

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

**Last and extra Call for Virtual Mobility Grants**  
**for Activities occurring between**  
**6<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

*Deadline for Grant Report will exceptionally be reduced to 10 days, Reports being due by 25<sup>th</sup> October*

**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 heterogeneous 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)?

For this last Grant Period 2, the PAAR-net seeks for any virtual activity that will reinforce the activity started during the period and linking it to the next and 3rd Grant Period and to the general deliverables of the action (please see Deliverables (4.1.2) in the Memorandum of Understanding : [https://e-services.cost.eu/files/domain\\_files/CA/Action\\_CA22167/mou/CA22167-e.pdf](https://e-services.cost.eu/files/domain_files/CA/Action_CA22167/mou/CA22167-e.pdf)). Please also do not hesitate to precise your vision of “participatory approach”. A potential tool could be the figure 1 by Lisa Vaughn et al. here: Vaughn, Lisa M., and Farrah Jacques. „Participatory Research Methods – Choice Points in the Research Process“. *Journal of Participatory Research Methods* 1, Nr. 1 (21. Juli 2020). <https://doi.org/10.35844/001c.13244>.

## **Virtual Mobility**

Virtual Mobility grant consists of a collaboration in an online setting among researchers or innovators within the COST Action, to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, etc. Be aware that a series of research activities (first exchanges between researchers; exploration of literature; developing potential steps of a comparative research, etc.) are (and could be) already organized at a distance. The following information is drawn from *Annotated Rules for COST Actions* we invite you to carefully read pages 95-97 (<https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/02/COST-094-21-V2.0-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C.pdf>).

The SCOPE of VM is: “Providing a contribution for the overall effort, not necessarily covered by an employer or by a Grant Holder institution”.

### **Who can apply?**

- VM are intended for Young Researchers and Innovators as well as for the already established researchers;
- In accordance with COST strategy, PAAR-net supports Young Researchers and Innovators affiliated in a legal entity in Inclusiveness Target Countries/ Near Neighbour Countries (ITC/NNC).

### **Amount of grants**

- The financial support on offer is a contribution to the overall expenses incurred during the VM and may not necessarily cover all of the associated outgoings.

- **Grants are processed only after the VM has taken place** and the reporting has been satisfied and approved by the Grant awarding coordinator.
- The following funding conditions apply and must be respected:
  - Virtual mobility – up to EUR 1500;
  - VM activities must occur in their entirety within the dates specified in this call.
  - For this last Grant Period, the Management Committee of PAAR-net COST Action has allocated a total budget of EUR 3.000 for VM.
  - The amounts granted for each individual VM 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.
- 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
- Start (min. 6<sup>th</sup> Oct.) and end date (max 17<sup>th</sup> Oct.)
- Budget requested by the applicant (Please give a clear budget estimation);
- Information about the host institution and contact person.

#### To be uploaded to e-COST:

- Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Goals of the VM, description of the work to be carried out by the applicant, of the contribution to the Action MoU objectives and expected outcomes;
- Confirmation of the host on the agreement from the host institution in receiving the applicant;
- Other documents required by the Action:

CV,

List of publications,

Work plan - should include objectives for online work sessions, time-line and core tasks to be undertaken; expected outputs and deliverables. Work plan

should be structured with a particular research question in mind and with a view to developing work that will form the basis for a peer review publication. Motivation letter, highlighting the importance of the mission for this COST Action, and for his/her own training and career.

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

1. The fit between the Action and the scientific scope of the VM application. The proposal must clearly complement the overall objectives of the Action (PLEASE carefully read the list in the MOU of the Action found here [https://e-services.cost.eu/files/domain\\_files/CA/Action\\_CA22167/mou/CA22167-e.pdf/](https://e-services.cost.eu/files/domain_files/CA/Action_CA22167/mou/CA22167-e.pdf/)).
2. Applicants active and contributing to the COST action in a Work Group will be given priority.
3. YRI from ICT/NNC will be given priority over other applicants.
4. 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 **5<sup>th</sup> October 2025**.

Applications will be reviewed on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

VM must be conducted between 6 and 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

**After the Virtual Mobility has taken place**

Once the VM has ended, the grantee submits the required reports and relevant documentation in e-COST **by 25<sup>th</sup> October** (in order to respect the general rule of submitting the report “within 30 days after the end date of the activity OR within 15 days from the end date of the Grant Period, whichever date comes first”).

Claim the payment by submitting the report via e-COST;

The required report/documentation for claiming a VM Grant is: Report to the Action MC on the work developed, main achievements of the VM and planned

future follow up activities.

Failure to submit the scientific report in due course of the VM will effectively cancel the Grant.

#### **NOTICE OF COMPLETION:**

The Grant 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 Coordinator** Prof. Thibauld Moulaert, Université Grenoble Alpes ([thibauld.moulaert@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:thibauld.moulaert@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)) and substitute, Dr. Heidi Kaspar, Bern University of Applied Sciences, ([heidi.kaspar@bfh.ch](mailto:heidi.kaspar@bfh.ch))



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