



GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA



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Regulations 2023

Reach High II

This Scheme is administered by the
Scholarships' Unit
Ministry for Education, Sport,
Youth, Research and Innovation



1st September 2023 – 1st December 2023
Noon- Local time

Website <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/>

Email reach-high.meyr@gov.mt



May be co-funded by
the European Union



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Introduction.....	3
2.	Aims and Objectives	3
3.	Explanatory Notes – Definitions	4
4.	Eligibility.....	6
5.	Financial Support and Duration	8
6.	Priority Areas of Study.....	8
7.	Choice of Institution	8
8.	Administration of Post-Doctoral Research Projects	9
9.	Application Forms	10
10.	Eligibility, Selection Process and Procedure	11
11.	Selection Criteria.....	12
12.	Value of Awards and Payments	13
13.	General Conditions	14
14.	Termination before completion	15
15.	Monitoring and Control.....	16
16.	Deliverables	16
17.	Publicity Obligations	17
18.	Schedule 1	18

1. Introduction

- 1.1 A strong base of Post-Doctoral research programs can help to increase the human capital supply and expertise that can effectively contribute towards Research and Innovation (R&I) investment - thereby, contributing towards the EU Headline Target of increasing R&I investment. Therefore, Post-Doctoral Programmes can help to contribute towards Malta's economic, social, environmental, and cultural development as well as to realize the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives.
- 1.2 Post Graduate Research also is linked to the ESF+ programme, as it can lead to the creation of opportunities, and the grant is an investment in human resources and skills. Post-doctoral research education is of central importance as it provides the means through which research activity may be engendered within Universities and Industry. It is also vital that the areas of note that have been selected by the country for future development based on past success are further enabled to provide Malta with needed, additional, development capacity.

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 Post-Doctoral Research forms an increasingly important part of any country's economic and social agenda. Through this post graduate research, there will be more investment in human capital with a focus on emerging labour markets, including areas of green, digital, STEM, smart specialization and innovation and other sectors addressing the evolving development needs and challenges characterizing Maltese society, in line with Malta's national priorities.

The key objectives of the Post-Doctoral Grants are:

- Producing well-rounded, professional researchers who contribute to the advancement of their fields of knowledge internationally, using a variety of relevant skills.
- Promoting researcher development that engages in (two-way) knowledge transfer with various external stakeholders, including research organisations, employers, policy-makers, nongovernmental organisations, the media, and the wider public.
- Strengthening the research competence by building expertise in areas of strategic economic importance for Malta.
- Support will also be provided to address the evolving development needs and challenges characterising Maltese society, in line with Malta's national priorities.
- Increase the number of Post-Doctoral graduates to create a stronger knowledge base to better compete internationally; and
- Contribute towards research in identified areas of national and EU priorities.

This investment is concentrated to further strengthen the building of research communities in Malta with the aim to reap economic benefits derived through the effects of human resource development, R & I, and knowledge diffusion on technological innovation.

The Reach High II Scholars Programme which may be co-funded by the ESF+ 2021 – 2027, aims to address the above objectives.

