

## Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) grants: Justice360 (Global Atrocity Justice Constellations)

### Who can apply?

STSMs are open for PhDs, PostDocs, and other early career researchers employed at institutions in countries participating in “Justice360”, or at approved institutions. STSMs must be performed between COST countries - researchers cannot apply for an STSM within their own country.

Priority will be given to Early Career Investigators (ECI) (maximum 8 years since obtaining their PhD at the time of application) and PhD students working on topics within the EU COST Project: Justice 360: <https://justice-360.com/>

Particular consideration will also be given to candidates moving from/to COST Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs), which include Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Serbia and Turkey.

Awards throughout the annual grant period will be made to support scientific excellence, and to support a variety of researchers in terms of gender, career stage, affiliation, and nationality.

### What can you apply for?

You can apply for a short term scientific mission of the duration between 5 and 90 days (and up to 180 days if the applicant is an ECI. The STSM will be a fixed grant to cover part of the travel expenses and living allowance. The cost of research materials is not eligible for consideration as part of the grant.

Please note that the awarded grant will be paid in its entirety only after the STSM has been completed – therefore the applicant must have approval and prior financial support e.g., from their own institution.

The following funding conditions apply and must be respected:

- up to a max of EUR2500 in total can be afforded to each successful STSM applicant;
- up to a max of EUR160 per day can be afforded for accommodation & meal expenses;
- for ECIs, a max amount of EUR3500 can be afforded to the Grantee for STSMs with a duration of between 91 & 180 days – For ECIs partaking in STSMs with a duration of between 5 & 90 days, the limit is EUR2500; STSM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified in this call.
- **Application should be submitted no later than December 14, 2023.**

APPLICATION:

1. Applicants must carefully read the funding rules detailed in Section 8 of COST Vademecum, <https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Vademecum-V8-1-May-20202.pdf>
2. Applicants must obtain a letter of invitation from the Host Institution confirming that they can undertake the STSM on the given dates should their application be approved.
3. Applicants must complete, submit and download their STSM application online at: <https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm>.
4. Applicants must send their application form and the relevant supporting documents for evaluation, to [mjc@jur.ku.dk](mailto:mjc@jur.ku.dk); [suncana.roksandic@pravo.hr](mailto:suncana.roksandic@pravo.hr)

The list of supporting documents to be submitted for the evaluation are:

- Motivation letter- description of the goal of the proposed STSM, how it contributes to the scientific remit of the COST Action “ Global Atrocity Justice Constellations”, the planned expenses and the outputs planned as result of the STSM. The letter should be *maximum 1 page, the font should correspond to Times New Roman size 12 pt with single line spacing and standard margins of 2 cm.*
- Proposed research - be *maximum 1 page, the font should correspond to Times New Roman size 12 pt with single line spacing and standard margins of 2 cm.*
- Proposed activities - A letter including an overview of the proposed activities that will be performed, a workplan for the visit, a description of the proposed contributions to the scientific objectives of the “ Global Atrocity Justice Constellations ” Action, The letter should be *maximum 3 pages, the font should correspond to Times New Roman size 12 pt with single line spacing and standard margins of 2 cm.*
- An outline of the host's scientific expertise/resources in support of the STSM. The letter should be *maximum 1 page, the font should correspond to Times New Roman size 12 pt with single line spacing and standard margins of 2 cm.*
- Letter of invitation to the applicant from a senior Researcher at the Host institution.
- The submitted STSM application form (downloadable when the online application is submitted - see 3 above).
- A letter of support from the Applicant’s Home Institution (dean, head of Department or applicable senior supervisor).
- A detailed C.V. (including a list of academic publications – with relevant links, if available). Top three publications, by choosing of applicat, should be underlined.

### **Criteria for Awarding STSM**

STSM funding will be awarded according to the COST key principles of:

- Excellence
- Inclusivity
- Balance

Additional Criteria for evaluation will be as follows:

- The relevance and application of the research to the field of the Action – a Motivation letter will help determine if the scientific aims of the work will be relevant and applicable to the Action’s aims (1-5 points).
- The quality and clarity of the Proposed Research and Proposed Activities - The STSM application should be of high quality, arguing clearly and cogently the importance and timeliness of the research (1-5 points).
- The choice of Host institution – the applicant must give specific scientific reasons for visiting their chosen Host institution. We will also be tracking the geographical distribution of the Host institutions to ensure there is an evenly-spread network for knowledge transfer. Involvement of ITC countries will be a plus (1-5 points).
- The home institution of the researcher – We will take into account the number of applications from each institution to ensure a fair spread of researches across the network. Involvement of ITC countries will be a plus (1-5 points)
- The profile of the researcher – We will take into account the researcher’s potential of successfully completing the STSM on the basis of their previous work and achievements commensurate to their career stage. In line with COST policy, Justice 360 will preferentially award STSMs to early career investigators (PhD + <8 years). This should not discourage more experienced researchers from applying (1-5 points).

STSM – GENERAL RULES (COST Vademecum Section 8, pg. 31-32:

<https://www.cost.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Vademecum-V8-1-May-20202.pdf>)

#### ELIGIBILITY RULES

STSM applicants shall be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research.

**EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF APPLICANTS** The evaluation of each received STSM shall be done in consideration of the scientific scope of the proposed mission and how the mission can support the Action in achieving its scientific objectives. Special considerations is made with respect to supporting COST policies on promoting gender balance, enabling Early Career Investigators (ECI) and broadening geographical inclusiveness.

#### CRITERIA FOR STSM

1. a minimum duration of 5 calendar days that includes travel.
2. STSM need to be carried out in their entirety within a single Grant Period and always within the Action’s lifetime.
3. STSM grantees shall make their own arrangements for all provisions related to personal security, health, taxation, social security and pension matters.

#### STSM – FINANCIAL SUPPORT

An STSM Grant is a fixed financial contribution which takes into consideration the budget request of the applicant and the outcome of the evaluation of the STSM application. A STSM Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of

the Grantee. The calculation of the financial contribution for each STSM shall respect the following criteria:

*Up to a maximum of EUR 2 500 in total can be afforded to each successful applicant, including up to a maximum of EUR 160 per day can be afforded for accommodation and meal expenses (differentiated country rates to cover accommodation and meal expenses based on the perceived cost of living in the host country.).*

Specific provisions have been introduced to enable researchers from ITC participating in the COST Action to request a pre-payment of 50% of their STSM Grant when they complete the first day of their STSM. The remaining 50% of the Grant is payable once the administrative requirements have been satisfied after the STSM.

#### APPROVING STSM FOR PAYMENT

Payment of the Grant is subject to a STSM scientific report being approved on behalf of the Action's MC by the delegated person(s) responsible and by a senior researcher affiliated to the Host Institution. Written approval of the STSM scientific report by the aforementioned persons shall be uploaded in eCOST for archiving purposes.

The " Global Atrocity Justice Constellations" STSM