

# ULYSSES 2027 CALL DOCUMENT

RESEARCH COLLABORATION

COLLABORATION DE RECHERCHE

**2027 CALL**

# *Ulysses*



## Agencies:

Research Ireland:

[www.researchireland.ie/](http://www.researchireland.ie/)

Ambassade de France en Irlande

[emilie.klander@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:emilie.klander@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

<https://ie.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-embassy-ireland>

Campus France

[extranet@campusfrance.org](mailto:extranet@campusfrance.org)

[www.campusfrance.org/en](http://www.campusfrance.org/en)

Participating organisations:

ADEME — French Environment and Energy Management Agency

[www.ademe.fr/en](http://www.ademe.fr/en)

EirGrid Group

[www.eirgridgroup.com/](http://www.eirgridgroup.com/)

Réseau de Transport d'Électricité

<https://www.rte-france.com/>

Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

[www.seai.ie](http://www.seai.ie)

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## 1) Background

The aim of the Ulysses scheme is to foster new research collaborations between Irish- and French-based researchers by providing seed funding for reciprocal travel visits over the course of 24 months. The scheme facilitates the exchange of innovative ideas and approaches between Irish- and French-based researchers across all research disciplines. Taighde Éireann-Research Ireland (hereafter 'Research Ireland') and the Embassy of France in Ireland are committed to supporting continued knowledge exchange between Irish- and French-based researchers through collaboration.

The longer-term goal of the scheme is to establish enduring professional networks of researchers and institutes. Successful applicants are encouraged to sustain their collaborations post-Ulysses by seeking larger-scale funding.

Applications seeking support for collaboration on research in any discipline are welcomed.

The majority of collaborations and associated (research) projects are co-managed by Research Ireland and the 'Embassy of France in Ireland'. In the 2027 call, some projects will also be supported by the following strategic funding partners, in line with their research interests:

- Electricity transmission system operator EirGrid will partner with French-based Réseau de Transport d'Électricité to support suitably aligned research projects in the area of renewable energies and smart grids, and on the technical and societal issues related to energy transition.
- The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland and ADEME, the French Environment and Energy Management Agency, will provide grant support for research projects exploring topics relating to environmental, climate and energy transition.

An application submitted by an Irish-based research partner(s) to Research Ireland must be matched by an application submitted by the French-based research partner(s) to Campus France, otherwise the research project proposal will not undergo review.

Following the submission of a proposal, Research Ireland will reach agreement with the Embassy of France in Ireland on which proposals may be supported through the strategic funding partnerships. All applications that align with the research topics outlined by the strategic funding partners, will then be considered for support under these partnerships. Please note there is no requirement for

applicants to indicate if funding through a specific partnership is sought. All applications to this call will be treated equally with respect to the review process.

## 2) Finance

A grant awarded under the Ulysses scheme will involve researcher(s) based in Ireland collaborating with researcher(s) based in France.

Grants will be up to a maximum of €5,000 each to Irish- and French-based research partner(s) to cover travel and subsistence costs for team members. These grants will be awarded simultaneously. Overnight subsistence rates for researcher(s) based in Ireland travelling to France must be calculated in accordance with [Irish civil service rates](#).

Costs for researchers based in Ireland will be funded by Research Ireland, EirGrid or the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, as appropriate. Costs associated with researchers based in France will be funded by Campus France, on behalf of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the French Ministry for Higher Education and Research, ADEME or Réseau de Transport d'Électricité, as appropriate.

**Grants will be awarded between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2027 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028.**

## 3) Remit

- Research Ireland and the Embassy of France in Ireland will consider applications across all STEM and AHSS disciplines.
- Some applications concerning renewable energies and smart grids, and the technical and societal issues related to energy transition, may be funded by EirGrid in partnership with Réseau de Transport d'Électricité.
- Some applications concerning sustainable energy may be funded by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland in partnership with ADEME.
- Topics addressing strategic affairs, including geo-political or security-related themes, are also welcome.

