

Information for applicants

Austrian Science Fund (FWF) – Israel Science Foundation (ISF)

2026 Call for Israeli-Austrian Joint Projects

Vienna, June 2026

Discovering
what
matters.



Contents

1	Introduction.....	3
1.1	Subject areas.....	3
1.2	Project duration	3
1.3	Deadlines	3
1.3.1	Pre-registration	3
2	Lead Agency Procedure.....	4
3	How to prepare a proposal.....	4
3.1	Eligibility	4
3.2	Cost calculation	5
3.3	Formal requirements at FWF	5
3.4	Formal requirements at ISF	5
4	How to submit a proposal	6
4.1	Submission to FWF	6
4.2	Submission to ISF.....	6
4.2.1	Pre-registration	6
4.2.2	Submission of proposal	6
5	Evaluation and funding decision.....	7
6	Contacts	8



1 Introduction

The **Israel Science Foundation (ISF)** and the **Austrian Science Fund (FWF)** jointly request applications for bilateral, scientific cross-border research projects. A bilateral project must be designed in such a way that each partner's part of the project in their respective country is not an independent project and therefore cannot be carried out and funded separately. It is expected that both parties make a significant research contribution to the overall project

Joint Projects should combine the **complementary expertise** of the project partners. The project parts should be **closely integrated** and there should be relevant research input from both sides.

1.1 Subject areas

The call is open to **all areas of scientific research**.

1.2 Project duration

Joint Projects submitted to the call between FWF and ISF can have a minimum duration of 36 months and a maximum duration of **48 months**. The project duration must be **identical** for the project parts in Austria and Israel.

1.3 Deadlines

The deadline for submitting joint proposals to the FWF is **December 10, 2026, at 14:00 hrs (Vienna local time)**. The time of submission is considered as the time at which the proposal is approved and submitted by the lead research institution via the FWF's digital application portal [elane](#). Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be processed.

Applicants at ISF must provide the ISF with a copy of the proposal submitted to the FWF and submit administrative and financial data via the ISF submission website. The information required by the ISF must be submitted by **December 13, 2026, at 13:00 hrs (Jerusalem time)**. The submission link will be indicated on the ISF website.

Please note that project proposals must be submitted **to both agencies** by the respective deadlines. Any proposals submitted to only one agency will be rejected.

1.3.1 Pre-registration

Applicants at ISF must **pre-register** their intention to submit a proposal to this call **by October 28, 2026 (13:00 hrs, Jerusalem time)** via the ISF online system. Proposals without pre-registration will not be considered eligible by ISF.



2 Lead Agency Procedure

Applications will be handled pursuant to the **Lead Agency Principle** which means, that the application for bilateral research projects is only reviewed **by one** of the participating funding organizations. Joint proposals must be prepared **in accordance with the formal guidelines of the Lead Agency** and applications will be processed by the Lead Agency according to its standard evaluation and decision-making procedures.

The two funding agencies ISF and FWF take turns handling the submission, evaluation, and selection of projects, each according to its own procedures. For 2026, the submission and evaluation of project proposals will be **handled by the FWF as the acting Lead Agency**.

3 How to prepare a proposal

The joint proposal must be prepared in accordance with the **formal guidelines of the Lead Agency**.

3.1 Eligibility

FWF Eligibility

The FWF-funded part of the project and the FWF applicant are required to meet the eligibility criteria specified in the [FWF Application Guidelines for Principal Investigator Projects](#).

All activities funded under this call must comply with applicable Austrian law and the relevant FWF regulations. Funding under this call may only be granted to institutions that are established within the internationally recognized territory of the partner country and may not be used to support activities carried out in territories that came under its control after June 1967

ISF Eligibility

For the Israeli partner of the project, the eligibility criteria as specified in the ISF application guidelines for [Personal Research Grants](#) apply.



3.2 Cost calculation

The costs must be calculated in accordance with the guidelines of the funding agency in charge of funding the respective national/regional project part. The two project parts in Austria and Israel will be funded separately by the FWF and the ISF, respectively.

Costs for the Austrian part of the project must be calculated in accordance with the [FWF Application Guidelines for Principal Investigator Projects](#).

For cost-related questions, we recommend consulting the scientific project officers in the FWF specialist departments prior to submission. For the budget of the Israeli project part, the **ISF guidelines** apply.

3.3 Formal requirements at FWF

Joint proposals submitted to FWF as the Lead Agency must be prepared in accordance with the [FWF Application Guidelines for Principal Investigator Projects](#). The project description (on no more than 20 pages) must encompass the **entire Austrian-Israeli research project**.

In addition to the elements stipulated in the guidelines, the project description submitted to FWF must include **additional information** on:

- The **distribution of work** between the partners
- The **added value** of the cooperation

With regard to the **Annexes**, the following rules apply:

- **Annex 2** (“Financial Aspects”) must include information on **both the Austrian and the Israeli parts of the project**.
- **Annex 3**: The **CVs and publication lists of both the Austrian applicant and the Israeli principal investigator** must be included (in accordance with FWF guidelines). According to the FWF guidelines (see section 2.2.3), CVs for **up to three additional project participants** may be added.

3.4 Formal requirements at ISF

For administrative reasons, ISF applicants must provide the ISF with a **copy** of the proposal submitted to the FWF and submit **administrative and financial data** via the **ISF online system**. For details, please see the **ISF website**.



4 How to submit a proposal

4.1 Submission to FWF

Proposals must be submitted **online** using the [elane](#) digital application portal. When submitting your application, please choose the program category “**PIN– International Programs.**” (call: “**ISF/Israel 2026 – FWF = Lead Agency**”). The online submission must be completed by **December 10, 2026, at 14:00 hrs (Vienna local time)**.

FWF project funding is administered through the research institutions ([PROFI](#)); this means the application must be approved for submission by both the applicant and the respective research institution (= lead research institution).¹ All forms required for the application must be completed online; other required documents such as the project description incl. annexes and any additional documents must be uploaded in full before the application can be approved for submission by the research institution. For additional information, please see the [elane user manual](#).

In calls with fixed deadlines such as this one, applicants are given the opportunity to correct proposals that do not meet the FWF’s formal requirements. Any necessary corrections must be made **within 10 days** of notification by the FWF Office. If the proposal still does not meet the FWF’s requirements after the 10-day period, the FWF Executive Board can decide to reject the proposal without further review.

4.2 Submission to ISF

4.2.1 Pre-registration

Applicants at ISF must pre-register their intention to submit a proposal to this call by **October 28, 2026 (13:00 hrs, Jerusalem time)** via the ISF online system.

4.2.2 Submission of proposal

The information required by the ISF must be submitted **by December 13, 2026, at 13:00 hrs (Jerusalem time)**. For details, please see the [ISF call document](#).

¹ Approval for submission by the research institution may be waived by the research institution.



5 Evaluation and funding decision

The FWF as the **Lead Agency evaluates all applications** according to its own rules on the basis of the international peer review process and will propose a list of projects to be funded by the ISF. After the ISF confirms the FWF's funding recommendation, each agency then funds its respective national teams according to its own procedures.

The minimum number of reviews will be calculated based on **the larger of the** funding amounts requested from the FWF or the ISF (see section 3.3 in the FWF application guidelines). The requested amounts will not be added up for this purpose.

Results are expected to be available by **September 2027**.



6 Contacts

Israel Science Foundation (ISF)	Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
israkeren@isf.org.il	int.call@fwf.ac.at