



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE CROATIAN GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

The Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia (Ministry) and the Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes (Agency) are offering the Croatian Government Scholarships (Bilateral Scholarships) to foreign higher education students and teachers at higher education institutions as well as researchers who intend to gain further professional experience in Croatian higher education institutions or research institutes.

The Bilateral Scholarships offer opportunities for study or research in any field of study during the granted mobility period at an accredited public Croatian higher education or research institution to be determined in advance. The awarded mobilities should be implemented during the academic year 2023/2024 (from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024, July and August excluded). Information about studying in Croatia can be found on the [Study in Croatia Portal](#), the [International Student Guide to Croatia](#), the [Register of Study Programmes](#) and the [list of Croatian accredited academic institutions](#).

Potential candidates are invited to apply for the Bilateral Scholarships by submitting their applications in the [Agency's online application system](#) but the Scholarships can be awarded only to the candidates who are nominated by the foreign partner institutions, i.e., national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships Programmes. The preliminary selection of applications is usually performed by the respective foreign government ministries, agencies and/or authorities and applications ranked by these offices take priority. Applications sent by individual applicants to the Agency, the Ministry or to the desired host institution in Croatia but without being nominated for the Bilateral Scholarships by the national institution in charge will not be processed.

The Bilateral Scholarships are awarded by the Ministry and the Agency that are responsible for the final selection of applications by implementation of the Bilateral Agreements between the Republic of Croatia and partner countries. The various valid/effective educational co-operation programmes and/or bilateral agreements serve as the basis for cooperation in the fields of science and education and for academic exchange. Candidates are invited to apply for the Croatian Government Scholarships that are on offer through two different application pools:

- 1) Application Pool 1: SCHOLARSHIPS BASED ON BILATERAL AGREEMENTS.**
- 2) Application Pool 2: SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CROATIAN LANGUAGE STUDENTS.**

## 1) TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS ON OFFER

### **A1 Semester studies for Croatian language students** (mobility: 4 - 5 months)

Description: Scholarships type A1 are on offer to foreign students (BA or MA) who would like to spend 1 semester learning Croatian and perfecting their Croatian language skills at either the University of Zagreb ([Croaticum](#)) or at the University of Rijeka ([Rijeka School of Slavic Studies](#)).

Eligible applicants: Croatian language students and students of Slavic Studies who are currently enrolled in BA or MA studies. Students are required to have completed a minimum of 2 semesters at their home institutions. For the Scholarships type A1 priority will be given to candidates who have not previously been awarded the same type of Scholarship.

### **A2 Semester/partial studies** (3-10 months)

Description: Scholarships type A2 are on offer to foreign students who would like to spend one part (1 or 2 semesters) of their BA or MA studies at a Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students who are currently enrolled in studies in their home countries. Scholarship type A2 is open to students of all fields of study. Students are required to have completed a minimum of 2 semesters at their home institutions.

### **B Full undergraduate (BA) or graduate (MA) studies** (BA: 36 or 48; MA: 24 or 12 months)

Description: Scholarships type B are on offer to students who wish to enrol in full degree BA or MA studies in Croatia and obtain a full BA or MA degree at a Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic and citizens of China. Candidates are required to have a four-year high school degree if applying for BA studies or a BA degree if applying for MA studies.

### **C1 Full postgraduate doctoral (PhD) programme** (36 months)

Description: Scholarships type C1 are on offer to students who would like to enrol in full degree doctoral studies in Croatia and obtain a full PhD degree at a Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic and citizens of China. Candidates are required to have a MA degree.

### **C2 Partial postgraduate doctoral (PhD) studies or research for PhD students** (1 - 10 months)

Description: Scholarships type C2 are on offer to foreign PhD students who would like to spend one part of their PhD studies or conduct research for their PhD thesis at a Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Candidates who are enrolled in a PhD programme at an accredited institution of higher education in their home country or in a country other than Croatia.

**D Postdoctoral studies and research** (mobility: 1 - 10 months)

Description: Scholarships type D are on offer to candidates who would like to carry out postdoctoral studies or research at one of [Croatia's accredited research institutions](#).

Eligible applicants: Teachers or researchers at accredited institutions or research institutes of higher education in their home countries or in a country other than Croatia. Candidates are required to have a PhD degree at the time of applying for the Scholarship.

**E Short postdoctoral research visit** (mobility: 3 - 29 days)

Description: Scholarships type E are on offer to candidates who would like to carry out short term research at one of [Croatia's accredited research institutions](#).

Eligible applicants: Teachers or researchers at accredited institutions of higher education or research institutes in their home countries or in a country other than Croatia. Candidates are required to have a PhD degree at the time of applying for the Scholarship.

