

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND MOBILITY AWARDS

**Funded and/or Administered
by the**

**Office of International Cooperation
Division in Higher Education and Science
Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI)
Republic of Kosovo**

Please Note: In addition to the programs described below, individual foreign Embassies in Kosovo may also offer additional scholarships and mobility awards, not administered or co-financed by MESTI. Potential applicants are encouraged to review the webpages of these Embassies (e.g., France, Germany, United Kingdom, United States) as well as contact these Embassies for further information.

Central European Exchange Program for University Studies (CEEPUS)

The purpose of this multilateral University program is to support academic exchange in the field of education and professional development for students and academic staff in Central and Eastern Europe. CEEPUS offers mobility opportunities for BA/MA students, PhD students and academic staff affiliated with universities/colleges accredited and licensed in the Republic of Kosovo. Students and staff whose University/Faculty is a member of an established CEEPUS cooperation network apply within this network. If an applicant's University/Faculty is not a member of a CEEPUS cooperation network, the applicant may apply as a "free mover".

Further information may be found at: <https://www.ceepus.info/>

ERASMUS +

"Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe." Erasmus+ supports a number of different funding programs, including scholarships, mobility awards and traineeships for students and teaching and training opportunities for academic staff (Key Action 1). For institutions (Key Action 2), "capacity-building projects in the field of higher education are transnational cooperation projects, based on multilateral partnerships". Some of these programs are highlighted below.

Further information may be found at: <https://erasmuspluskosovo.org/>

For students, Erasmus + offers "International Credit Mobility" programs for Bachelor and Master level students to study abroad from 3 to 12 months. Erasmus + also offers "Traineeships" to students for "work placements, internships and other practical experiences abroad". For staff, Erasmus+ offers opportunities "to spend time teaching at an education institution abroad. These opportunities are available to both staff working in the education sector and to individuals in businesses invited to share their knowledge of a given sector, subject or issue to students. Opportunities to teach abroad with Erasmus+ are available in education institutions operating at all levels." "Training opportunities are available to staff working in education, both in teaching and non-teaching capacities. Training periods abroad can consist of job shadowing, observation periods, professional development courses or specific competence-building events. Erasmus+ supports training both at education institutions and at relevant organisations operating outside the sector. Opportunities to take part in professional development activities are available to staff working at all levels of education."

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (EMJMD)

The “Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (EMJMD) is a prestigious, integrated, international study programme, jointly delivered by an international consortium of higher education institutions... The study must take place in at least two of the Programme Countries...The successful completion of the study programme will lead to the award of either a joint degree (i.e. one single degree certificate issued on behalf of at least two higher education institutions of the EMJMD consortium) or multiple degrees (i.e. at least two-degree certificates issued by two higher education institutions of the consortium)... The EMJMD scholarship covers student participation costs (including the tuition fees, full insurance coverage and any other mandatory costs related to student participation in the Master); it represents a contribution to student travel and installation costs and includes a monthly subsistence allowance for the entire duration of the EMJMD study programme.”

Further information may be found at: <https://erasmuspluskosovo.org/en/students/degree-mobility/open-calls/>

Jean Monnet Actions

Jean Monnet Actions “support teaching, learning, research and debates on various aspects of the European Union”. The goal of these programs is “to support teachers in primary, secondary and vocational education to inform young people and develop critical awareness about the European Union, what it stands for, how it works and what difference it makes to their daily lives. These actions cover both education and vocational training (ISCED 1-4).”

Further information may be found at:<https://erasmuspluskosovo.org/en/organizations/higher-education-institutions/jean-monnet/how-to-apply/>

Fulbright Programs

“The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.” Kosovo’s institutions have been involved with the Fulbright Program for many years. The Republic of Kosovo formalized this relationship with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2012, with subsequent renewals. The MOU has resulted in an expanded relationship with the Fulbright program, co-financed by the Kosovo government, which has led to increasing opportunities for Kosovo’s students and academic staff. Latest Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Republic of Kosovo’s Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) and the U.S. Embassy in Kosovo: <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=53749>

“The United States-Kosovo Educational Exchange Board (USKEB) is a non-legal advisory board, founded for the purpose of increasing mutual understanding and advancing relations between the people of the United States and Kosova through educational exchange programming. The USKEB was formed to advise and assist in prioritizing resources and setting priorities for the United States-Kosovo educational exchange programming, including the Fulbright program for Kosovo, and is supported by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), the U.S. Embassy in Kosovo, and Kosovo’s Ministry of Education and Science. USKEB is implemented by American Council”.

