

**Resolution by the Director of the Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia de la Universitat de Barcelona (IN2UB), 2022, by which a call of three Multidisciplinary Research Grants by the l'IN2UB (Call ART 2022) is launched**

The goal of this program is to promote collaborations in **multidisciplinary research among the members of the IN2UB**, belonging to different research groups and areas of these defined in the organization (or two different Faculties), and to support these initiatives by funding three of the resulting research projects.

The funding for each project will be 8.000EUR. It will be available for use from the moment that the economic transfer to the grantees is made (during the third semester of the year 2022) and until December 15<sup>th</sup> of 2023. The execution of the project (which will coincide with the duration of it) starts on the day after the resolution of the call takes place.

Therefore, and in consideration of the prerogatives accorded to me by law:

**I RESOLVE:**

**First.-** To open the call of three Multidisciplinary Research Grants (ART), 2022 call, regulated as described in the annexed document.

**Second.-** That the actual allocation of the grants is conditioned to the existence of the adequate and sufficient funds, consisting in 8.000EUR per project. Therefore, a maximum total of 24.000EUR spending is expected, the necessary credit having been reserved to meet the obligations arising from this call, from the budget of IN2UB, budget: D/687000300/R2021G/G00.

**Third.-** To publish this resolution and its annexed regulations at the official webpage of the IN2UB and to communicate them to the researchers from the Institute.

Dr. Guillem Aromí Bedmar

-Director of IN2UB-

Signature on behalf of the Chancellor through the resolution of March 28<sup>th</sup> of 2008.

Barcelona, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

Contra aquesta resolució, que esgota la via administrativa, independentment de la seva immediata executivitat, els interessats legítims poden interposar recurs contenciós administratiu davant del Jutjat Contenciós Administratiu de Barcelona, d'acord amb l'art. 8 de la Llei 29/1998, de 13 de juliol, reguladora de la jurisdicció contenciosa administrativa. El recurs es podrà interposar en el termini de dos mesos, a comptar des de l'endemà de la notificació de la resolució, segons el que estableix l'article 46 de l'esmentada Llei.

No obstant, es podrà, potestativament, interposar recurs de reposició en el termini d'un mes, a comptar des del dia següent al de la notificació d'aquesta resolució, de conformitat amb l'article 123 i següents de la Llei 39/2015, d'1 d'octubre, del Procediment Administratiu Comú de les Administracions Públiques. Cas d'interposar aquest, els interessats legítims no podran presentar el recurs contenciós administratiu fins que sigui resolt expressament o s'hagi produït la desestimació presumpta del recurs de reposició.

Altrament, els interessats podran interposar qualsevol altre recurs que creguin convenient en defensa dels seus drets.

## ANNEX

### Regulations of the Call

#### 1. Objective of the Call.

**1.1.** The objective of the present call is to stimulate multidisciplinary research collaborations among the members of the IN2UB as well as enhancing the main strategic research goals of the institute. The two main areas of interest of the IN2UB are Human health through personalized medicine and theranostics and Environmental Nanotechnology. Therefore, this call will prioritize proposals that strengthen the strategic plan of the Institute, but not excluding other proposals. The six specific Research Lines (RLs) presented below will serve to enhance the two main flagship themes of the IN2UB: Biophysics and Biomechanics, Modelling, Simulation and Nanoscopic Methods, Nanopharmacy and Nanomedicine, Supramolecular Chemistry for Nanomedicine, Nanodevice Fabrication, Photo-electrocatalytic CO<sub>2</sub> reduction.

It is sought to promote the preparation of innovative multidisciplinary research projects, preferably to enhance the two flagship lines of the Institute, and thereby, to favour interactions among different groups of different research areas of the IN2UB as outlined at the website of the Institute on the day of publishing this call. It is thus mandatory that the projects are carried out by at least **two different IN2UB groups** from two different research areas of these defined at the Institute (or different Faculties), with significant contribution from both groups. This call also aims at making a positive impact on the CV of the young IN2UB researchers.

