



TRANSCAN-3

ERA-Net: Sustained collaboration of national and regional programmes in cancer research

JTC 2021, co-funded by the European Commission,
"Next generation cancer immunotherapy: targeting the tumour microenvironment"

International Networking Event, 22 April 2021

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IT-MoH - ISS, Italy



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 964264

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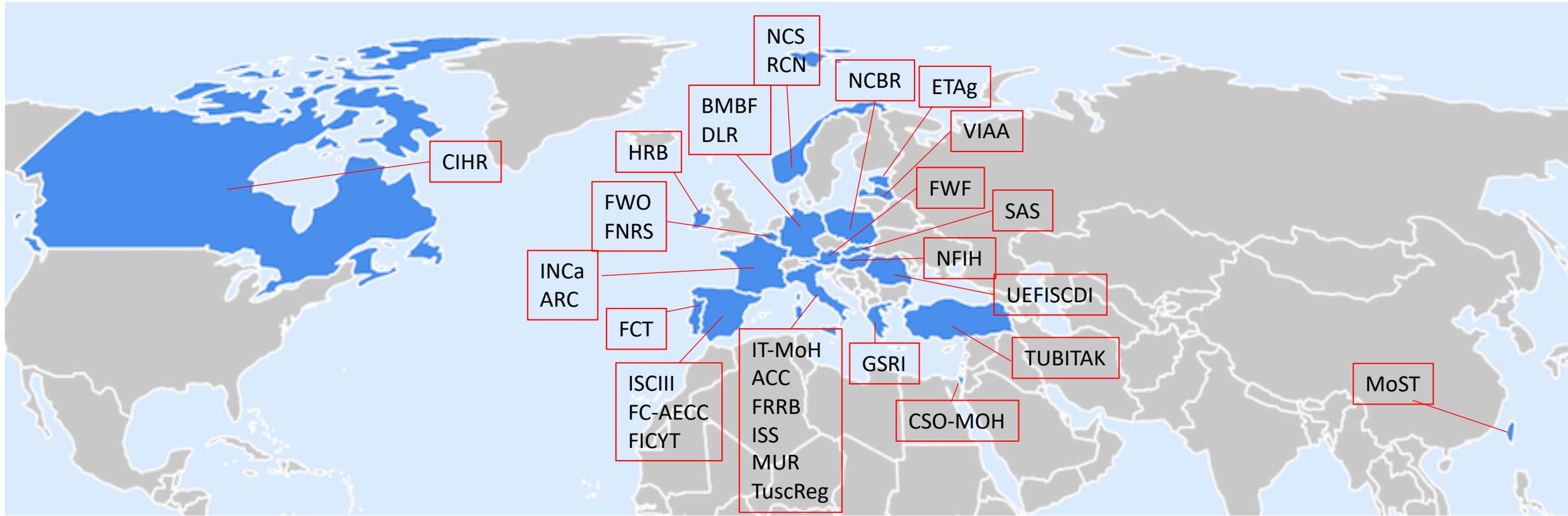
Funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme

From March 2021 to February 2026

Coordinator : Ministry of Health, Italy

- ✓ The goal is to coordinate national and regional funding programmes for research in the area of translational cancer research
- ✓ The challenge is to promote a transnational collaborative approach between scientific teams in demanding areas of translational cancer research
- ✓ To avoid the duplication of efforts by ensuring a more efficient use of available resources
- ✓ To produce significant results of higher quality and impact.
- ✓ It has strong elements of continuity with the previous TRANSCAN programmes

TRANSCAN-3 - 31 Partners from 20 Countries



15 Member States: Austria, Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain

3 Associated countries: Israel, Norway, Turkey

2 Third countries: Canada, Taiwan

TRANSCAN and TRANSCAN-2 funding programmes (2011-2017)

- 2011 Validation of biomarkers for personalised cancer medicine
- 2012 Translational research on primary and secondary prevention of cancer
- 2013 Translational research on tertiary prevention in cancer patients

