

Call for Transnational Research Proposals in Chemistry

1999

The Chairmen of European Research Councils' Chemistry Committees (CERC3) wish to stimulate and encourage a small number of high quality collaborative programmes in chemistry among researchers in the EU countries and based on common themes that have a high priority status in the CERC3 member organisations. This initiative does not conflict with any European Union, European Science Foundation or COST programmes and may strengthen their impetus.

The following CERC3 member councils

- ☆ CNR (Italy)
- ☆ CNRS (France)
- ☆ DFG (Germany)
- ☆ EPSRC (United Kingdom)
- ☆ FCT (Portugal)
- ☆ NWO (Netherlands)
- ☆ SNF (Denmark)
- ☆ SNF (Switzerland)

have confirmed that they wish to encourage researchers in their respective countries to participate in transnational projects which bring together a mix of different scientific skills and research facilities necessary to address the research aims.

Each scientist eligible to submit research proposals to either the CNRS, DFG, NWO or EPSRC is invited to participate in the new CERC3 initiative on transnational collaborative research in the following research fields:

- ☆ Topological Stereochemistry, Topological Chirality
- ☆ Molecules at Complex Surfaces: Bond Breaking, Bond Forming and Dynamics

These two fields will be used to pilot the project; further fields may be added in the future with the expansion of the initiative.

In order to increase the efficiency of the transnational initiatives and to minimise the administrative burden, the number of co-operating scientists should be restricted to a maximum of 5. There should be joint proposals from individual researchers only, preferably from a restricted number of countries.

Each joint proposal should contain

- ☆ a general description of the overall research being planned by the members of the collaboration;
- ☆ an explanation of the added value which the individual contributions offer to the transnational collaboration;
- ☆ in addition, **each collaborating partner** should make clear separately his/her research plans in the relevant research field and a justification the necessity of personnel, scientific equipment, consumables, travel expenses etc requested;
- ☆ recent publications for each proposer should be mentioned or included.

The joint proposal should be harmonised according to time schedules of the research councils involved.

Each transnational research team should nominate one of their team who will act as the project leader. The role and responsibilities of the project leader should be described in the proposal; responsibilities are expected to include co-ordinating progress and liaising as appropriate with the research councils involved. The corresponding national research council of the project leader will take the lead in peer reviewing the application. All proposers should identify the name and contact details of the administrator in charge in their appropriate research councils.

Each project partner will be expected to follow the submission procedure used by his/her national research council regarding application forms, financial requests and other guidance and instructions as appropriate.

The joint proposals will be judged by a mutually agreed group of international reviewers, selected using the procedure of the research councils involved, exclusively on the grounds of **quality** of the research plan of each co-operation partner and **added value** which the individual contributions offer to the transnational collaboration.

Groups of individual scientists in different countries who are interested in this new transnational initiative should send their full transnational proposal in English to their national research councils (one copy to each council involved, two additional full copies to the research council responsible for the peer reviewing procedure) not later than **1st December 1999**.

If you have any questions with respect to the transnational research proposal initiative please contact your national research council.