**F Summer seminar of Croatian language and literature** (mobility: 14 days)

Description: Scholarship type F is awarded for participation in the Croatian Seminar for Foreign Slavic Studies Students organised by the [Zagreb School of Slavic Studies](#) in Dubrovnik (from 21 August to 2 September 2023).

Eligible applicants: Croatian language students and students of Slavic Studies who are at the time of application for the Scholarship enrolled in MA or BA studies. Students are required to have completed a minimum of 2 semesters at their home institutions. Eligible are also lecturers (teachers, senior assistants with a PhD degree and teaching/research assistants) who teach Croatian language and literature at universities outside Croatia.

**Important:**

- The number of available places for the summer seminar is **limited**.
- **Priority** will be given to foreign students who will be nominated for the summer seminar by their national competent authorities (Application Pool 1).
- The applications will be approved according to the valid/effective educational co-operation programmes and **bilateral agreements**.
- Applicants should have a **minimum level of language competence of B1** according to the [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#).
- Preference will be given to candidates with a level of the Croatian language competence **B2 and higher**.
- Priority will be given to students who are currently enrolled in **master (MA) studies** (over students who are currently enrolled in BA studies).
- The Ministry and the Agency will give **priority to student applications** over teachers.

## 2) SCHOLARSHIP OFFER BASED ON BILATERAL AGREEMENTS (APPLICATION POOL 1)

This Application Pool is open to higher education students and university staff conducting research or teaching activities. The applicants should be citizens of countries (and territories) that have a valid/effective educational co-operation programme with Croatia or a bilateral agreement signed by the Croatian Government and the relevant ministry of the given country (or territory). Applicants from these countries are entitled to apply for the Bilateral Scholarships defined in the bilateral agreements and this Call for Applications. Specific scholarship types are offered to each country. The candidates should submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) and the national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships Programmes should then nominate the candidates. Applications of the candidates who are citizens of the below specified countries (and territories) but without the citizenship of these same countries listed below (pages 4 - 6) will not be taken into consideration. The following type and number of Scholarships are on offer on the basis of valid/effective educational co-operation programmes and/or bilateral agreements (**Application Pool 1**):

COUNTRY	NUMBER AND TYPE OF SCHOLARSHIPS ON OFFER
<b>BELGIUM (FLANDERS)</b>	2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).
<b>BULGARIA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 2 Scholarships for one semester (4 - 5 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and/or A2).</li> <li>2) 8 months of Scholarships (1 or 2 months per applicant) for partial doctoral studies/research for PhD students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).</li> <li>3) 4 Scholarships for the summer course of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</li> </ol>
<b>CHINA</b>	6 Scholarships for full degree undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) study programmes (BA: 36 months; MA: 24 months; PhD: 36 months) (scholarship types: B and/or C1).
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>	3 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).
<b>GERMANY</b>	1 Scholarship (1 - 3 months) for postdoctoral studies/research for postdoctoral candidates, i.e., university staff conducting research or teaching activities or for researchers holding a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).
<b>GERMANY (BAVARIA)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 2 Scholarships for partial/semester (3 - 10 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) or graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and/or A2).</li> <li>2) 2 Scholarships for partial (1 - 10 months) doctoral studies/research for PhD students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).</li> <li>3) 4 Scholarships for the summer course of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</li> </ol>
<b>GREECE</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 2 Scholarships (1-10 months each) for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).</li> <li>2) 2 Scholarships for the summer course of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</li> </ol>

<b>HUNGARY</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Scholarships for partial/semester (3 - 10 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and/or A2).</li> <li>2) Scholarships for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship types: D and E) (long-term: 1-10 months or short-term: 3 - 29 days).</li> <li>3) Scholarship for a full PhD programme (36 months) (scholarship type: C1).</li> <li>4) Scholarships for full degree undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies for members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary (BA: 36 months; MA: 24 months; PhD: 36 months) (scholarship types: B and/or C1).</li> <li>5) 4 Scholarships for the summer course of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</li> </ol>
<b>ISRAEL</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Scholarship (1 - 8 months) for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).</li> </ol>
<b>ITALY</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 5 Scholarships for 1 semester studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) Croatian language students (scholarship type: A1).</li> <li>2) 12 months of Scholarships for members of the Croatian national minority in Italy: the months of Scholarship can be distributed between more applicants (scholarship types: A1, A2, C2 and/or D).</li> </ol>
<b>KOSOVO</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</li> </ol>
<b>MONTENEGRO</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 20 months of Scholarships (1 or 2 semesters per applicant) for partial undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) studies (scholarship type: A2).</li> <li>2) 8 months of Scholarships (1 or 2 months per applicant) for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).</li> </ol>
<b>NORTH MACEDONIA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 2 Scholarships for semester (4 - 5 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and/or A2).</li> <li>2) 8 months of Scholarships (1 or 2 months per applicant) for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).</li> <li>2 Scholarships for the summer course of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</li> </ol>
<b>POLAND</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 4 Scholarships for semester (4 - 5 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and/or A2).</li> <li>2) 3 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</li> </ol>
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 2 Scholarships for students and researchers for undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies of Croatian language and literature (scholarship types: A1, A2 and/or C2).</li> <li>2) 1 Scholarship for the summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</li> </ol>
<b>ROMANIA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 2 Scholarships for semester (4-5 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and/or A2).</li> <li>2) 2 Scholarships for full undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) study programmes for members of the Croatian national minority in Romania (BA: 36 months; MA: 24 months; PhD: 36 months) (scholarship types: B and/or C1).</li> <li>3) 2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</li> </ol>
<b>SLOVAK REPUBLIC</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 15 months of Scholarships for partial/semester (4 - 10 months; 1 or 2 semesters) studies for undergraduate (BA) or graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and/or A2), for partial PhD studies/research (1 - 10 months) for postgraduate</li> </ol>