3. Explanatory Notes – Definitions

- 3.1 **Academic Mentor** shall mean the person or persons responsible for supporting and mentoring the Researcher and ensuring the academic quality of the research produced throughout the duration of the awarded research grant.
- 3.2 **Agreement** shall mean a legally binding document to be signed by the Researcher as beneficiary of the Post-doctoral grant and the Project Leader – Scholarships Unit within the Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation. These Regulations shall be construed as forming part of the Agreement. The monetary amounts shown in the Agreement shall be disbursed only if the proper documentation is submitted and verified for eligibility and correctness. In the event of any inconsistency or discrepancy between the Agreement and these Regulations, these Regulations shall prevail in all cases and the Agreement shall be amended to the extent of the discrepancy or inconsistency with these Regulations. These Regulations and Agreement will be administered by the *Scholarships Unit* within the Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation. The Research projects may be co-funded by the European Union, ESF+ 2021-2027.
- 3.3 **Applicant** shall mean a person that submits a Post-Doctoral research project application.
- 3.4 **Commencement Date** of Post-doctoral research shall mean the date as specified in the acceptance letter being the official start date of the study programme/course and is considered as the date on which payments to awardee will be calculated. Research Abroad Allowance will be calculated as per boarding pass/airline confirmation of when awardees travel if they travel after the commencement date.
- 3.5 **Contract issued by the Host University** shall mean a document attesting the acceptance of the applicant by the institution where the research project will take place assuring the required conditions for the suitability of the research project. This documentation also needs to specify the duration of the research of not more than three (3)¹ years and the costs involved.
- 3.6 **ESF+** shall mean European Social Fund Plus.
- 3.7 **Host Institution / Higher Education Institution (HEI)** For the purposes of these Post-doctoral Grants this means a higher, accredited education local or foreign institution that is recognised by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) www.mfhea.mt This HEI shall be committed (through a contract signed with the researcher) to provide support to the researcher. This commitment is a requirement for the interested Applicants.
- 3.8 **Joint Research programme** shall mean when one of the institutions is in Malta and the other is a recognized foreign institution situated abroad.
- 3.9 **MEYR** shall mean Ministry for Education, Sports, Youth, Research and Innovation.

¹ Without prejudice to Section 5 – financial support and duration.

- 3.10 **MQF (Malta Qualifications Framework)** shall act as a translation device to make national qualifications more readable across Europe, promoting workers' and learners' mobility between countries and facilitating their lifelong learning.
- 3.11 **Post-Doctoral researcher** is a PhD holder who is able to carry out an independent research, teaching activity and ready to be engaged in academic life. A Post-Doctoral researcher is an individual holding a doctoral degree who is engaged in a temporary period of mentored research and/or scholarly training financed through this initiative for the purpose of acquiring the professional skills needed to pursue a career path of their choosing. This is also referred to as researcher or as the grant holder.
- 3.12 **Post-Doctoral Grant** shall mean the funding for the research project by the Ministry for Education, Sports, Youth, Research and Innovation.
- 3.13 **Project Leader (PL)** shall mean the person who is entrusted with the overall financial and legal responsibility for the implementation of the **REACH HIGH II Scholars Programme - Post- Doctoral Grants**.
- 3.14 **REACH High II Board** shall mean an expert group entrusted with the selection and evaluation of research projects as well as deciding on technical matters that may arise throughout the funding term, pertaining to specific research projects that have been awarded financing.
- 3.15 **Research Project** shall mean the research work proposed by the Researcher and approved by the Reach High II Board of the Reach High II Post-Doctoral Research Grant Scheme.
- 3.16 **Tripartite Agreement** shall mean an agreement signed between the Project Leader, the Host Institution and researcher stipulating the conditions of the Grant, including amongst others intellectual and property rights; supervision; and reporting.

4. Eligibility

4.1 To apply for the Post-Doctoral Research Project, an Applicant shall:

- a) Be a Maltese citizen who has been residing in Malta for the past five (5) years. Provided that a Maltese citizen who has been residing outside Malta for study, health or work purposes or any other purpose which the Reach High II Scholarship Scheme Board may consider, will still be eligible to apply and this period of time, during which the citizen was abroad, will not be taken into consideration for the purpose of calculating the five (5) year requirement; or
- b) Be a national of an EU/EEA state or a family member of such EU/EEA national (as defined in SL460.17 and in SL217.04 respectively for EU and EEA nationals), provided that such person has obtained permanent residence in Malta in accordance with SL460.17 and in SL217.04 respectively for EU and EEA nationals and has been residing in Malta for the past five years; or
- c) Be a national of an EU/EEA state who is in Malta exercising his/her Treaty rights as a worker, self-employed person or person retaining such status in accordance with SL460.17 and has been residing in Malta for the past five years or
- d) Be a third country national who has been living in Malta for the past five years who has been granted long-term residence status under SL217.05.

4.1.1 Be applying for Post-Doctoral Research within the identified Priority Areas of Study.

4.1.2 Applicants shall start their Post-Doctoral Research Project between 1st September 2023 and 30th June 2024.

4.1.3 Applicants who have already undertaken/or are currently undergoing a Post-Doctoral research/project are not eligible to apply under this scheme.

