



**COST Action CA22167  
PARTICIPATORY APPROACHES WITH  
OLDER ADULTS (PAAR-net)**

**Call for ITC Conference and Dissemination Conference grants  
Applications for conferences till  
15<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**Topic of the COST Action CA22167:**

There is a significant international commitment to give non-academics a greater role in science to help deliver impactful research and realise the European vision of science for the people, by the people. To support this commitment, the PAAR-net COST Action focuses on knowledge co-production, labelled here as participatory approaches, in research, policymaking and practice. It focuses on research, policy and practice intervention designs by experts-by-training (usually academics) and experts-by-experience (usually non-academics). The Action focuses on a specific group of experts-by-experience who are often not included in research, namely older adults (aged 65 and older, including those at risk of social exclusion). This COST Action aims to further develop participatory approaches with older adults as a means of driving inclusive social innovation across research, policy, and practice, for heterogenous and fair ageing societies.

PAAR-net aims to gather, exchange and advance knowledge on participatory approaches with older adults (including those at risk of social exclusion) by asking the following questions:

- 1) How can diverse groups of older adults be meaningfully involved to contribute their perspectives and experience (including those at risk of social exclusion) in participatory approaches to research, policy and practice development?
- 2) How do participatory approaches with diverse older adults (including those at risk of social exclusion) impact research process and the quality of data gathered?
- 3) How do participatory approaches impact those (academics and non-academics) involved in research (e.g., wellbeing, reciprocal learning, emancipation)?

## Purpose of ITC Conference and Dissemination Conference grants

ITC Conference grant funds an oral presentation of their own work within the scope of the Action by an Action Participant affiliated to a legal entity located in an Inclusiveness Target Country / Near Neighbour Country in a high-level conference fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action.

Dissemination Conference grant funds an oral presentation by an Action Participant of the work of the Action in a high-level conference fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organized nor co-organized by the COST Action.

The information is drawn from *Annotated Rules for COST Actions* (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2024/11/COST-094-21-V2.0-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C.pdf>)

There are no grants for YRI Conferences foreseen in this Grand Period.

### Who can apply?

- For ITC Conference grant – researchers affiliated in a legal entity in Inclusiveness Target Countries/ Near Neighbour Countries (ITC/NNC);
- For Dissemination Conference grant – members of PAAR-net intended to present work carried out in the PAAR-net Action.
- **Note:** Applicants to Conference Grants shall not apply to different types of conference grants in the period.

### Amount of grants

- Up to EUR 2 500,00 per grant for face-to-face conference or EUR 500.00 for online conference.
- The financial support on offer is a contribution to the overall expenses and may not necessarily cover all of the associated outgoings. Financial support is limited to covering travel and subsistence expenses and is paid as a grant.
- **Grants are processed only after the Conference has taken place** and the reporting retirements have been satisfied and approved by the Grant Awarding coordinator.
- The following funding conditions apply and must be respected:
  - Activities must occur in their entirety before the date specified in this call.
  - For this budget period, the Management Committee of PAAR-net COST Action has allocated a total budget of EUR 6000 for the ITC Conferences and EUR 11.600 for Dissemination Conferences.
  - The amount granted for each individual will be determined during the evaluation process.

## How to apply?

- The application shall be submitted online in e-COST using dedicated forms available. The application can be accessed by the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.
- The application guidelines are stated in COST Grant Awarding User Guide: [Microsoft Word - Grant Awarding userguide.](#)
- Applicants must upload their CV in their e-COST profile. This information will be visible to the holders of leadership positions and any evaluation committees in the Action for evaluation purposes.

To be filled in e-COST:

- Title of the presentation
- Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period, i.e. no overlap across two consecutive Grant Periods) and country;
- Budget requested;
- Attendance Type (face to face or virtual)

To be uploaded to e-COST:

- Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Relevance of the conference topic to the Action and Motivation describing the potential for impact on the applicant's career.
- Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral presentation;
- Acceptance letter from the conference organisers;
- Other documents required by the Action:

CV (note: necessary to include date of birth to prove you are YRI),

List of publications.

### **The selection of applicants is based on the following criteria:**

1. The fit between the Action and the scientific scope of the ITC conference application. The proposal must clearly complement the overall objectives of the Action (listed in the MOU of the Action found here <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA22167/>).
2. The conference should be high-level.
3. Applicants actively contributing to the COST action in a Work Group will be given priority.
4. Young Researchers and Innovators (under the age of 40) will be given priority.
5. Applicant's CV, and particularly his/her background (research interests; experience and publications in peer-reviewed journals) on the topic covered by

the Action.

## When to apply?

The current call is open until **15th September 2025**. Applications will be handled as they arrive: the grants will be awarded to the first applicant(-s), who well meet the requirements listed above.

## After the Conference has taken place

Once the Conference has ended, the grantee submits the required reports and relevant documentation in e-COST and to the Grant Coordinators Dr. Gražina Rapolienė ([g.rapoliene@gmail.com](mailto:g.rapoliene@gmail.com)) and Prof. Andreas Motel-Klingebiel ([andreas.motel-klingebiel@liu.se](mailto:andreas.motel-klingebiel@liu.se)) within 30 days after the end date of the activity or 15 days after the end of the Grant Period, whichever date comes first.

The required report/documentation for claiming an Conference Grant is:

- Report to the Action MC on the outcome of the presentation of the accepted contribution, in terms of grantee's visibility, including the establishment of new contacts for future collaborations,
- The certificate of attendance,
- The programme of the conference or book of abstracts / proceedings indicating the presentation (oral or poster) of the grantee,
- Copy of the given oral presentation.

In the output (presentation) reference to the Action increasing its visibility is requested.

Failure to submit the scientific report within 30 days from the end date of the Conference will effectively cancel the Grant.

## NOTICE OF COMPLETION:

The Grand Awarding coordinator will approve the final report and send the completion notice to the Grant Holder. The Grant Holder will then execute the payment of the grant directly to the grantee.

**Grant Awarding coordinators** – Dr. Gražina Rapolienė, Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences ([g.rapoliene@gmail.com](mailto:g.rapoliene@gmail.com)), and Prof. Andreas Motel-Klingebiel, Linköping University ([andreas.motel-klingebiel@liu.se](mailto:andreas.motel-klingebiel@liu.se))



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