	<p>doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research (1 - 10 months) for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).</p> <p>2) 1 Scholarship (3 - 30 days) for mobility for university teachers of Croatian and Slovak language and literature (scholarship type: E).</p> <p>3) 5 Scholarships for full undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) study programmes for members of the Croatian national minority in the Slovak Republic (BA: 36 months; MA: 24 months; PhD: 36 months) (types: B and/or C1).</p> <p>4) 2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</p>
<b>TURKEY</b>	2 Scholarships (1 - 8 months each) for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).
<b>UKRAINE</b>	<p>1) 2 Scholarships for semester (4 - 5 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and/or A2).</p> <p>2) 1 Scholarship for the summer course of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F).</p>

The offer above (Application Pool 1) for incoming students, teachers and researchers applies to the following countries: Belgium (Flanders), Bulgaria, China, Czech Republic, Germany (Bavaria), Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Kosovo Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Turkey and Ukraine.

### 3) SCHOLARSHIPS ON OFFER TO CROATIAN LANGUAGE STUDENTS (APPLICATION POOL 2)

This Application Pool is open to candidates who are students at language departments of the Croatian language and literature or Slavic Studies and literature regardless whether their respective countries have a valid cooperation programme or a bilateral agreement with Croatia and regardless of whether the language department of Croatian language and literature falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry.

**The candidates for Scholarships that are on offer in the Application Pool 2 can only be nominated for the Scholarships by their current Croatian language fellow who should nominate the applicants for the Scholarships by his/her Recommendation Letter/Nomination Letter.** The applicants should then submit the Recommendation Letter/Nomination Letter together with the rest of the required application documents (listed on pages 9 - 12) in the [Agency's online application system](#).

Candidates are invited to apply for the following Scholarships on offer through the Application Pool 2 (scholarship type A1 and scholarship type F):

- 1) **Semester studies for Croatian language students (mobility: 4 - 5 months).**
- 2) **Summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (mobility: 14 days).**

**Important:** The Croatian language fellows are encouraged to nominate their students primarily for the scholarships for semester studies (scholarship type: A1) seeing that the number of these scholarships that can be awarded to students is not limited. On the other hand, the number of scholarships for the summer

seminar of Croatian language and literature (scholarship type: F) is limited. For this reason, the Ministry and the Agency will give priority to foreign students who will be nominated for the summer seminar by the foreign students' national competent authorities and according to valid/effective educational co-operation programmes and bilateral agreements (Application Pool 1).

#### 4) FURTHER INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

##### 4.1. Further Information

Information about studying in Croatia can be found on the [Study in Croatia Portal](#), the [International Student Guide to Croatia](#), the [list of Croatian accredited academic institutions](#) and the [Register of Study Programmes](#). Applicants should indicate the preferred mobility period in their application form. For Scholarships type A1 an applicant may submit an application only on one occasion during his/her BA studies and once during his/her MA studies (once per study cycle). For the Scholarships type A1 priority will be given to candidates who have not previously been awarded the same Scholarship. Applicants who are interested in a research, PhD or a postdoctoral scholarship should find a host professor (mentor) in Croatia willing to support and supervise their research project or PhD project. A Letter of Invitation must be part of the application package. Applicants for these types of Scholarships (C2, D and E) should contact a mentor/supervisor at the desired Croatian host institution to arrange their visit. Candidates applying for a research visit should be fluent in English or Croatian. The term "research" includes preparation for a doctoral or postdoctoral thesis or any other form of scientific research except medical specialization. All mobilities are planned to be physical mobilities but depending on the developments of the COVID-19 situation, the Croatian higher education institutions and institutes may be forced to offer online-classes. The Agency and the Ministry reserve the right to change the requested mobility period and/or place any applicant to a course and/or higher education institution different from those indicated in his/her scholarship application form, if admission as requested by the applicant is not feasible.