**1.2.** In this call, maximum priority shall be given to eligible proposals by applicants that have never led an ART Grant before. However, the possibility to re-apply is given to grantees from calls from 2018 to 2020 (except for those who have not completed and/or satisfactory justified the grant from any previous call). Grantees from 2021 are not able to apply for this 2022 call. Thus, if the number of eligible proposals from novel applicants is below three, proposals from eligible 2018 to 2020 previous grantees will be considered.

**1.3.** The maximum funding is 8.000EUR per project, available from the moment when the transfer has been made effective to the beneficiaries (during last 2022 trimester) until the 15<sup>th</sup> December of 2023. The funding shall be spent on small equipment, laboratory materials and up to 15% for outreach expenses (including the attendance to congresses or publication fees), always in relation to the project. It cannot be used to hire staff or on salary complements. A maximum expenditure of 24.000EUR is expected, always conditioned to budgeted availability. The funding will be charged to the budgeted allocation D/687000300/R2021G/G00, belonging to the general allowance of the IN2UB for the year 2022. The period for spending the fund will be determined upon the resolution of the call and the expenditure will be managed at the research office or the office of economic management of the project's IP. For projects with two IP's, the managing will be made from only one office, as decided by the research team awarded. The IP (responsible of the credit awarded) and the head of the research group (section 2.4) have to be from the same department. Permission requests for any extension approval (section 2.8) will be managed from the offices mentioned above.

#### 2. Beneficiaries

**2.1.** Only IN2UB members can be beneficiaries of this call, and therefore, IP of the grant.

**2.2.** The projects will be led by one or two principal investigators (IPs), only if they belong to two different research groups from two different research areas of these defined at the IN2UB (or two different Faculties).

**2.3.** To apply as IP, the IN2UB researchers must hold a doctor degree and be listed at the IN2UB census, at the time of publishing this call, as,

- Postdoctoral researchers with non-permanent contract through the UB, the FBG or CIBER.
- PDI professors of the UB with non-permanent contract with full time dedication.
- PDI professors of the UB with permanent contract after January 1<sup>st</sup> 2017.

Any contract typology other than those mentioned above is not applicable.

It is required to apply for this call not to have been PI of any competitive research project or grant for an amount equal or superior to that of the projects of the present call (with the exception of the IN2UB ART grants). The candidates need to enclose a signed document stating that they fulfill this requirement.

The project must be multidisciplinary, therefore, at least two different groups from different research areas of these defined at the IN2UB (or two different Faculties) must participate, according to the information posted at the website of the Institute on the date of publishing this call.

**2.4.** If the contract of an IP expires before the end of the grant (15<sup>th</sup> December 2023) the head of the research group, who also has to be listed at the IN2UB census at the time of publishing this call, must engage through a signed declaration to guarantee the pursuit of the goals of the project. This will be done according to the spirit of the project granted. Applicants responsible for the project (the IPs) must certify a contractual relationship within the IN2UB research group at the time of acceptance.

**2.5.** IPs having held an ART grant from the 2021 call, holding an active grant or one not satisfactory yet justified will not be able to apply for the present call.

**2.6.** The **research team** of the project will be specified at the application, and it will be composed of the IPs and the remainder of the researchers that will participate. The number of team members is not limited and must belong to groups of at least two different research areas from the IN2UB (or two different Faculties).

**2.7.** If any of the IPs fail to comply with any of the requirements at any time during the duration of the project, he/she needs to communicate the new condition to the IN2UB Director, who shall terminate the grant immediately, unless it is advisable to maintain the grant for justified reasons.

