

# EUROPEAN FUND FOR DISPLACED SCIENTISTS (EFDS)

## FIRST RESULTS OF SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR UKRAINIAN SCIENCE

### Background

In March 2022, ALLEA, the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities, announced the launch of the European Fund for Displaced Scientists Programme (EFDS) to assist the Ukrainian scientific community as a response to the ongoing Russian invasion. The programme was set up in partnership with the Breakthrough Prize Foundation who donated USD1.5 million for the launch of the programme.

The EFDS Programme consists of two separate funding lines: **Funding Line 1** provides funds to academic institutions within the Council of Europe region that are able to host displaced scholars from Ukraine; **Funding Line 2** provides funds to Ukrainian academic institutions for the continuation and/or reinstatement of their scientific operations and research collaborations, as well as to support initiatives that facilitate the reintegration of researchers upon their return to Ukraine. A total of up to **100 Ukrainian scientists will benefit from the EFDS Programme** through the combined funding of both lines.

### Funding Line 1

Under Funding Line 1, financial support was provided to set up new or maintain existing positions for displaced researchers from Ukraine during the war. Institutions were eligible to apply for up to €25,000 for a period of 12 months. The outcome was as follows:

- Total number of applications received: **244 applications** from 23 countries
- Number of beneficiaries selected: **35 beneficiaries** were finally selected due to funding limitations.
- Countries hosting the beneficiaries: Beneficiaries will be hosted in **11 different countries** from the Council of Europe region, including Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden.

The application process took into account the measures planned by the host institutions to avoid brain drain and support the beneficiaries to return and reintegrate into the Ukrainian academic system. Particular attention was given to scholars from areas that had been most affected by the war or that were under ongoing fire. Priority was also given to scholars who are affiliated with institutions that had to relocate as a result of the war or institutions with heavily damaged research infrastructure.

### Funding Line 2

Under Funding Line 2, Ukrainian institutions were eligible to apply for up to €75,000 for a period of 12 months. Funds will mainly be used to cover the costs of institutional staff and to purchase critical research equipment and materials. The outcome was as follows:

- Total number of applications received: **105 applications** from 89 institutions within Ukraine.
- Number of institutions selected: **6 applications** were selected, which will directly support a total of **64 Ukrainian scientists** to continue their work in Ukraine.

## **Selection process**

The evaluation and selection process for both funding lines was carried out by an independent selection committee composed by senior officials from international and pan-European scientific institutions representing universities, funding organisations and researchers, including the European Research Council, the European University Association, the Global Young Academy, and Science Europe.

Considering the large number of applications received for both funding lines, a three-stage selection process was applied including pre-selection (formality and completeness check), pre-evaluation (initial evaluation of the long-listed applications), and a final evaluation and selection. A scoring systems against sets of criteria were applied on the basis of the programme's goal and objectives.

## **More information**

More details about the EFDS programme can be found at [www.allea.org/european-fund-for-displaced-scientists](http://www.allea.org/european-fund-for-displaced-scientists). If your query is not addressed there, you can send an email to [efds@allea.org](mailto:efds@allea.org) for questions concerning the EFDS Programme.