##### 4.2. Eligibility

**Age requirement: a candidate must be at least 18 at the beginning of his/her mobility in Croatia.**

**There is no age limit only for the following types of Scholarships:**

- 1) Postdoctoral research visits (D and E).
- 2) Summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (F).

**Age limits for applicants depending on the level of studies and the Scholarship type:**

- 1) 25 years for candidates when applying for Scholarships for BA studies (A2, B).
- 2) 30 years for candidates when applying for Scholarships for MA studies (A2, B) and for semester studies for Croatian language and Slavic studies students (A1).
- 3) 35 years for candidates when applying for Scholarships for PhD studies (C1, C2).

**The following candidates are not eligible to apply:**

- 1) Students who have not completed a minimum of two semesters at their home institutions.
- 2) Foreign citizens with a residence permit or applying for a residence permit in Croatia.

- 3) Students already enrolled in a study programme in Croatia.
- 4) Candidates applying for study or research at private Croatian higher education institutions.
- 5) Candidates without the citizenship of the country that nominates them for the Scholarships.

## 5) FINANCIAL BENEFITS FOR BILATERAL SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

- 1) **Undergraduate/graduate studies (A1, A2, B)**
  - **212,36 EUR** monthly financial support (July and August excluded).
  - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall. \*
  - Subsidized meals at student restaurants.
- 2) **Full PhD studies and partial PhD studies or research for PhD students (C1, C2)**
  - **238,90 EUR** monthly financial support (July and August excluded).
  - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall. \*
  - Subsidized meals at student restaurants.
- 3) **Postdoctoral studies or research 1 - 10 months (D)**
  - **398,17 EUR** monthly financial support.
  - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall.
- 4) **Short research visits 15 - 30 days (E)**
  - **398,17 EUR.**
  - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall.
- 5) **Short research stays 3 - 14 days (E)**
  - **26,55 EUR** per diem.
  - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall.
- 6) **Summer seminar (F)**
  - Tuition-free course.
  - Free accommodation and meals.
  - Cultural programme.

\* Only students who are younger than 36 can use student accommodation.

The Scholarships cannot be awarded concurrently with other scholarships, grants, stipends etc. If a scholarship holder has been awarded another scholarship for the same mobility, he/she is not eligible for the Bilateral Scholarship in order to prevent double funding for the same mobility period in Croatia. A scholarship holder cannot have more than 1 scholarship that is funded from the Croatian national budget (Bilateral Scholarships, CEEPUS, Croatian Central State Office for Croats Abroad etc.) or simultaneously receive financial support from another source or from another scholarship programme (e.g., Erasmus+).

**Please note that the monthly financial support is not meant to cover all the costs of the scholarship holder but rather it is a contribution to the living costs during mobility.** Scholarship holders are advised, apart from the grant to be received from the Agency during the mobility period, to have sufficient financial funds to cover their living costs for at least two months in Croatia.



Only scholarship holders who will because of the Covid-19 pandemic be on virtual mobility (online) will have the right to 50% of the full monthly amount paid by the Agency. The Ministry and the Agency reserve the right to change the financial benefits for scholarship holders stated in the Call for Applications before or during the mobility period in accordance with the Croatian legislation and financial regulations in force.

The scholarship holder is obliged to return any undue payment of the financial support. Neither visa related fees nor any other costs related to the scholarship holder's stay in Croatia shall be compensated.

## 6) APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

### 6.1. Application Procedure

The applicants should submit their applications in the [Agency's online application system](#) and contact their national institution in charge of the preliminary selection of applicants and be nominated for the Scholarships. The national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships Programmes should send by e-mail (or post) the Nomination Letter by which they nominate candidates for the Croatian Government Bilateral Scholarships not later than 31 March 2023 to the following e-mail or postal address:

#### [Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes](#)

**E-mail address:** [bilaterala@ampeu.hr](mailto:bilaterala@ampeu.hr)

**Postal address:** Frankopanska 26, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

A valid application for the Scholarship should consist of:

- 1) **Required documents in English or Croatian** submitted by the applicant in the [Agency's online application system](#)
- 2) **Nomination Letter** sent by e-mail (or post) to the Agency from the foreign partner institution by which it nominates the applicant for the Scholarship.

**The deadline for both the applicants and the foreign partner institutions is 31 March 2023.**

Candidates should fill in the Application Form and submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) by uploading all of the required documents listed in the Application Form and on pages 9 - 12 of this Call depending on the type of Scholarship the candidate is applying for.

A copy of the filled-in Application Form will automatically be downloaded locally to the applicant's computer/phone and uploaded to the Agency's system. If the candidate does not receive the Application Form, this means that the Agency did not receive the online-application. It is recommended that candidates keep a copy of all of the application documents in case they will need them when enrolling in the higher education institution.

