

## **CALL for Applications for Virtual Networking Support Grant**

GP May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

One grant up to 4.000,00 Eur

Deadline for Application: April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

VIRTUAL NETWORKING SUPPORT (VNS) aims at assessing and supporting the new forms of collaboration in virtual and hybrid settings as a complement to traditional ways of collaboration within the research and innovation communities and among the members of a given Action.

Virtual Networking Support benefits to:

- COST Action: develops collaboration by having a dedicated person transferring knowledge, stimulating, and implementing virtual and hybrid activities inside the network, achieving the MoU objectives, and significantly increasing their impact and reach. Contributes to European leadership in knowledge creation and increasing its innovation potential.
- VNS Grantee: develops capacity in virtual and hybrid collaboration and networking in a panEuropean framework, thus supporting the Action.

Upon approval, the grantee performs the tasks in line with the approved application. The report required for claiming the grant of a Virtual Networking Support shall be submitted at the latest 15 days after the end of the Grant Period and shall follow the template available on e-COST.

### **The following eligibility criteria apply:**

- All action participants with a primary affiliation to an institution located in a COST Full or Cooperating Member country or Management Committee (MC) Observers from a COST Near Neighbour Country (NNC) are eligible to apply for VNS Grant.
- The applicant(s) shall be prepared to develop a virtual networking strategy, coordinate the call for expression of interest for the Virtual Networking Support Grants and draft at the end of the grant period a report to be approved by the MC.

Financial support for VNS is a grant awarded to an individual of **up to EUR 4 000** per Grant Period.

**Application submission:**

The application shall be submitted through the e-COST following the VNS Application [www.cost.eu/virtual\\_networking\\_support\\_grant\\_application](http://www.cost.eu/virtual_networking_support_grant_application)

**Templates**

[https://www.cost.eu/VNS\\_GrantApplication](https://www.cost.eu/VNS_GrantApplication)

[https://www.cost.eu/VNS\\_Report](https://www.cost.eu/VNS_Report)

A detailed description of opportunities and rules can be found in the following documents

- <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2022/02/COST-094-21-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C-2022-02-15.pdf>
- <https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2021/12/Grant-Awarding-userguide.pdf>

In case of contradiction between the current call and the official documents generated by the COST Association, the official COST documents are considered to have higher relevance.

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2022**

The results are expected after three weeks.

**Evaluation criteria:**

The selection of successful grantees will be based on contributions to the overall objectives of COST Action Who Cares in Europe?, the strategy on the virtual networking of COST Action Who Cares in Europe? and the implementation of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy.

More about the Action's topics MoU, Working Groups and Projects can be found at <https://whocaresineurope.eu/>

For questions, please write to COST Action Who Cares in Europe? Grant Awarding Coordinator Dr. Tamara Prevendar [tamara.prevendar@gmail.com](mailto:tamara.prevendar@gmail.com)