

**General Conditions for the Co-operation Programme  
in the Field of Science and Technology  
of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania  
and  
the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak  
Republic**

Pursuant to the provisions of article 4 of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Slovak Republic on Scientific and Technological Co-operation signed on 24 February 2011 in Vilnius and pursuant to the Work Regulations of the Joint Committee on Lithuanian-Slovak Co-operation in the Field of Science and Technology (hereinafter - the Joint Committee) prepared by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania and the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter - the Contracting Parties) and approved on 28 May 2012,  
the Joint Committee has agreed as follows:

1. To approve General Conditions for Co-operation Programme in the Field of Science and Technology (hereinafter - the ST Programme).
2. Competitions are announced and opportunities are provided for preparation of joint scientific research projects in the framework of the ST Programme in the Republic of Lithuania and in the Slovak Republic simultaneously.
3. Projects prepared in the framework of the ST Programme are selected on a competitive basis.
4. The ST Programme is coordinated by the Joint Committee. The ST Programme is implemented in the Republic of Lithuania - by the Research Council of Lithuania (hereinafter - the RCL), in the Slovak Republic - by the Slovak Research and Development Agency (hereinafter - the SRDA) (hereinafter collectively referred to as the Institutions Implementing the ST Programme).
5. Scientists, other researchers, and their groups from institutions of higher education and research in the Republic of Lithuania and in the Slovak Republic may take part in a competition announced. A necessary precondition for participation is the availability of a partner from the state of the other Contracting Party.
6. The following types of activity may be financed in the framework of the ST Programme projects:

- 6.1. costs of visits of scientists and other researchers to the Republic of Lithuania/the Slovak Republic participating in a project;
- 6.2. costs of organisation of joint seminars, conferences, and meetings in the Republic of Lithuania/the Slovak Republic;
- 6.3. costs of preparation and publication of joint articles (publications) and materials for joint events;
- 6.4. scientific research financed according to the legislation of the states of each of the Contracting Parties;

7. Conditions of financing the exchange of scientists and other researchers are as follows:

7.1. costs of short-term visits (up to 1 month) of scientists and other researchers are paid;

7.2. Institution Implementing the ST Programme in the state of the sending Contracting Party pays the following costs:

7.2.1. travel costs of scientists and other researchers to/from the state of the other Contracting Party up to the place where the partner institution implementing the project is situated and health insurance costs according to the legislation of the states of each of the Contracting Parties;

7.2.2. costs of living in the state of the other Contracting Party (accommodation, living costs and public transport):

7.2.2.1. for scientists and other researchers from the Republic of Lithuania visiting the Slovak Republic: the amount of three basic social benefits (BSB) per day per person is allocated;

7.2.2.2. for scientists and other researchers from the Slovak Republic visiting the Republic of Lithuania: daily allowance and living costs according to the legislation enforced in the country is allocated.

8. The first joint competition is open to representatives of all scientific fields. With regard to subsequent competitions in the framework of the ST Programme, the Joint Committee may set a procedure for the submission of applications defining scientific research and experimental development that are prioritised by both Contracting Parties.

9. Scientists and other researchers of the Republic of Lithuania and the Slovak Republic present their agreed joint projects in English to the Institution Implementing the ST Programme in their respective country.

The Institutions Implementing the ST Programme forward the projects received by the set deadline for expert assessment.

10. Experts from the Republic of Lithuania and the Slovak Republic assess the projects submitted in the framework of the competition in adherence to the agreed principles for expert evaluation. The Joint Committee shall approve the list of projects to be financed.

11. During project assessment, experts should primarily focus on the following:

- 11.1. scientific quality and innovative nature of the project;
- 11.2. capability of temporary scientific groups to implement the project;
- 11.3. quality of infrastructures of institutions participating in the project;
- 11.4. participation of doctoral students and young scientists in the project;
- 11.5. opportunities to use the results of the project.

12. Maximum project implementation and financing period: up to 2 years.

13. Funding is allocated for the first year of the implementation of the project. After the first year of the implementation of the project, the coordinators of the project present an annual report on the progress of the project to the Institution Implementing the ST Programme of their respective country. If needed, Joint Committee by joint decision may agree on termination of respective project funding.

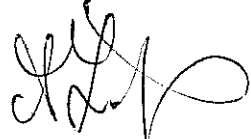
14. On completion of a project, its coordinators present the Institution Implementing the ST Programme of their respective country with a final report in which they specify the results of the completed project and possible fields and prospects for use of these results and further cooperation.

15. Each Institution Implementing the ST Programme prepares in its respective country information about the results of project implementation and submits this information to the Joint Committee for consideration.

16. The ST Programme is signed for a period of five (5) years in two copies in Lithuanian, Slovak and English languages. All versions of the ST Programme have the same legal power. Each Contracting Party receives one copy of the ST Programme in Lithuanian, Slovak and English languages.

The ST Programme comes into force after both Contracting Parties sign it.

Signed on ... *30 May* ..... 20 *11*.



Chairman of the  
Lithuanian Joint Committee  
authorised by the Ministry of Education  
and Science of the Republic of Lithuania



Chairman of the  
Slovak Joint Committee  
authorised by the Ministry of  
Education, Science, Research and Sport of  
the Slovak Republic