## 6.2. Documents to be Submitted by the Applicants in Accordance with the Scholarship Type:

### A1 One semester study for Croatian Language students (4-5 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Letter of Interest (1-2 pages).
- 5) Proof of enrolment at the applicant's home institution.
- 6) Transcript of the last two completed semesters at the home institution (Additionally: candidates who have completed a BA programme also need to submit a copy of their BA degree).
- 7) Recommendation Letter of the Croatian language fellow at the home institution co-signed by the Head of Department.

### A2 Semester/partial studies (3-10 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Letter of Interest (1-2 pages).
- 5) Proof of enrolment in BA or MA studies at the applicant's home institution.
- 6) Transcript of the last two completed semesters at the home institution (Additionally: candidates who have completed a BA programme also need to submit a copy of their BA degree).
- 7) Letter of Recommendation by a professor from the applicant's home institution.
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the host institution in Croatia signed by the Head of Department.
- 9) Certificate of proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the language of the study programme for the proposed mobility (the language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

### B Full degree bachelor (BA) or master (MA) studies (BA: 36 months or MA: 24/12 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Letter of Interest (1-2 pages).
- 5) Copy of the last acquired Certificate or Diploma (if applying for BA studies: copy of the highest degree/certificate; if applying for MA studies: copy of the BA degree).
- 6) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian.
- 7) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the Croatian higher education institution (in which it is indicated that the applicant can enrol in the desired tuition-free study programme upon successful completion of the enrolment procedure and being awarded the Scholarship).

- 8) Copy of the provisional Enrolment Certificate to the desired BA or MA study programme (the document proves that the applicant will be accepted by the desired host institution).

**C1 Full PhD programme (36 months)**

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications (if applicable).
- 5) Copy of the highest degree/diploma.
- 6) Precise and detailed Work Plan (1 - 2 pages).
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian or English – depending on the working language of the doctoral programme.
- 8) Letters of Recommendation from two recognized experts in the relevant discipline.
- 9) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the Croatian higher education institution (in which it is indicated that the applicant can enrol in the desired tuition-free study programme upon successful completion of the enrolment procedure and being awarded the Scholarship).
- 10) Copy of the Enrolment Certificate to the desired PhD study programme (the document proves that the applicant will be accepted by the desired host institution).

**C2 Partial PhD studies or PhD research (1 - 10 months)**

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications.
- 5) Proof of enrolment in the PhD programme at the applicant's home institution.
- 6) Copy of the MA degree.
- 7) Precise and detailed Work Plan (1 - 2 pages).
- 8) Two Letters of Recommendation.
- 9) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the higher education institution in Croatia.
- 10) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the working language for the proposed research project (the language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

**D Postdoctoral studies and research (1 - 10 months)**

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications.
- 5) Copy of the PhD degree.

- 6) Precise and detailed Work Plan (1 - 2 pages).
- 7) Letters of Recommendation from 2 recognized experts in the relevant discipline.
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the host institution in Croatia.
- 9) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the working language for the proposed research project (the working language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

#### **E Short research visit (3-29 days)**

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications relevant to the proposed research project.
- 5) Copy of the PhD degree.
- 6) Precise and detailed work plan (1 - 2 pages).
- 7) Letters of Recommendation from 2 recognized experts in the relevant discipline.
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the Croatian host institution.
- 9) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the working language for the proposed research project (the working language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

#### **F Summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (14 days)**

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Copy of enrolment at the applicant's home institution (for students) or copy of the highest degree/diploma received (for teachers, researchers and lecturers).
- 5) Letter of Interest (1-2 pages).
- 6) Letter of Recommendation by a professor from the applicant's home institution.
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian (minimum B1).

## **7) EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF APPLICANTS AND THE RESULTS OF THE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

### **7.1. Evaluation and Selection of Applicants**

The applications sent by the candidates will be subjected to formal assessment by the Agency and the Ministry followed by the procedure of evaluation and selection. During this process the Agency may request that the candidate provides additional documents or information. The purpose of the formal assessment is verification of the application in terms of compliance with the formal criteria. During the formal assessment the completeness of the application is analysed. The application is considered as complete if all required documents have been attached. The candidate's academic profile, proposal and

motivation will also be assessed (selection criteria). The final decision on the acceptance of the applications shall be made by the Croatian host institution. Incomplete or inaccurate applications will not be considered. If the applicant submits more applications, only the last application submitted in the online system within the time limit for submission shall be subject to assessment. Documents in languages other than English or Croatian will not be accepted.