Further information: <https://www.uskeb.org/>

Fulbright Faculty Development Program

“The goal of the program is to introduce participants to best practices and theoretical approaches to curriculum development in the U.S. and provide them with concrete strategies on how to develop curriculum for a course, including an overview of academic and research resources.” This

program supports faculty currently teaching in Kosovo. “This program is jointly funded by the U.S. Department of State and the Government of Kosovo.”

Further information may be found at: <https://xk.usembassy.gov/fulbright-faculty-development-program/>

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program

“The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program is a non-degree program for junior and senior researchers, university lecturers, and experts from academic institutions in Kosovo who wish to conduct research, lecture, or pursue combined lecturing and research in the United States. The length of the program is from three up to nine months.” “This program is jointly funded by the U.S. Department of State and the Government of Kosovo.”

For more information, please see: <https://xk.usembassy.gov/education-culture/exchange-programs/fulbright-scholar-program/>

Fulbright Foreign Student Program

“The Fulbright Foreign Student Program brings citizens of other countries to the United States to study for Master’s degrees at U.S. universities...“This program is jointly funded by the U.S. Department of State and the Government of Kosovo.”

Further information may be found at: <https://xk.usembassy.gov/education-culture/exchange-programs/fulbright-foreign-student-program-masters-degree/>

Fulbright Specialist Program

The Fulbright Specialist Program (FSP) allows host Kosovo institutions “to bring qualified U.S. scholars and professionals to Kosovo for two to six weeks to complete a defined project.” “This is a joint program of the U.S. Department of State and the Government of Kosovo.”

Further information may be found at: https://xk.usembassy.gov/fulbright_specialist/

Higher Education Research and Applied Science Plus (HERAS+)

The goal of the Higher Education Research and Applied Science Plus (HERAS+) project is a more competitive and diversified public higher education and research sector in Kosovo. It is funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) with funds from the Austrian Development Cooperation, and is co-financed by Kosovo’s Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI). HERAS+ supports a number of different funding programs, including Scholarships for Kosovar Ph.D. students and post-doc researchers. The goal of this program “is that PhD students and post-doc researchers will contribute to the institutional capacity development of their home institutions in Kosovo by completing their PhD studies and the post-doc research” at an institution in Austria.

Further information may be found at: <https://www.heraskosovo.org/>

Co-funded scholarships with French Embassy in Kosovo

MESTI in cooperation with the Embassy of France in Kosovo offers Master’s level university scholarships for Kosovar students who wish to study in France”.

Further information may be found at: <https://kosovo.ambafrance.org/-Etudier-en-France-311-> and <https://kosovo.ambafrance.org/Thirje-per-aplikim-bursa-universitare-ne-France-2057>

Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship

Japan’s Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Monbukagakusho:MEXT) offers a number of different Scholarship Programs for Kosovo’s

students. These include: Scholarship for Specialized Training College Students (College), Scholarship for College of Technology (KOSEN) Students (Technological High School), Scholarship for Undergraduate Students and Scholarship for Research Students.

Further information may be found on the Embassy of Japan in Kosovo's webpage at:

https://www.ks.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/culture.html

Kosovo American Education Fund (KAEF) Graduate Fellowship Program

The Kosovo American Education Fund (KAEF) is dedicated to the long-term economic development of Kosovo through the education of its people. KAEF provides up to 8 graduate fellowships per year to promising Kosovars for top-level training at select U.S. universities. After returning to Kosovo, program graduates assume leadership positions in government, business, finance, and nonprofit organizations, using their knowledge and attained skills to generate sustainable and positive change." KAEF fellowships "are awarded through a merit-based competition. Fellows study in master's level programs for one or two years, obtain a degree, and become an important force for Kosovo." Funding includes support for tuition, a modest living allowance, medical insurance, a book allowance and international travel.