**2.8.** Applications to extend the project, which may be made from the moment of the award granting until December 1<sup>st</sup> 2023, must be communicated to the Director, who will approve the extension if the duly justified circumstances recommend it. Any approved extension will be managed from the office where the grant is awarded. It should be noticed that extensions may have to be managed through an exceptional credit incorporation, which may compromise the budgeted in part or in its totality. The Institute will not be responsible if the budget is not fully recovered. Any extension must be ended before the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2024, otherwise the remaining

budget will be refunded to the Institute. During the extension, the IP(s) must guarantee a contractual relationship within the IN2UB research group. But if the contract(s) finishes before, the head of the research group, will engage through a signed declaration to guarantee the completion of the project, in the same terms described at section 2.4. Only one extension will be permitted for each grant.

### 3. Applications and Documents

**3.1.** The applications must comply to the normalized model and must be addressed to the Director of l'IN2UB. The normalized formed and the regulations may be downloaded from the web page of the IN2UB.

**3.2.** The application must be accompanied by the following documents:

**a) *Curriculum vitae*** of the IP(s), which must be 4 pages long or less and produced in English, preferably using the model of the abbreviated CV of the Spanish Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación. At least one IP must apply and lead the project, while the participation of 2 groups from two different research areas of the Institute (or two different Faculties) is necessary.

**b) Project.** The project must be written in English and will be no more than 4 pages long (Font: Arial 10 pt. Interline space: multiple 1.25), featuring the following sections:

- Title/Key Words
- Summary (maximum of 250 words)
- Introduction, with a state of the art description and explanation of the subject relevance.

(The above three sections must take maximum one page)

- Originality and relevance, explaining the interest of the multidisciplinary collaboration and indicate, if applicable, the research lines to enhance one of the Flagships of the Institute (see 1.1) (maximum one page)
- Objectives, working plan and chronology (maximum one page)
- Composition of the team, outlining the tasks assigned to each member. The research groups and IN2UB areas involved must be specified (at least two different areas or two different Faculties). This must take maximum ½ page.
- Economic budgeted (maximum ½ page)

**c)** Signed declaration stating the candidate(s) has not been IP of another competitive grant as specified above (section 2.3).

**d)** A copy of the current work contract and, if necessary, commitment by the head of the research group (as described in 2.4) to pursue the goals of the project if the contract of the applicant expires before the end of the duration of the project (as indicated in point 2.4). The copy of the contract is not necessary for PDI professors of the UB with permanent contract after January 1<sup>st</sup> 2017

**e)** If the proposal includes beneficiaries that are grantees of a previous ART call (2018-2020), a copy of the proposal presented in that call must be included.

**3.3.** Commitment by each of the head of the research group (as described in 2.4), approving the proposal presented in the call.

**3.4.** The application form, together with all the accompanying documents must be sent through the Form provided in section 4.

#### **4. Application Deadline**

**4.1.** Applications may be submitted from the day following the publication of the call until May 31<sup>st</sup> at 14h through the following **FORM**. The reference code (RC) of the application will be sent once the form is completed, within up to five working days.

**4.2.** After the submission's deadline, and within a period of ten working days, a list of preliminary admitted and excluded proposals will be posted at the official web page of the IN2UB, indicating the reasons of exclusion.

**4.3.** In case that a proposal presents a form defect, is not complete or lacks any of the required documents (with the exception of the **Curriculum Vitae**, which cannot be amended and failure to present it entails direct exclusion), the affected proposers will be requested to provide explanations, amendments or missing documents within a period of ten working days. If this request is not satisfied, it will be understood that the application has been waived. Amendments and allegations will also be submitted through a form that will be enabled.

#### **5. Evaluation**

**5.1.** The proposals will be evaluated by a Scientific Evaluation Committee named by the IN2UB Director, consisting of an odd number of members. The threshold for a proposal to be eligible is 60% of the maximum marks. The best three proposals will be retained.

##### **5.2. Evaluation Criteria:**

**a)** Each PI's CV will be marked with a maximum of 10 points. The following merits will be considered: peer reviewed publications, books, communications to congresses, participation in competitive and non-competitive projects, research stays at other institutions, thesis and master supervisions, patents and outreach activities (other relevant merits may be considered). In case that there are 2 PI's, an average of both CVs will be made.