## **7.2. The Results of the Call for Applications**

The results of the selection will be communicated during June and July 2023. All of the applicants and foreign partner institutions will be informed of the results by an official letter sent via e-mail by the Agency. Scholarship holders whose applications will have been approved will receive from the Agency a document called the General Info Package that includes the Letter of Award, Letter of Acceptance, Instructions and Details About the Mobility in Croatia, Health Form (if applicable) and the template for the Final Report. Foreign students coming to study/conduct research in Croatia and who will be using student accommodation by staying in student residence halls will need to undergo health examination and bring a filled-in Health and Immunisation Questionnaire. More information about that will be given in the General Info Package. An appeal against the decision of the Joint Committee for Scholarship Award of the Ministry and the Agency (the bodies that are responsible for the formal assessment of applications) shall not be accepted. The Ministry and the Agency reserve the right to change the requested duration of mobility in Croatia, city or higher education institution if deemed necessary.

## **8) ENROLMENT PROCEDURE FOR FULL DEGREE STUDY AND RENEWAL OF THE SCHOLARSHIP**

### **8.1. Enrolment Procedure**

The application for the Bilateral Scholarships and the application for admission by a Croatian host university for full cycle studies (B and C1) are two separate procedures. A scholarship for a full cycle of BA, MA or PhD studies in Croatia will be approved only upon successful enrolment at the higher education institution and after the applicant submits to the Agency proof of successful enrolment to the higher education institution. The Agency is not in charge of student enrolment and each student, applying for semester/partial/full degree studies needs to arrange the conditions of his/her enrolment in the study programme with the respective higher education institution in Croatia. The final decision on the acceptance of the candidates shall be made by the Croatian host institution. Candidates for semester/partial, full BA, MA and PhD studies must contact the desired host institution in Croatia and secure a provisional Letter of Invitation by the Croatian higher education institution in which it is indicated that the applicant can enrol in the desired tuition-free study programme upon successful completion of the enrolment procedure and being awarded the Scholarship. Information about how to apply for a study programme can be found on the [Study in Croatia](#) portal along with the [Register of Study Programmes](#).

To scholarship holders who are about to enrol in to a full cycle of undergraduate or graduate studies in Croatia and whose Croatian language skills are not sufficient, a scholarship for an initial 1 academic year of learning Croatian will be granted followed by the final language exam that needs to be passed successfully. In case the applicant fails the exam, the Scholarship will be automatically discontinued. The Scholarship for one year of studying the Croatian language may be extended exceptionally only under special circumstances on one occasion. Successful applicants will be granted a Scholarship for a full cycle (BA, MA or PhD) study that will be renewed every year pending academic success.

Only members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary, Romania and Slovak Republic and citizens of China may apply for the Scholarship types B and C1. Priority fields of study include but are not limited to: Croatian language and literature (Croatian: Kroatistika), Croatian culture and national identity (Croatian: Kroatologija), History, Geography, Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology and Teacher Education Studies. According to the national legislation, future university students should register as new users at the Central Application System of the Agency for Science and Higher Education and the [Postani student!](#) portal. Prospective students with foreign educational certificates who wish to apply for undergraduate (BA) study programmes in Croatia should send their secondary school diplomas and results of school leaving exams to the [Agency for Education and Teacher Training](#) in order to undergo a process of recognition. The [Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education](#) is responsible for the recognition and validation of foreign secondary level VET qualifications or post-secondary non-tertiary qualifications. Academic recognition for the purpose of continuation of higher education on MA or PhD level is performed by the Offices for Academic Recognition of Foreign Higher Education Qualifications. If applicable, candidates can send their diplomas to the [Croatian ENIC/NARIC Office](#) (office responsible for recognition of higher education qualifications).

## 8.2. Renewal of the Bilateral Scholarship

A Scholarship for a full cycle of undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies in Croatia is granted for the full duration of the study programme but the Scholarship will be renewed every year depending on the academic success in the previous academic year. A scholarship holder must submit to the Agency at the end of each academic year:

- 1) Proof (certificate) about the exams and obtained ECTS credits in the previous academic year.
- 2) Proof (certificate) about the successful enrolment in the next academic year.

Additionally, upon request of the Agency the scholarship holder is obligated to submit to the Agency a transcript of records or a copy of the student identification document to present his/her study progression (exams and obtained ECTS credits).

For acquired ECTS credits in one (previous) academic year:

- 35 or more ECTS credits: the Scholarship will be renewed for the next academic year. \*
- 34 or less ECTS credits: the Scholarship won't be renewed for the next academic year.

\*Students enrolled in full degree study programmes at Croatian higher education institutions should obtain 55 or more ECTS credits in the previous academic year to receive a full tuition fee waiver for the next academic year. Students who obtain 30-54 ECTS credits need to cover the cost of the unobtained ECTS credits (the difference between the number of obtained credits and the maximum 60 ECTS credits).

## 9) OBLIGATIONS OF THE BILATERAL SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

The scholarship holders are obligated to submit to the Agency by e-mail the signed **Letter of Acceptance** by which they accept the awarded Bilateral Scholarship at least one month before the beginning of mobility. Also, they are obligated to send to the Agency by e-mail the **Final Report** about their mobility within one month after the end of their mobility.