4.1.4 Applicants may apply provided that they meet one of the following conditions:

- (a) Be in possession of a PhD or equivalent-based doctorate; or
- (b) Have successfully defended their doctoral thesis on condition that they shall submit an attestation issued by the competent department of the respective Institution and that they shall have been conferred with the Doctorate title before the commencement date of the post-doctoral research project; or
- (c) Are approaching the end of their PhD or equivalent-based doctorate studies and have a set date for the defense of their doctoral thesis, on condition that they shall submit an attestation issued by the competent department of the respective Institution and that they shall have been conferred with the Doctorate title before the commencement date of the post-doctoral research project.

- 4.2 Applicants must demonstrate the acceptance of the accredited research institution for the duration of the research project or signed agreement between host institutions.
- 4.3 The complete Application Form and mandatory documents shall be submitted by **Friday 1st December 2023 at noon (Local Time)**. Other documents issued by the Host Institution shall be submitted **by 29th March 2024 by 4PM (Local Time)**. (Refer to clause 9.2)
- 4.4 Applicants need to propose a research project under the mentorship and support of a local/foreign University recognised by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA).

It is the responsibility of Applicants, in possession of qualifications awarded by foreign HEIs/Universities, to produce an evaluation report on equivalence and comparability of qualifications issued by the Malta Qualifications Recognition information Centre (MQRIC) within the MFHEA. A copy of the said report issued by the MQRIC, is to be submitted by 29th March 2024.

- 4.5 Applicants whose qualifications are obtained from a foreign Higher Education Institutions (HEI)/Universities listed on the website of MQRIC as Approved Institutions (www.mfhea.mt), are not required to produce the evaluation report on comparability of qualifications.
- 4.6 **An Applicant shall become ineligible if they are in breach of any part of the Regulations.**
- 4.7 Applicants in possession of other national/EU (or a combination of both) public grants or national/EU/ Commonwealth (or a combination) scholarships for the same research project shall be deemed ineligible under the Reach High II Post-doctoral scheme if not notified and approved by the Board/Office. Any scholarships or other supplementary grants awarded to the Post-doctoral awardee shall be notified to and approved by the Reach High II Board/Office, whether such are awarded to the Applicant prior to the Reach High II Post-doctoral scheme or throughout the duration of the research project. In the event that an Applicant is granted an Reach High II Post -Doctoral grant and the Project Leader / MEYR discovers, after the grant of such Reach High II Post -Doctoral grant, that the Post-doctoral awardee was, at any point in time, whether prior to the award of the Reach High II Post-Doctoral Grant, or after such award, in receipt of any national/EU public grant or national/EU scholarship, the Post-doctoral awardee shall be liable to refund all the amount/s up to then paid to them in full, and this without prejudice to any other legal action which may be taken in their regard.
- 4.8 Proposals which include research subjects that fall outside the limitations of ethics as defined in Regulation 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28th April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Article 18 Eligible actions and Ethical Principles) shall not be funded.

5. Financial Support and Duration

- 5.1 The maximum grant awarded per research project shall not exceed €200,000 per research project. As a rule the duration is up to three (3) years with the possibility of extending to four years² but cannot go beyond 31st December 2027.

6. Priority Areas of Study

- 6.1 The research grants are intended to compliment EU priority areas, focusing on emerging labour market sectors, including green, digital and innovation, STEM as well as smart specialisation. Support will also be provided to address the evolving development needs and challenges characterising Maltese society, in line with Malta's national priorities.

7. Choice of Institution

- 7.1 Awards are tenable at any local/foreign HEI (including Universities) for a specific research project. Only those institutions recognised by the Maltese authorities — Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) shall be taken into consideration by Reach High II Board
- 7.2 The MQRIC may be contacted as follows:

**Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC) /
Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA)
J. Abela Scolaro Street,
Hamrun HMR1304**

E-mail: info@mfhea.mt Website: www.mfhea.mt

² Despite the extension no further funds beyond the €200,000 per project will be disbursed.