**b)** The project will be marked with a maximum of 10 points:

**b.1)** The quality of the project will be evaluated; in particular, multidisciplinary, originality, innovation character, a proportionate distribution of tasks among the participating groups. The following items may be considered for the evaluation (up to a total of 10 points):

- Introduction; state of the art and interest of the subject
- Originality and relevance
- Multidisciplinary
- Objectives; the working plan and chronology

**b.2)** Proposals addressed to strengthen the strategic research lines of the Institute will be especially valued (see 1.1).

**b.3)** Maximum priority will be given to those applications submitted by PIs in which none of them has ever been PI from previous granted an ART project from 2018-2020 (point 1.2).

**5.3.** During the evaluation, the commission could require further information, which the applicants must give. If this request is not satisfied in ten working days, it will be understood that the application has been waived.

## **6. Resolution and Grant Allocation**

**6.1.** The evaluation performed by Scientific Evaluation Committee will be communicated to the Director de l'IN2UB.

**6.2.** The resolution of the call corresponds to the Director. It will be published on the web page of the IN2UB and it will be communicated to the beneficiaries, who will have ten working days to accept the grant. The beneficiaries will receive a certificate of the grant award.

**6.3.** The maximum delay for the resolution of the call will be four months from the day after the submission deadline or (if it is the case, the deadline of amendments submission). If none of the applicants meets the necessary requirements or does not reach the 60% score threshold established in section 5.1, the award of the grant may be forfeited, issuing a resolution to this effect.

Contra la resolució del Director, que esgota la via administrativa, independentment de la seva immediata executivitat, es podrà interposar recurs contenciós administratiu davant del Jutjat Contenciós Administratiu de Barcelona, d'acord amb l'art. 8 de la Llei 29/1998, de 13 de juliol, reguladora de la jurisdicció contenciosa administrativa. El recurs es podrà interposar en el termini de dos mesos, a comptar des de l'endemà de la publicació de la resolució, segons el que estableix l'article 46 de l'esmentada Llei.

No obstant, es podrà optar per interposar un recurs de reposició, en el termini d'un mes, a comptar des de l'endemà de la data de la publicació, davant el mateix òrgan que l'ha dictat. En aquest cas, no es podrà interposar el recurs contenciós administratiu en tant no recaigui resolució expressa o presumpta del recurs de reposició, d'acord amb allò que disposen els articles 123 i següents de la Llei 39/2015, d'1 d'octubre, del procediment administratiu comú de les administracions públiques.

Altrament, els interessats podran interposar qualsevol altre recurs que creguin convenient en defensa dels seus drets.

## **7. Justifications**

**7.1.** Three months after the end of the project, the beneficiaries will submit a report to the Director of IN2UB explaining the activities and the expenditures made (with an extension of no more than three pages). This report must include an evaluation of collaboration facilitated by this project. If the final report is not presented in due time, the PI(s) will not be able to apply for any other ART.

**7.2.** The beneficiaries engage in stating explicitly in the communications or publications derived from the project the support received by the Multidisciplinary Research Grants Program of the IN2UB 2022 and include the affiliation to the IN2UB at their publications or communications.

**7.3.** The beneficiaries accept the engagement to give an oral presentation based on the project the day of the annual meeting of the IN2UB.

## **8. Clarifications**

It is the responsibility of the Director of IN2UB to clarify any doubts in the interpretation of this call.

### Notes

1. The research team may have as many members as are necessary to reach the proposed goals.
2. The conditions established in section 2 (Beneficiaries) concern the project's PI(s). Therefore, the team may be composed of collaborators that do not fulfill the requirements of the PIs.

Any questions may be addressed to [in2ub@ub.edu](mailto:in2ub@ub.edu).