The scholarship holders should arrange visa and similar requirements (if applicable) and, if staying longer than 90 days, regulate their temporary stay in Croatia by acquiring a residence permit (if applicable). Third-country nationals (foreigners who are non-nationals of member states of the European Economic Area: European Union, Principality of Liechtenstein, Kingdom of Norway, Republic of Iceland or the Swiss Confederation) also need to present to the Police a **certificate confirming that the applicant has no criminal convictions** issued by the authorities of the passport holder's own country and country of permanent residence. It is strongly recommended that scholarship holders obtain the non-criminal record while they are still in their home countries seeing that the procedure of getting the document and having it translated can take a while (a month or more) depending on the country and the service available.

The scholarship holders are strongly advised to be in regular contact with their Croatian host institutions and inform the host institutions and the Agency if any changes to their mobility occur. Also, scholarship holders should arrange and cover the costs of health care by themselves if they come from a country that doesn't have a signed bilateral health care agreement with Croatia and do not have the right to the European Health Insurance Card (EU nationals).

Scholarship holders should request an **OIB** (Personal Identification Number – Croatian Tax Number) from the Tax Office before coming to Croatia and after arrival open a giro bank account (**IBAN**) at any bank and send by e-mail a scan or photo of the documents containing the OIB and IBAN to the Agency.

Each scholarship holder is obligated to stay in Croatia throughout the scholarship programme (except in cases of virtual or blended mobility) and be engaged solely in the programme which has been approved by the Ministry and the Agency. Shorter periods of absence (e.g., 7 days) are acceptable. In case the scholarship holder needs to be absent for a longer period, he/she should inform the host institution and

the Agency. Absence is justified for three (3) consecutive months (during summer) only for full degree studies. If the scholarship holder leaves Croatia without a valid reason and without notifying the Agency, the Scholarship can be suspended/terminated and the grant can be reclaimed.

The scholarship holders who plan to stay in the student residence halls in Zagreb and Rijeka are required to bring the **Health and Immunisation Questionnaire** after undergoing health examination in their home countries. Finally, scholarship holders should observe the Croatian legislation in force during the entire mobility period in Croatia. They must also comply with the Agency's instructions, regulations concerning the residence for foreigners in Croatia (Aliens Act) and with the host institution regulations.

## 10) VISA, ENTERING CROATIA AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

### 9.1. Visa

Third-country nationals who are subject to the visa requirement are obliged to apply for a visa prior to their entry into Croatia. The visa serves as approval for either transit through the international area of an airport transit through the territory of the Republic of Croatia or for the stay in the territory of the Republic of Croatia for a maximum period of 90 days in any 180-day period. Therefore, the types of visas are an airport transit visa (A visa) and a short-term visa (C visa).

Nationals of the Member States of the European Economic Area (European Union, Principality of Liechtenstein, Kingdom of Norway, Republic of Iceland) do not need a visa to enter the Republic of Croatia. All foreign nationals who are holders of valid [Schengen](#) documents (residence permits and visas for two or more entries), as well as holders of national visas and residence permits of Bulgaria, Cyprus and Romania do not require an additional (Croatian) visa for the Republic of Croatia, provided that the aforementioned Schengen document is valid at the time of entry into and at the time of exit from the Republic of Croatia. Students coming for the purpose of studies are exempt from paying the fee ([MVEP](#)).

For the most current information regarding entry and visa regulations between a certain country and Croatia, the applicants should enquire at the Croatian Embassy in their home country or at the national ministry of foreign affairs. Visas are issued by [diplomatic missions or consular offices](#) of the Republic of Croatia. Foreigners who need a visa for Croatia can also fill in a visa application form via the link [crovisa.mvep.hr](http://crovisa.mvep.hr). After completing the online application, it is necessary to submit it to the competent Croatian embassy/consulate, visa centre or agency of the accredited travel agency, accompanied [by other prescribed documentation](#). If there is no Croatian diplomatic mission or consular office in the applicant's country, a visa application may be submitted to the nearest Croatian diplomatic mission or consular office. Visa applications are submitted by filling in the required form, no more than 3 months before the start of the intended visit but the latest 15 days prior to the trip. Visa applicants should be able to prove that they have valid travel medical insurance and means of support during their stay in Croatia (e.g., letter of guarantee, bank statement, proof of scholarship award). A visa cannot be used as a work permit.