- 2014 Translational research on human tumour heterogeneity to overcome recurrence and resistance to therapy (EC co-funded call)
- 2015 Immunology and immunotherapy of cancer: strengthening the translational aspects
- 2016 Minimally and non-invasive methods for early detection and/or progression of cancer
- 2017 Translational research on rare cancers

Participating funding organisation in the calls:

From 15 to 25

Earmarked budget per call:

From 9.00 to 17.4 €million

Spent budget per call:

From 6.00 to 17.3 €million

Achievements of TRANSCAN funding programmes (2011-2017)



7 calls for proposals



85.2 million € invested



by 28 funders
from 19 countries



406 research groups

79 projects



Participation in calls

Total submitted eligible pre-proposals: 469

Total funded projects: 79

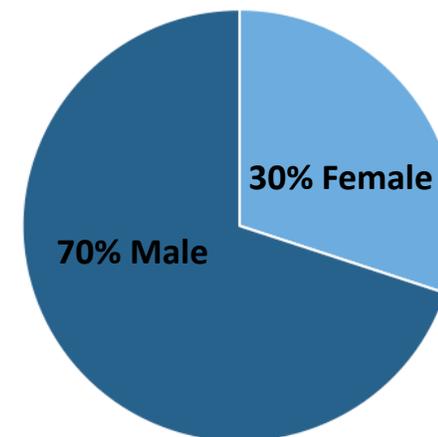
Success Rate

2011	10 %
2012	18.5 %
2013	18.2 %
2014	13.7 %
2015	21.2 %
2016	12.7 %
2017	13 %
	average 15.3

Total participating researchers: 2793

Total funded researchers: 406

Gender Distribution



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Joint Transnational Call for Proposals 2021 (JTC 2021)
co-funded by the European Commission/DG Research and Innovation:

"Next generation cancer immunotherapy: targeting the tumour microenvironment"

Call Text

Submission deadlines

Pre-proposals: 29 June 2021 at 12:00 CEST

Full proposals: 20 December 2021 at 12:00 CET

Electronic proposal submission system: <https://ptoutline.eu/app/transcan2021>
(Online submission will be possible from 20 April 2021)

For further information, please visit
<http://www.transcan.eu/> or

contact the **Joint Call Secretariat (JCS)** at:
Ministero della Salute - Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Italy
Silvia Paradisi
E-mail: jtc2021@transcan.eu

**Aim 1: Identification and validation of TME subclasses and their contribution to the resistance mechanisms:
Translational research using tumour samples collected from retrospective and/or prospective cohorts of patients.**

- 1.1** Dissection of tumour cells/tumour-infiltrating immune/stromal cells and identification of TME subclasses (...) for TME studies (...).
- 1.2** Definition of the contribution of TME to resistance mechanisms and identification of new therapeutic targets through multi-omics (...) to assess functional characteristics of TME-tumour cell interplay within the primary tumour and/or metastases (...), to identify candidate TME targets and to assess the activity of pathway-targeting agents.
- 1.3** Development of tools capable of predicting treatment efficacy and tumour recurrence using minimally- or non-invasive techniques (...). Development of robust non-invasive biomarkers of disease course (...).
Sex/gender impact must be considered.

Aim 2: Targeting TME to improve efficacy of immunotherapy in human patients.

- 2.1** Development of new precision therapeutic strategies that may prevent human tumour recurrence or resistance (...).
- 2.2** Evaluation in translational studies of the impact of TME on treatment efficacy and patient outcome (...).
- 2.3** Phase I and II clinical trials (...)targeting, or preventing resistance of multiple TME features.
Particular attention should be given to gender balance inclusion...

FUNDING MODEL

The TRANSCAN-3 **JTC 2021** uses the “**virtual common pot**” funding model.