8. Administration of Post-Doctoral Research Projects

- 8.1 The Post-Doctoral Grants Scheme is administered by the REACH HIGH II Scholars Programme - Scholarships Unit - within MEYR. The Reach High II Board is responsible for appropriately conducting the selection and ranking process of proposals and overseeing the scheme.
- 8.2 All correspondence including any queries regarding the Reach High II Post-Doctoral Grants is to be addressed to:

REACH HIGH II Scholars Programme - Post-Doctoral Grants

Scholarships Unit

Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research, and Innovation (MEYR)

Room 116 Education Building

Great Siege Road,

Floriana VLT 2000

Malta

Tel. No.: (+356) 2598 2667

E-mail : reach-high.meyr@gov.mt

Please note that the official website of the Reach High II Post-Doctoral Research Projects is found on <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/>. The Scholarships Unit does not assume any responsibility for any incorrect information found on other websites as regards the Reach High II Post- Doctoral Grant Scheme.

9. Application Forms

9.1 Applicants are to apply by completing the **on-line application** form accessed via the MEYR website <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/>. The REACH HIGH II Scholars Programme - Post-Doctoral Grants Application Regulations may be downloaded from the website <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/>

9.2 Applicants shall submit their Application Form to be evaluated by the Reach High II Board together with the following:

9.2.1 To be submitted by Friday 1st December 2023, at noon (Local Time):

- Residence permit or permanent residence certificate or long-term resident status (mandatory where applicable).
- Applicant's curriculum vitae; (Mandatory)
- Declaration (to fill in and upload Schedule I of the Regulations); (Mandatory)
- Certificates of PhD degree, or attestation issued by the competent department of the respective Institution that they shall have been conferred with the Doctorate title (Mandatory).
- Applicants must also provide a **Justification for the Research Proposal** including links with national and EU priorities and the relevance and impact on Malta; (approx 1,000 words maximum) (Mandatory)
- A **Technical Statement of Proposed Work** and **Research Plan** (approx. 1,000 words maximum) (Mandatory)
- **Programme of Work** (Gantt chart for work programme); (Mandatory)
- **Two Reference Letters** including contact detail of referees.³ (Mandatory)
- **Supporting documents** such as a list of previous publications/papers/papers accepted for publication and URL if applicable, (Mandatory where applicable);
- A copy of the **Table of Contents and abstract / summary from their Doctoral Thesis** (Mandatory)

9.2.2 To be submitted by 29th March 2024 at 4.00 p.m. (Local Time):

- A supporting document attesting the acceptance of the applicant by the host institution sent directly to the Reach High email confirming where the research work will be carried out, and assuring the required conditions for the suitable development of the research;
- If the research project is laboratory based, applicants will be asked to provide a letter of support from the host institution sent directly to the Reach High email confirming that laboratory space and access can be provided;
- Copy of MQRIC evaluation report/receipt (where applicable)

³ The Reach High II Board reserves the right to contact referees once you have submitted the complete application form.

- 9.3 The Project Leader reserves the right to request information directly from third parties related to this Post Doctoral grant.
- 9.4 Late and incomplete applications shall not be considered by MEYR.

10. Eligibility, Selection Process and Procedure

- 10.1 MEYR will set up a Reach High II Board to operate the process of selection. This Board shall be responsible for all matters concerning selection according to pre-established criteria identified in Clause 11 and determination of appropriate awards according to the Regulations.
- 10.2 The mode and medium by which the interviews will be conducted will be decided by the Board. During the interview, applicants shall be invited to provide a short presentation⁴ explaining their research proposal as well as answering any queries the board may have with regards to their submission. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to make sure to be available on the date and time communicated to them for the interview (including presentation). No alternative arrangements shall be made to change the date and time of the interview unless there are exceptional circumstances (supported by written proof) that warrant the change of such date and time. These exceptional circumstances shall be examined, and such alternative date and time may be agreed to by the Board, at its discretion.
- 10.3 In the case of applicants who are unable to attend the given date and time for the interview due to being abroad, such interviews may take place online only at the given date and time. Reach High II Board does not assume any responsibility if the interview fails to materialise properly due to any technical reason. In exceptional cases, an alternative date for interview may be given by the Reach High II Board depending on the circumstances which led to the failure of such an interview.
- 10.4 Applicants will be notified of their ranking by the Reach High II Board/Office. Obtaining a pass mark does not automatically mean that a grant is being awarded.
- 10.5 The Ministry for Education Sport, Youth, Research, and Innovation has also set up the Appeals Board to deal with objections raised by Applicants after they are informed in writing with the decisions of the Reach High II Board.
- 10.6 Applicants are to ensure that they apply online by the stipulated deadline. The Reach High II Board and the Scholarships' Appeals Board shall not consider any petitions stating that the Application Form was submitted without tangible proof as evidence.
- 10.7 If an Applicant disagrees with the Reach High II Board only the Applicant may present a petition to the Appeals Board by email, on email address; scholarshipsappeals.meyr@gov.mt within six (6) working days from the date when the Reach High II Board communicate their