## 10.2. Entering Croatia and the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Call for Applications is addressed to all countries regardless of the COVID-19 pandemic but the Bilateral Scholarships will be awarded subject to the rules in force and various other conditions such as the health situation, visa procedures, opening of borders and operating of higher education institutions and institutes. All mobilities are planned to be physical mobilities but depending on the developments of the COVID-19 situation, the Croatian higher education institutions and institutes may be forced to offer online-classes. Physical mobility remains the goal of the programme but if it is not feasible, blended or entirely virtual mobility will be eligible. Before travelling, scholarship holders are advised to check if there are any restrictions to travelling set in force by their home countries or/and Croatia that would prevent them from leaving their home country or from entering Croatia. The [website of the Croatian Ministry of the Interior](#) contains the latest information in connection to entering Croatia as a foreign citizen and is being continuously updated. It also explains the conditions of entry into Croatia considering the restrictions in place to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 and the situation is constantly being reassessed. [KORONAVIRUS.HR](#) is the official Croatian Government website for accurate and verified information on the Coronavirus in Croatia. Maps in support of the Council Recommendation on a coordinated approach to the restriction of free movement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the EU/EEA are published on the official [website of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control](#). You can also check the [Re-open EU](#) portal, i.e., an interactive tool launched by the European Commission that provides information on how to travel Europe safely.

## 10.3. Travel Expenses

Travel expenses to Croatia and back to the country of origin are not covered by the scholarship package, i.e., they are the responsibility of the scholarship holder. However, applicants are strongly advised to contact the sending institutions in their home countries who will nominate them for the Bilateral Scholarships and check if there are any possibilities to cover their travel expenses to Croatia. In the Bilateral Programmes for Cooperation, it is common that the sending country covers the travel expenses of its citizens and the receiving country pays the monthly financial support during mobility (this is often stipulated in the bilateral agreements).

## 11) STUDENT EMPLOYMENT DURING MOBILITY IN CROATIA

Both home and international students currently residing in Croatia can work using the Student Service administered by the student centres but only foreign students who are on mobility for partial studies (A2) or full degree studies (B) can work in Croatia. The Student Service Centres have subsidiaries in all university towns. International students attending various study programmes (exchange students, guest students) have to check with the higher education institution to which they are applying whether or not they are allowed occasional student work via the student service centre and under which conditions. The salary is calculated per hour and the minimum amount for the year 2023 is 4,38 EUR/hour (net amount).

## 12) HEALTH CARE DURING MOBILITY IN CROATIA

According to the Aliens Act, foreign residents must have health care during their stay in Croatia. For both EU/Swiss and non-EU citizens health insurance is also necessary for the approval of temporary stay. Regulated health care is the prerequisite for being granted a temporary residence permit.

### 12.1. EU Nationals

Mobility types: A1, A2, C2, D, E and F

EU countries residents are obligated to obtain the European Health Insurance Card ([EHIC](#)) in their home countries prior to their arrival to Croatia. The EHIC is issued by the national health insurance provider.

Mobility types: B and C1

Scholarship holders who are awarded a Scholarship for full degree mobility in Croatia can, in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the coordination of social security systems, transfer their health care from their home countries to Croatia and have complete health care during their mobility in Croatia. This applies only to EU nationals who are awarded a Scholarship for full degree BA, MA or PhD studies (Scholarship types B and C1) in Croatia and who can provide proof of having health care in their home countries.

### 12.2. Nationals of countries with Health Care Agreements with Croatia

Croatia regulates health care with North Macedonia, Montenegro and Turkey through agreements on social security signed with the named countries (more information: [Croatian Health Care Fund](#)). Citizens of these countries should contact their public health insurance provider before arriving to Croatia in order to obtain the patient's certificate which enables them to have health care during their mobility in Croatia.

### 12.3. Nationals of countries without Health Care Agreements with Croatia

Scholarship holders coming to Croatia on mobility from countries that do not have bilateral health care agreements with Croatia or do not use the European Health Insurance Card are obligated to organise and cover the costs of health care services during their mobility in Croatia by themselves. The Agency covers the health insurance expenses for scholarship holders from countries which do not have social security agreements with Croatia only if foreseen in a valid/effective bilateral educational co-operation programme.

## 13) PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

The Department for Higher Education – Partner Countries at the Agency is processing the personal data of applicants for the purpose of evaluating the applications for the Scholarships. More detailed information on processing of personal information is available in the General Notice on Processing of Personal Data. Provision of data is voluntary but necessary for application and to participate in the implementation of the Scholarships. By submitting an application all candidates acknowledge that their personal data provided in the application and attachments submitted for the purpose of selection proceedings as well as for the

purpose of later nomination, will be processed by the national competent authorities and by the appropriate host higher education institutions in Croatia to the extent that is necessary to address the application. Personal data may be provided to diplomatic posts, foreign partner institutions or Croatian higher education institutions and research institutes and/or other partners relevant to the implementation of the Scholarships. The data will be used for conducting the Call for Applications and evaluation of applications, selection of the beneficiaries and execution of scholarship agreements. This will be done in compliance with the regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and of the free movement of such data, and repealing directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).

#### 14) CONTACT INFORMATION

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