## 4) Eligibility

- An application submitted by an Irish-based research partner(s) to Research Ireland must be matched by an application submitted by the French-based research partner(s) to [Campus France](#), otherwise the research project proposal will not undergo review.
- Eligible Irish-based research partner(s) must be postdoctoral researchers and/or [independent researchers](#) in an [Eligible Research Body](#).
- **Applicants must have contracts that will cover their employment during the full two-year period of the grant.** Please note that PhD students are not permitted to apply to this scheme but may benefit from the grant awarded.
- Eligible French-based research partner(s) will include academic researchers and staff in an academic institute, research institute or facility, or the R&D unit of a private company.
- The scheme is only open to researchers based in eligible research bodies (as defined above) in Ireland or France. There are no nationality or citizenship requirements.
- **The participation of early career researchers is mandatory.** An early career researcher is defined as a current PhD student, or a postdoctoral researcher who has submitted their PhD thesis within the last 5 years. Contribution to the training and career development of early-stage researchers is a mandatory element of the scheme. **There must be at least one early career researcher named on either the Irish or French research team.** It is strongly encouraged for applicants to name more than one early career researcher, and at least one for each team, as this is an integral part of the review/evaluation process

## 5) Application Procedure

- Applications from the Irish-based research partner(s) should be submitted to Research Ireland; applications from the French-based research partner(s) should be submitted to Campus France. French-based research partner(s) should visit [www.campusfrance.org](http://www.campusfrance.org) for information about the correct submission procedure for their application.
- Applicants should submit a CV (one page maximum) for each of the team members (in both Ireland and France), including early career researchers, as referenced in the application. These CVs must be included in the application PDF and not attached separately in the submission.
- With the adoption of the San Francisco Declaration of Research Assessment (DORA) principles, the mention of Journal Impact Factors is no

longer accepted and use of H-Index is discouraged among the field relevant bibliometric indicators that may be included as part of the publications track record. Instead, applicants are encouraged to briefly note the significance of the publications they have chosen to include.

- If any of the independent researchers in the proposed collaboration have previously received Ulysses funding in the past five years, their application to this current iteration of the Ulysses scheme must include a new French-based partner(s) and/or new areas of research in the proposed collaboration. Irish applicants who are recipients of Ulysses funding on three or more occasions will only be considered where the budget for the Ulysses Call Scheme in Ireland is not fully allocated.
- If any of the applicants in the proposed collaboration have received Ulysses funding in the past five years, a synopsis of this previous funding should be included (one page maximum). This synopsis should briefly outline the current status of the collaboration, outputs attributed to the grant funding and those anticipated.
- One electronic copy including the application form and all related attachments must be submitted to Research Ireland via email to [ulysses@researchireland.ie](mailto:ulysses@researchireland.ie) by a **person authorised by their eligible body to submit an application on behalf of that body**. The application form must include original signatures and an institutional stamp. Please also copy a research officer from the higher education institution into the email containing the application. **The file should be in PDF format and should include all parts of the proposal collated into one single file. *Submission of multiple files is not permissible.* Only one Irish application per research partner team is permitted in a programme call year.**

**Please note that Irish applications must be received by Research Ireland by 4 pm (Irish time) on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2026. Applications received after this time will not be considered. Results will be announced in November 2026.**

## 6) Assessment Process and Evaluation Criteria

- Each application is checked initially for eligibility by Research Ireland staff. Eligible applications will then undergo an internal review process, with reference to:
  - the quality of research programme, (40%)
  - the individual merits of the Irish and French teams, (20%)
  - the merits of collaboration between the Irish and French teams, (20%)
  - the mandatory participation of early career researchers, (10%)

- and the impact as a direct result of collaboration. (10%)
- A panel meeting will follow to discuss and conclude the final ranking list of projects.
- Where appropriate, the assessment panel may, as part of their decision-making process, prioritise new collaborations and/or take into consideration secondary evaluation criterion of achieving balance with regards to awardees' gender and/or research domain.

## 7) Extensions to Awards

Irish-based partner(s) who are recipients of a Ulysses grant and who wish to apply for a no-cost extension may contact Research Ireland for them to consider a request, **no later than 2 months before the end date of the award. Costed extensions are not supported by Research Ireland.**