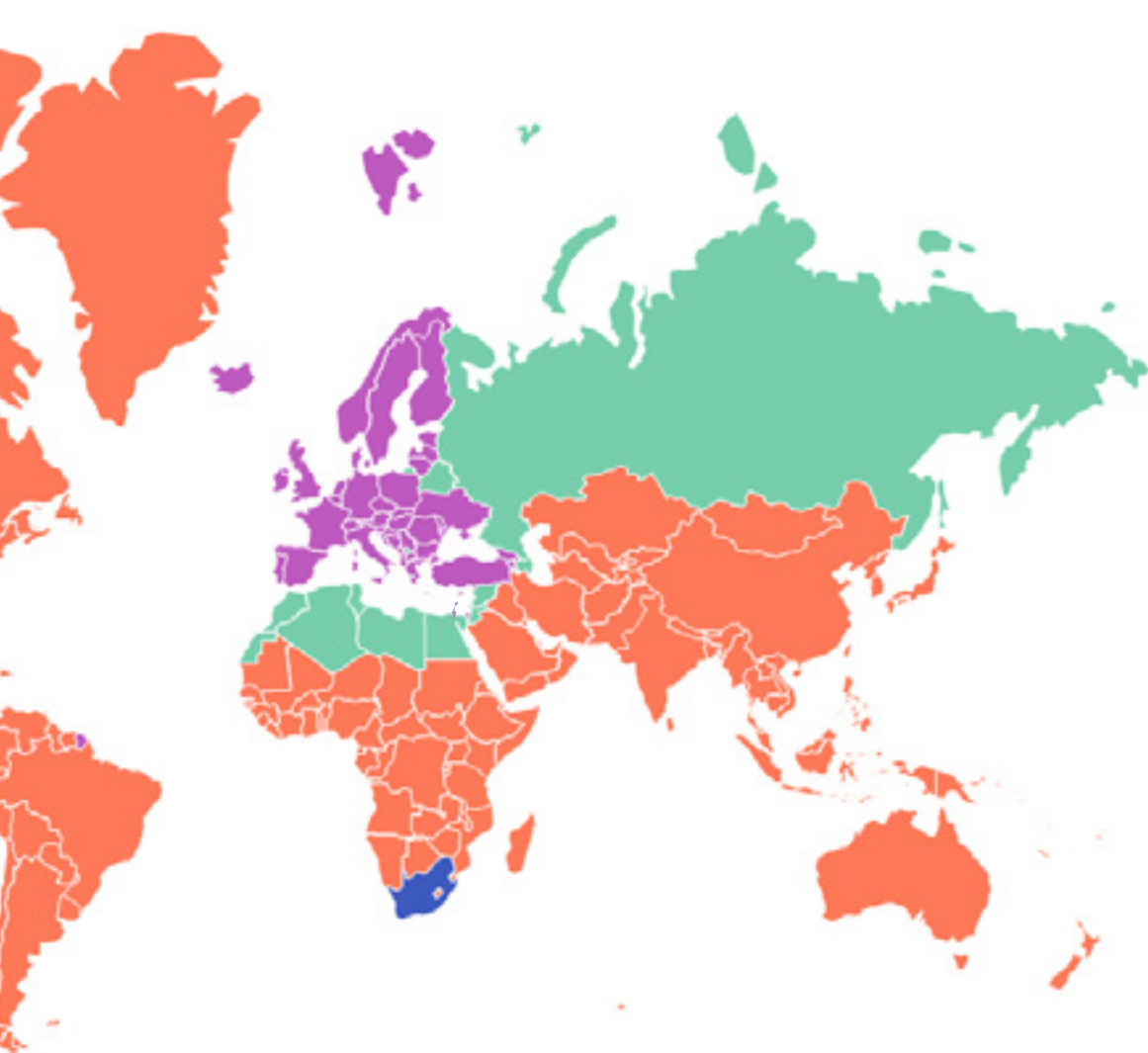
1 Partner Member: South Africa

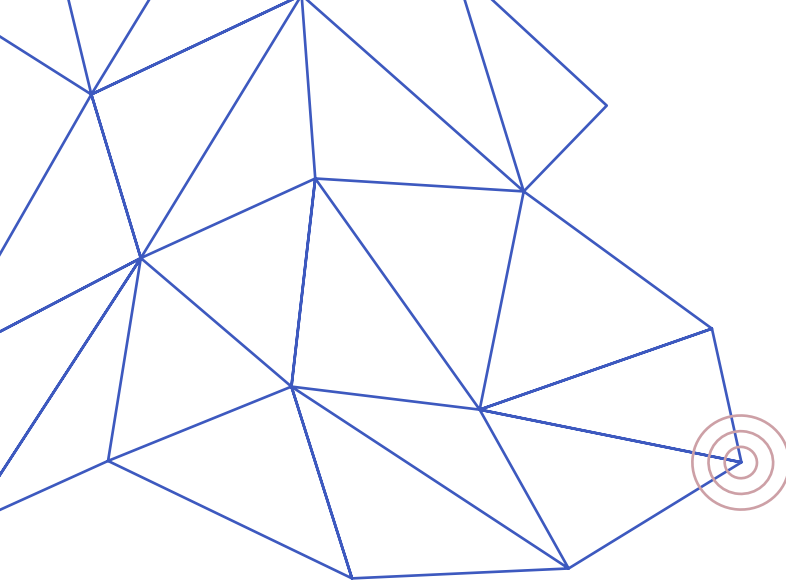


^{*}This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

^{**} This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the EU Member States on this issue.

¹ As of 6 May 2022 until further notice, measures are taken to suspend cooperation with Russia and as of 23 March 2023 until further notice, measures are taken to suspend cooperation with Belarus, and non government-controlled territories of Ukraine, for the execution of the COST Actions and COST activities. Amongst these measures, participation and eligibility of COST Action participants affiliated to a legal entity established in Russia, Belarus, and non government-controlled territories of Ukraine are suspended for all COST Actions and activities.





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