Funding will be made available by **each national/regional funding organisation** according to their specific regulations, **for research groups in their country/region** (see ANNEX 2 of the Call Text)

In accordance with the ERA-NET Cofund model, the European Commission can contribute with additional funding (up to 33% of the cumulated national/regional funding actually spent on research projects), which will be made available **through the national/regional funding agencies**.

Please check the national/regional regulations of your organisation on the Guidelines for Applicants!

28 PARTICIPATING FUNDING ORGANISATIONS

FROM 19 COUNTRIES

Austrian Science Fund (FWF), **Austria**
Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO), **Belgium, Flanders**
Fund for Scientific Research (F.R.S.-FNRS), **Belgium, French speaking community**
Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), **Canada**
Estonian Research Council (ETAg), **Estonia**
French National Cancer Institute (INCa), **France**
ARC French Foundation for Cancer Research (ARC Foundation), **France**
Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), **Germany**
National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH), **Hungary**
Health Research Board (HRB), **Ireland**
The Chief Scientist Office of the Ministry of Health (CSO-MOH), **Israel**
Ministry of Health (IT-MOH), **Italy**
Ministry of Universities and Research (MUR), **Italy**
Alliance Against Cancer (ACC), **Italy**
Tuscany Region (TuscReg), Tuscany, **Italy**
Fondazione Regionale per la Ricerca Biomedica (FRRB), Lombardy, **Italy**
State Education Development Agency (VIAA), **Latvia**
Research Council of Norway (RCN), **Norway**
Norwegian Cancer Society (NCS), **Norway**
National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR), **Poland**
Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), **Portugal**
Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), **Romania**
Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS), **Slovakia**
National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII), **Spain**
The Scientific Foundation of the Spanish Association Against Cancer (FCAECC), **Spain**
The Foundation for the support of the Applied Scientific Research and Technology in Asturias (FICYT), **Spain**
Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST), **Taiwan**
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), **Turkey**

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Guidelines for Applicants

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Silvia Paradisi

E-mail: jtc2021@transcan.eu

ANNEX 1. National /Regional Regulations

Country	Austria
Funding organisation	Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
National contact persons	Herbert Mayer Phone: +43 (1) 505 67 40-8212, E-mail: herbert.mayer@fwf.ac.at Anita Stürtz Phone: +43 (1) 505 67 40-8206, E-mail: anita.stuertz@fwf.ac.at
National programme	
Funding commitment	0,8 M €
Anticipated number of fundable project partners	2-3
Maximum funding per grant awarded to a project partner	
Eligibility of projects	Refer to call text
Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution	Individual researcher working in any kind of non-profit organisation: e.g. University, University hospital, Non-university research institute Please refer also to the general FWF Funding Guidelines: https://www.fwf.ac.at/fileadmin/files/Dokumente/Antragstellung/Einzelprojekte/p_application-guidelines.pdf https://www.fwf.ac.at/en/research-funding/application/international-programmes/joint-projects-era-nets/
Eligibility of principal investigator or other research team member	Individual researcher working in any kind of non-profit organisation: e.g. University, University hospital, Non-university research institute NOTE: Current FWF-restriction of project submissions: Please note that starting on August 1, 2018, the number of ongoing/approved/submitted projects in which one researcher can serve as principal investigator will be limited to three in the Stand-Alone Projects Programme, International Programmes (including ERA-Net projects!), Clinical Research and Arts-Based Research Programmes. Principal investigators who already have three ongoing/approved/submitted projects will not be permitted to submit another application within those programmes until 12 months before the end of one of their ongoing

COMPOSITION of RESEARCH CONSORTIA

- ❖ Each research consortium must involve a **minimum of three (3) and a maximum of six (6) partners, eligible for funding**, from different countries whose funders participate in the call.
- ❖ The partners must be **from at least three (3) different countries participating in the call**.
- ❖ A consortium must not involve more than two (2) research groups from the same country (in such cases the minimum number of groups must be 4, coming from 3 different countries).
- ❖ A wide inclusion of research teams from **all the countries/regions** participating in the call is encouraged, with a particular attention to research teams from **Latvia, Slovakia and Turkey**.
- ❖ One partner not eligible for funding (e.g. from non-funding countries or not fundable according to the regional/national regulations) can participate in a proposal with its own funding.

