

The logo features a stylized map of Europe composed of white geometric shapes. A central horizontal band is divided into four colored segments: red, yellow, blue, and grey. To the right of this band, the text "Berlin University Alliance" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**Berlin
University
Alliance**

Joint Partnership Funding Call

Flexible Funding for cooperation with
the National University of Singapore
and the University of Melbourne



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The Berlin University Alliance maintains strategic partnerships with the National University of Singapore (NUS) and the University of Melbourne (UoM) and thus gives the Berlin institutions access to some of the most important players in the international university sector. A number of joint research projects have been initiated and supported within the framework of joint calls for proposals. In particular, research projects relevant to global health have been increasingly in focus so far.

In order to expand the circle of researchers and administration staff involved in both partnerships and to initiate new collaboration formats, BUA is offering flexible funding for activities with partners at the National University of Singapore (NUS) or the University of Melbourne (UoM) in the calendar year 2024. This funding scheme intends to stimulate contacts between researchers and administrative staff and to give an opportunity to explore potential joint projects or to deepen already existing cooperation with potential of high impact/visibility for BUA.

Funding and Eligible Costs

Maximum funding for a project is set at EUR 5,000. We invite proposals for collaborative projects encompassing diverse formats, such as the preparation of joint publications, joint teaching activities, organization of workshops and/or exhibitions, staff exchange, and beyond. Please note that funding is not available for conference attendance as a stand-alone activity.

Travel and accommodation costs are to be calculated in accordance with the Federal Travel Expenses Act (Bundesreisekostengesetz). The approved funds are designated as “Haushaltsmittel” and are exclusively earmarked for “Sachmittel” (inkl. “Honorare”).

The grants support activities to be conducted in 2024, with a special emphasis on proposals demonstrating potential for lasting impact and heightened visibility for the Berlin University Alliance and its strategic partnerships. Projects in the field of the Next Grand Challenge (Responsible Innovation in Times of Transformation) are explicitly welcome and will be given priority.

Eligibility Criteria

Tandems consisting of one professor, postdoctoral researcher or staff member from both the Berlin University Alliance institutions (Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin) and one of the above partner institutions (UoM, NUS) are eligible to apply. Applications must be submitted jointly by partners from both universities and include CVs of the tandem partners (no longer than two pages each). Individuals or projects currently funded by the BUA-NUS and/or the MEL-BUA research partnerships will only be considered if the proposed activity is an additional facet of the existing partnership.

Timeline and Application Process

Please use the application form provided to describe your project, addressing the aspects such as project description, joint activities, and the pursued goal.

Applications for this call are accepted no later than **03 June 2024**. Depending on the availability of funds, a second call for proposals is planned with deadline at the end of July 2024.

Please submit the completed application form to *Kathinka Rosenkranz* (Coordinator BUA Joint Partnerships, Melbourne and Singapore) to apply for the grant. A decision can be expected within 4 weeks after the deadline of the call.

Upon completion of the selection procedure, allocated grant funds will be disbursed to the relevant faculty or department overseeing the project. A valid cost center at one of the affiliated institutions is mandatory for fund transfer. All activities must conclude by 29 November 2024.

Selection Committee and Procedure

The selection committee, comprising individuals from CCT8, evaluates proposals based on specified criteria:

■ Range of Initiatives and Disciplines:

Proposals will be assessed based on their capacity to broaden the disciplinary spectrum within each partnership, with the goal of nurturing initiatives from diverse academic fields, faculties, and administrative units.

■ Encouraging new Collaborations:

Existing and new projects are eligible, with preference for new initiatives in the case of similar quality applications.

■ Sustainability of the Initiative:

The sustainability of proposed initiatives will be assessed, with preference given to projects that demonstrate a clear plan for continuation beyond the funding period.

■ Diversity and Inclusion:

We value diversity and inclusion in all aspects of collaboration. Proposals that incorporate diverse perspectives, promote gender equality, and support underrepresented groups will be highly regarded.

After reviewing the application, you will receive feedback from us via e-mail with further information about the allocation of the funds. Upon completion of cooperation activities, a brief informal report is required, facilitated through a provided form.

Contact Details

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kathinka Rosenkranz (Coordinator BUA Joint Partnerships, Melbourne and Singapore) kathinka.rosenkranz@berlin-university-alliance.de.