⁴ Presentation must be provided to the Reach High II Office prior to the interview.

decision to the Applicant in writing. In the petition the Applicant has to clearly state the reasons why they are contesting the decision by the Reach High II Board.

- 10.8 The Appeals Board shall only address appeals from the decisions of the Reach High II Board on matters related to procedure or interpretation of the regulations in terms of eligibility, awards, and other decisions related to the awarding of a grant. Under no circumstance shall the Appeals Board change the Regulations, the score of Applicants deriving from interviews by the Reach High II Board, nor change the ranking of an Applicant as a result of such Score. The decision taken by the Appeals Board is final.

11. Selection Criteria

- 11.1 Applications are considered on the basis of the following selection criteria:

- (a) Academic and Personal merit of the Applicant (20%);
- (b) How studies are related to the identified priorities in Clause 6 (20%);
- (c) The relevance of the research to the local and EU Priorities (25%);
- (d) The likely impact of the work on the development of Malta (20%);
- (e) Presentation provided by applicant (10%);
- (f) Number of publications and previous experience in the area of specialisation for this Post- Doctoral Research (5%).

- 11.2 An Applicant is considered to have passed if 70% of the total allocated marks (500 marks) is obtained; nevertheless, this does not automatically mean that a grant is being awarded.

12. Value of Awards and Payments

12.1 The research grant shall cover for Post-Doctoral research projects provided by an accredited and recognized University/Host Institution including **Post-Doctoral Research Allowance, Eligible direct research support expenses and Research Abroad Allowance** (if applicable), as per below.

12.1.1 Post-Doctoral Research Allowance⁵: Researchers will benefit from €43,696 per annum pro rata. This allowance is to support the researcher to carry out full-time research work. **Awardees shall need to notify beforehand the Reach High II Board/Project Leader of any commitment of employment during the duration of their studies.** Any additional paid work needs to be approved by the Reach High II Board/Project Leader. Payments may be suspended should there not be a positive assessment from the academic mentor, or by the person responsible for the follow-up of the researcher's activity or by the host institution. Failure to receive this information could lead to the non- continuation of the grant.

12.1.2 Eligible direct research support expenses such as registration, enrolment fees or tuition fees, training-based fees, etc... which shall not exceed €3,000 per annum. This amount may increase in the case of Lab based research. Such costs cannot exceed €20,000 per annum.

Tuition fees and/or bench fees are to be paid by the Researcher directly to the Recognised Educational Institution. The fees paid shall then be reimbursed on presentation of invoice/s and the original official receipt/s of payment/s or equivalent (i.e., receipted invoice where applicable) issued by the receiving Recognised Educational Institution. Awardees are bound to provide a Bank statement as proof of payments/transaction. Documentation received by email direct from the institution, not through the awardee, is considered as original.

The Board reserves the right to ask the applicant for any further evidence and if such further evidence is not forthcoming, the Board may decide not to reimburse if the correct documentation is not presented.

12.1.3 Research abroad allowance including accommodation: In the case of research projects carried out outside Malta, the researcher shall also receive up to €10,000 per annum. This will be based on a case-by-case basis. A confirmation of residence abroad endorsed by the Host Institution needs to be submitted to MEYR. This needs to be renewed every year.