Further information may be found at: <https://www.kaef-online.org/>

"Stipendium Hungaricum" Program

The Stipendium Hungaricum program, the Hungarian Government's most prestigious higher education scholarship program, was established "to promote the internationalisation of Hungarian higher education and to attract top international students from all around the world". Students may be participating in Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral or non-degree programs, The Scholarship provides for tuition, accommodation, health insurance and a monthly living stipend.

Further information may be found at: <https://stipendiumhungaricum.hu/>

"Young Cell Scheme" Program

The Young Cell Scheme "is a scholarship programme, co-funded by the European Union and by the Government of Kosovo, managed by the EU Office in Kosovo and implemented by the Consortium of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Institute National du Service Public, France." "Launched in 2004, the Young Cell Scheme offers an opportunity to young Kosovar students from diverse background to study in top universities located in EU Member States with a purpose to systematically attract young candidates for the civil service for a period of three consecutive years, after the successful completion of their studies. The overall objective of YCS is to strengthen the professional capacity of the civil service in the long term to better serve Kosovo citizens and meet the obligations and acquis arising from the process of EU integration of the country. In line with the best EU standards, YCS scholarship programme assists Kosovo to generate a depoliticised, professional, inclusive and effective public administration, capable of implementing EU legislation and offers a better career management policy. " Financial support includes "full costs of tuition, living costs allowances, transportation to the country of study from the place of residence and return, and coverage of internships in the Government of Kosovo institutions."

Further information may be found at: <https://ycskosovo.org/index.php/en/>

INTERNATIONAL FUNDING PROGRAMS

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European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST)

The European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) program provides critical access to unique interdisciplinary research networks involving researchers, innovators and other professionals (e.g., industry specialists) working in Europe as well as beyond, COST Actions include: Short-term Scientific Missions, Training Schools, Communication Activities, and Virtual Networking Tools. The 4-year COST Actions support expenses associated with the networking events, as opposed to the research expenses. “By funding networking, COST acts as a pre-portal for further research and innovation funding such as Horizon Europe”. “COST Actions are unique and different from many other EU funding programs in that it is possible to join an existing COST Action research network after it has already started, even if the researcher was not involved in the proposal’s initial submission. Researchers can then participate in the workshops, conferences, training, and other opportunities provided by that COST Action. Researchers can also pursue their own COST Action by submitting a proposal during a COST Open Call. Kosovo joined COST in 2018 as a “Near Neighbour Country”.

Further information may be found at: <https://kosovoncp.rks-gov.net/cost/> and <https://www.cost.eu/>

Horizon Europe

“Horizon Europe is the EU’s key funding programme for research and innovation with a budget of €95.5 billion... The programme facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting, and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges. It supports creating and better dispersing of excellent knowledge and technologies. It creates jobs, fully engages the EU’s talent pool, boosts economic growth, promotes industrial competitiveness, and optimizes investment impact within a strengthened European Research Area.”

https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en

<https://kosovoncp.rks-gov.net/>

Kosovo has participated in the EU Research and Innovation programmes since 2007, beginning with the “Seventh Framework Programme” (FP7). Kosovo’s role as one of the International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPCs) resulted in 23 applications with 3 awarded projects, totaling € 344.135,44. Kosovo’s “success rate” in FP7 was 17,86%. The average “success rate” of ICPC countries was 22.09 %.

Kosovo then participated in Horizon 2020, also as an ICPC country, with an increased level of participation and a significantly larger number of resulting funded awards. Kosovo submitted 113 applications, with 21 awarded projects. Kosovo’s “success rate” was 20.01%, above the average

success rate of ICPC countries, which was 18%. Kosovo received € 2.555.857,00 from the EU to support these awarded projects.

In January 2021, Kosovo became a fully associated member to Horizon Europe, allowing for Kosovo's researchers, innovators, and research entities to participate under the same conditions as entities from EU Member States. This is a significantly positive development that has allowed for increased cooperation between Kosovo and EU Member States as well as other countries participating in Horizon Europe. Link to agreement on Kosovo's status to fully associated member to Horizon Europe: <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDetail.aspx?ActID=53720>

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