**YRI CONFERENCE GRANTS**

**I. PRELIMINARY REMARKS**

* **Eligibility criteria**
* YRI Conference Grants are open to young researchers and innovators under 40 years of age. Applicants must be affiliated with institutions in COST Full/Cooperating Member Countries, Near Neighbor Countries (NNCs), or European Research and Technology Development (RTD) organizations (AR, A2-1.2.3.).
* The Applicant must upload their CV to their e-COST profile.
* **Duration**
* The duration of attendance at the conference should not overlap across two consecutive grant periods. The grant period 2 for Phraconrep is 01.11.2024 - 30.09.2025. The conference must end before October 2025.
* During this grant period, the applicant can apply at any time until the 30th of September 2025, subject to budget availability. However, the applications will be evaluated after three collection dates:
* 20th of February 2025;
* 31st of May 2025;
* 31st of July 2025.
* 30th of September 2025.
* **Funding**
* Financial support is awarded to individuals and can be up to EUR 2,500.00 per grant for face-to-face conferences or EUR 500,00 for virtual conferences per grant (AR, A2-3).
* The funding is not intended to cover employment costs, but contributes for travelling, accommodation, and subsistence expenses, the registration fee, printing of scientific poster, and overall effort (AR, A2-3).
* **Please note:** The allocated grant amount is a contribution to the overall expenses of the mission and not an intent to finance the overall costs. **Our Action supports travel costs, accommodation, and the conference fee, excluding meals.**
* The decision on the amount of the grant is based on the applicant’s proposal and will reflect the duration and location of the conference and the actual conference fee.
* Once the conference has ended and the required and submitted report and documentation (AR, A2-2.3) are approved, the awarded grant is paid by the Grant Holder Institution.

**II. APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

* **Submission of an application**
* The applicant should have an account at e-COST, and after reading the instructions beforehand, the applicant shall apply online by using the dedicated forms available.
* Information to be filled in e-COST:
* Title of the presentation
* Conference title, date (within the active grant period), and country
* Budget requested
* Attendance type.
* Files to be uploaded to e-COST:
* Application form:
* YRI Conference Grants

<https://www.cost.eu/YRICG-application-template>

* For other required documents, see the PHRACONREP website: [YRI](https://www.phraconrep.com/young-researchers-and-innovators-yri-conference-grants/).

**III. EVALUATION PROCEDURE**

* **Evaluation criteria**
* Submitted applications are checked by the Grant Awarding Coordinator and Vice-coordinator to ensure they are eligible.
* Applications respecting the requirement will be evaluated by the Grant Awarding Coordinator and Vice-coordinator in consultation and approval of the Core Group.
* Concerning the proposal, the following criteria will be adopted:
* alignment with the overall goals of PHRACONREP COST Action, with clear reference to Working Group objectives and activities;
* clear identification of potential outcomes such as dissemination of research results connected to PHRACONREP COST Action, publications, future collaborations;
* benefits for the applicant, such as feedback on own research, learning opportunity through participation in talks, round table discussions, poster sessions, etc., and expansion of professional network, and benefits for the applicant’s home institution such as positive impact in terms of internationalization and with regard to professional qualifications and competencies of their employee.

Moreover, age, gender, and geographical spread will be taken in due consideration, according to the [COST excellence and inclusiveness policy](https://www.cost.eu/about/strategy/excellence-and-inclusiveness/#:~:text=The%20COST%20inclusiveness%20policy%20is%20developed%20around%20three,spread%20Career%20stage%3A%20involving%20young%20researchers%20Gender%20balance) (AR, I.1.1. & A2-2.4).

* **Grant Letter**
* As soon as the Grant application is submitted, the Grant Awarding Coordinator is notified. The Applicant, Action Chair and Vice Chair also receive a copy of the notification.
* Upon approval of the application, the grantee receives a grant letter from the Grant Holder, stating the approved amount and the conditions for receiving the grant.
* In case of rejection, the applicant receives an adequate justification.

**IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONFERENCE**

* A YRI Conference grantee delivers the approved (oral or poster) presentation relevant to the scope of the Action.
* Once the Conference has ended, the grantee submits the report and documentation to the Action MC in e-COST within 30 days after the end date of the activity or 15 days after the end of the grant period, whichever date comes first.
* Note: By the time you submit your claim for reimbursement, you are required to submit a report, the Certificate of Attendance, the programme of the conference or book of abstracts/proceedings indicating the presentation (oral or poster), and a copy of your presentation.
* The grantee claims the payment by submitting the report and other required documents via e-COST.
* The Grant Awarding Coordinator is notified as soon as the grantee submits the report and must verify the validity and content of the report. If the report is approved, the application status changes to ‘Report Approved’, and the Grant Holder Manager is notified that the grant can be paid.
* If the report is rejected, the grantee receives a justification and is asked to revise and resubmit the report.

**V. MORE INFORMATION AND DETAILS**

For more information on the YRI Conference Grants, please see Annex 2 in the [Annotated Rules for Cost Actions](https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/02/COST-094-21-V2.0-Annotated-Rules-for-COST-Actions-Level-C.pdf).

For more information on the application procedure, please consult the [Grant Awarding User Guide](https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2025/01/COST-Grant-Awarding-user-guide.pdf).