A TWO-STEP CALL

<https://ptoutline.eu/app/transcan2021>

THE PROJECT COORDINATOR

The screenshot shows the PT-Outline website interface. At the top left is the PT-Outline logo. To the right are three buttons: 'Site notice', 'Privacy', and 'Support'. The main content area features the title 'TRANSCAN2021' and the subtitle 'Next generation cancer immunotherapy: targeting the tumor microenvironment'. Below this is a login section with tabs for 'Login', 'Sign up', and 'Recover password'. The 'Login' tab is active, showing fields for 'Email:' and 'Password', a 'Login' button, and a link for 'Forgot your password?'.

The screenshot shows the 'TRANSCAN-3 JTC 2021 Pre-proposal Application Form'. The title is 'TRANSCAN-3 ERA-NET: Sustained collaboration of national and regional programmes in cancer research'. Below this is the subtitle 'Joint Transnational Call for Proposals 2021 (JTC 2021) co-funded by the European Commission/DG Research and Innovation: "Next generation cancer immunotherapy: Targeting the tumour microenvironment"'. The form is titled 'Pre-proposal Application Form' and includes instructions: 'All fields must be filled in using Arial font, size 11, single-spaced. Applications should be submitted as a PDF file, formatted in DIN-A4. Please note that proposals either incomplete, using a different format or exceeding length limitations of any sections will be rejected without further review.' The form contains several sections: '1a. Project title (maximum 150 characters, including spaces):', '1b. Project acronym (maximum 10 characters):', '2. Project duration (months):', and '3. Project coordinator (research partner 1 in the consortium):'. The '3.' section includes a table with fields for Name, Country, Position, Institution/Department, Address, Phone + Fax, and E-mail address. The page number 'Page 1 of 13' is visible at the bottom right.

FIRST STEP: PRE-PROPOSALS

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

Joint Call Secretariat check: Eligibility criteria outlined on the Call text (number of participating countries/regions and groups, inclusion of all necessary information, adherence to the application forms, document length)

National/regional eligibility check: Adherence to the funding organisation rules
Please, read the Annex of the Guidelines for Applicants carefully and contact your national contact person.

Non-compliance with the eligibility rules will lead to the rejection of the entire proposal without further review

EVALUATION OF ELIGIBLE PRE-PROPOSALS

Evaluation criteria: **1. Excellence**
2. Impact
3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation

Each pre-proposal will be allocated to at least two (2) SEC members

SECOND STEP: FULL PROPOSALS

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

No substantial change in the full proposal is allowed unless those exceptionally agreed with the Joint Call Secretariat

EVALUATION OF (ELIGIBLE) FULL PROPOSALS

Same evaluation criteria as pre-proposals.

Each full proposal will be allocated to two (2) SEC members

(possibly those who had reviewed the corresponding pre-proposal)

and to two (2) external reviewers.

The selection of projects to be funded will be made based on the ranking list established by the SEC and on the commitment of available funds

6 April 2021	Publication of the call
20 April 2021 at 16:00 (CEST)	Opening of the on-line submission system for pre-proposals
29 June 2021 at 12:00 (CEST)	Deadline for pre-proposal submission
5 November 2021	Communication to the coordinators of the results of the pre-proposal assessment and invitation for full-proposal stage
19 November 2021	Opening of the submission system for full proposals
20 December 2021 at 12:00 (CET)	Deadline for full-proposal submission
Expected for May 2022	Communication of the funding decisions to the coordinators
October/November 2022	Expected project start (also subject to regional/national procedures)

Thank you!

Joint Call Secretariat: jtc2021@transcan.eu



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