



Seventh call for flagship projects within the framework of the Saarland University Internationalization Fund focusing on funding for international visiting scholars

Saarland University has an outstanding international profile thanks to the very high number of international degree programmes, the continuously far above-average proportion of international students and graduates, its European focus with particular emphasis on France, the large number of active partnerships and close cross-border cooperation as part of the University of the Greater Region and, since 2020, through its European university alliance Transform4Europe (T4EU).

Visiting scholars from abroad make a very significant contribution to academic life at Saarland University by expanding internationalization in research and teaching and boosting international networking. They also play a role in exploring and developing strategic international partnerships and enrich the university by bringing in new ideas that help to shape the future direction of Saarland University. The Internationalization Committee of Saarland University is therefore dedicating its seventh call for flagship projects to **inviting international visiting scholars**.

Saarland University welcomes visiting scholars from all disciplines who contribute to the further **internationalization of Saarland University** in line with its internationalization objectives. In addition to diversifying and internationalizing the range of courses offered and the teaching methods used at Saarland University, visiting scholars boost the internationalization of research at Saarland University and help to develop collaborative ties to the guest's home institution.

Funding is available for stays of one month to up to one semester for (early-career) academics who are permanently teaching and have their centre of life at a university abroad and who wish to spend a period of time at Saarland University. The university also welcomes alumni who were previously at Saarland University as doctoral or post-doctoral researchers. Depending on the duration of the stay, funding will be provided for a seminar in the form of a block course or a course consisting of at least two hours of taught time per week. In addition to contributing to a joint research project conducted by the guest and the hosting chair/department, visiting scholars are encouraged to make their research accessible to the broader university audience and, if applicable, non-university public in the form of lectures, events etc. Support from the



Internationalization Fund can explicitly also be used to top up funding from the DAAD visiting lectureship programme or a guest teaching assignment under the Erasmus+ programme. Long-term cooperation with Saarland University is desirable after completion of the stay.

The **hosting chair/department commits** itself to supporting the visiting scholars at Saarland University both academically and personally as well as to integrating them into its structures (e.g. by inviting them to department events etc.). It will also support them with organizing their teaching (course topics, course format, access to laboratories, awarding and recognition of ECTS credits etc.) and organizing their stay (visa application, accommodation, insurance, etc.) in cooperation with the Welcome Centre. In addition, the visiting scholars will be provided with a workplace at Saarland University where they will also have the opportunity to get to know other colleagues and exchange ideas, for example at regular internal colloquia.

The **submission deadline** for applications (comprising the completed application form and a tabular curriculum vitae of the visiting scholar) is **15 October 2023**. The stay may be started any time after approval; stays must be completed no later than **31 December 2024**.

The funding amount for individual stays is up to **€ 10,000**. If visiting scholars from the University of the Greater Region, France or the Transform4Europe university alliance are involved, the maximum funding amount may be increased to **€ 15,000**.

The International Relations Division will be pleased to advise you on the conceptual design of your projects. If necessary, support can also be provided with regard to involving further sources of expertise at Saarland University and also finding suitable partners within the University of the Greater Region or the Transform4Europe alliance.

Eligibility: Professors at Saarland University can submit funding applications for visiting scholars. It is not possible for candidates to submit applications for themselves or to make nominations from partner universities.

The measures for which funding is applied for will be evaluated according to the following criteria:



- To what extent does the stay contribute to the internationalization and diversification of teaching? What is the added value for students?
- To what extent does the stay contribute to the internationalization of research at Saarland University? Is the research project innovative and to what extent is it relevant to the core research fields of Saarland University? To what extent is there added value for the researchers and junior researchers at Saarland University?
- What outreach activities are planned (university/non-university audience)?
- How is the visiting scholar integrated into the daily academic life of the faculty?
- To what extent does the stay contribute to the further development of the partnership with the home university of the visiting scholar?
- In the case of guest lectureships from T4EU university alliances or UniGR partners: To what degree are the visiting scholars involved in the work of the alliance? To what extent do they contribute to the expansion and strengthening of the UniGR or Transform4Europe alliance? What effects are expected in the medium and long term?
- Are other complementary funding sources being used (external funding, other central funds, other funding programmes)? An overview of internal and external funding opportunities as well as external funding sources can be found [here](#).

Eligible costs

- Travel and accommodation expenses (flat rates as per DAAD rates)
- Grant towards project costs
- Insurance costs

Funding from the Internationalization Fund will only be provided if no standard funding options, no sufficient funding (e.g. from other central funds) and no external funding are available for the project.

Ineligible costs:

- Fees
- Travel expenses that can be funded via Erasmus+ mobility funds for researchers and lecturers (double funding is not permitted)



Selection process

- Applications must be submitted using the application form ([see here](#)) together with the CV of the visiting scholar via the Dean of the faculty (or the management of the institution applying) to the International Relations Division (intfonds@uni-saarland.de).
- Applications can be submitted in German, French or English. If you wish to submit an application in French or English, please enclose an abstract in German with your application (max. length: 2000 characters incl. spaces). The abstract should include a brief description of the proposed teaching and research project at Saarland University and should outline how your project will contribute to the further internationalization of research at the university in line with its internationalization objectives.
- **Application deadlines: 15 October 2023 and 10 March 2024**
- Decisions regarding the (non-)approval of funding will be issued within one month of the application deadline.
- All publications resulting from the funded measure (e.g. posters, flyers, websites) should include the words “funded by the Internationalization Fund of Saarland University” together with the Saarland University logo.
- The department making the application is required to submit a project and financial report detailing the implementation of the project and the use of funds to the International Relations Division no later than three months after the completion of the project (a form will be provided).
- The department submitting the application will inform the university’s Press and Public Relations Office about the project and the overall content, providing further information for reporting purposes as required.