12.1.4 For an Awardee who is doing a Research Project at a Recognised Institution, who during the course of their studies is required to go abroad for research purposes or on their programme of study, will be entitled to two hundred euro (€200) per visit

⁵ Post-Doctoral Research grant includes any Social Security and Social Protection Obligations

abroad subject to the provision of boarding passes and confirmation from their respective Institution confirming the purpose of their visit, up to a maximum of two thousand and four hundred euro (€2,400) over a 12 month period.

12.1.5 For those whose visit is 30 days or longer the allowance will be calculated pro-rata on four thousand euro (€4,000) per annum subject to the provision of boarding passes and confirmation from their respective Institution confirming the purpose of their visit.

12.1.6 The total of the grant cannot exceed €200,000.

13. General Conditions

13.1 The awarding of the research project becomes factual through the allocation of a grant under the conditions foreseen in these Regulations and in the Agreement to be signed by MEYR and the research project holder. As part of the signing of Agreement, the Awardee shall be required to fill in a number of forms, including, TR/S-9, and other forms that may be communicated by the Project Leader.

13.2 The Agreement may be extended for an additional period of one year but not later than 31st December 2027, provided that the criteria for awarding are still fulfilled. The research project holder should submit a request for an extension to the Reach High II Scholarships Unit within MEYR, together with the supporting documents demonstrating compliance to the following:

- Evaluation report submitted by the supervisor and/or the host institution reporting on the researcher's work and his/her activities which shall be included in the agreement extension request; and
- The evaluation report mentioned above shall include a forecast of the accomplishment of the agreed research work programme by the researcher and the suitability of the extension to the Agreement.

13.3 Despite the extension no further funds beyond the €200,000 per project will be disbursed.

13.4 The Researcher may not change the objectives indicated in the proposed work programme without consent from the Mentor and/or the Host institution. Any change should be communicated to the Scholarships Unit within MEYR by the researcher, together with the evaluation report of the Mentor's and of the Host institution.

13.5 Save for exceptional situations duly substantiated by the stakeholders, any change to the Mentor or Host Institution of the research project is not allowed.

- 13.6 MEYR reserves the right to publish the results including the names and I.D numbers of the Reach High II Applicants on the website <https://education.gov.mt/myscholarships/> . When applying for a grant, the Applicants give consent for such publication.
- 13.7 In line with the ESF+ Programme obligations, awardees are expected to remain/return to Malta for a minimum period of 5 years post completion of the Research Project. Such condition will be checked with the relevant Competent Authorities. The Project Leader reserves the right to request further information/proof form the awardees. In the case that such obligation is not fulfilled, the Researcher might be requested to refund all or part of the funds already received according to the circumstances of each case.
- 13.8 Any intellectual property, including patents, directly arising from or derived from the research work funded by the Post-doctoral Research Grant and carried out by the Awardee shall be covered by an Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) agreement that acknowledges that the research work carried out, may be co-funded by the ESF+ 2021- 2027. The Tripartite Agreement will specify what rights belong to the researcher and to other parties including the Government of Malta.
- 13.9 Researchers will be subject to a State Aid assessment on a case-by-case basis.
- 13.10 On award of a Grant, the Project Leader of the Reach High II Project shall make information obtained available to public authorities for accountability purposes.
- 13.11 Researchers who are found to have given false information or who have in any manner withheld information that would have influenced the awarding of the Grant in accordance with these Regulations, shall be immediately disqualified and shall be asked to reimburse any expenses and money granted. The administrators may proceed with a criminal liability suit, without prejudice to any civil action for damages, against such Awardees.

14. Termination before completion

- 14.1 A researcher who does not attain the objective set in the approved work programme or whose research project is cancelled due to serious violations of their duties with the Host Institution might be requested to refund all or part of the funds already received through this grant according to the circumstances of each case.
- 14.2 A negative evaluation of the researcher's performance by the Mentor /Host Institution will be presented to the Reach High II Board for reviewing and this may result in the cancellation of the grant.
- 14.3 Researchers who for any reason discontinue their research project shall inform the Scholarships Unit within MEYR in writing immediately. The case will be reviewed by the Reach High II Board. The researcher may be required to refund the funds disbursed.

14.4 Researchers shall not be deemed to be in breach of these regulations ONLY in case of serious illness and death of the researcher. In case of serious illness, the Researcher needs to provide medical certificates and testimonials to the Reach High II Board. However, the REACH HIGH II Board shall in no way be bound to waiver all claims put forward and reserves the right to appoint its own expert, be it medical or otherwise, to advise and assess the case of the claimant. Thus, researchers who cannot pursue further studies due to serious illness might be required to refund grants on a pro-rata basis as approved by and at the discretion of Reach High II Board, upon evaluation of the situation

15. Monitoring and Control

15.1 Monitoring of research projects is carried out by the Mentor, or by the person responsible for the follow-up of the researcher's activity and by the host institution. Approximately every six (6) months researchers shall ask their academic mentor to submit to the Project leader a report confirming progress, which may include feedback on agreed schedules, milestones, and deliverables and research outputs of the researcher. Failure to receive this information could lead to the non-continuation of the grant. (Refer also to Clause 14.3)

15.2 All proposed publications arising from the research work must have the approval of the Academic Mentor prior to publication.

15.3 The research project might be subject to monitoring and control actions by national and European bodies according to the applicable legislation – EU No. 2021/1060 and 2021/1057 and subsequent legislation. The funded researchers are under the obligation to provide the requested information which may also be used in evaluation studies.

16. Deliverables

16.1 The Mentor shall submit a final report of the researcher's activities to Scholarships Unit within MEYR. This report shall also contain the URL address of publications and scientific creations resulting from the activity.

16.2 **Whenever the objectives of the research project are achieved before the end of the initially set deadline payments shall cease as from the conclusion of the research work.**

16.3 The researchers need to write a minimum of three (3) publications in research journals throughout the duration of the research project. These must be sent in electronic format to the Scholarships Unit.

16.4 The deliverables of each research activity shall include (among others):

- Relevant publications in international renowned journals, publications in conference

proceedings, papers in international conferences, etc...;

- The dissemination of results to public and private bodies and entities;
- Technical reports etc...;
- Patents, ISO, new experimental devices, product standards derived from research results, plans and proposals for the improvement of offered services, innovative suggestions - proposals on resolving problems of production operators, instruments or protocols for monitoring or measuring variables in natural or man-made systems, pilot plants, etc.; (where applicable).

16.5 On completion of the research, a write up on the research work carried out, shall be submitted to MEYR.

17. Publicity Obligations

17.1 All publicity, including public lectures, interviews, email signatures, letterheads, office signs, publications, monographs, print materials, online materials, press releases, television and radio advertisements, websites, film, video, and audio recordings associated with or arising from the research undertaken by the researcher while in receipt of REACH HIGH II Scholars Programme - Post-Doctoral Grants funding must contain acknowledgement of funding received from the grant.

17.2 Reach High II Project may be co-funded by the ESF+ 2021 – 2027. Since the project may be co-funded by the ESF+ 2021 - 2027, all publications and dissemination of results arising from the research project being funded by REACH HIGH II Post-Doctoral Research Projects shall reflect the following acknowledgement: The research work disclosed in this publication is funded by the Reach High II. “The project may be co-funded by the ESF+ 2021 - 2027”.

17.3 Researchers must disseminate the results of the research widely and clearly acknowledge the European Union's and National support in all communications or publications, in whatever form or whatever medium, including the Internet, or on activities for which the grant is used.



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18. Schedule 1



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Declaration

To Reach High II Board

I _____ hereby declare that:

✦ I have read and understood and am abiding with the Reach High II Post-doctoral Grant – 1st Call 2023 Regulations.

✦ The information provided on the CV is correct and I am giving consent to the Reach High II Office to conduct the necessary checks.

✦ All information provided in my application is correct.

✦ I give my consent to the Scholarships' Unit to verify, process and share with other Government entities any data and information related in this Application Form and subsequent Grant (if applicable) for accountability and verification purposes.

Applicant ID Card Number

Applicant Signature



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