COST Action AtheroNET CA21153
First call for ITC Conference Grants

The Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC) Conference Grants supports PhD students and Young Researchers and Innovators (YRI) from ITC / Near Neighbour Countries (NNC) for attending and presenting their work (oral or poster presentation) at international high-level conferences fully organised by a third party, i.e. not organised by the COST Action.

According to the Work and Budget Plan of the COST Action AtheroNET CA21153 for **Grant Period 1 (1st Nov 2022 – 31st Oct 2023), we expect to be able to allocate three ITC Conference Grants** of up to **800 EUR each**. The Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the selected Grantee. ITC grants for this period (1st November 2022 – 31st October 2023) **must be completed by 30th August 2023.**

Eligibility criteria

- **The applicant can be either a PhD student or a Young Researcher and Innovator (YRI)**. YRI is a researcher or innovator under the age of 40, according to the COST Association rules.

- **The applicant's primary affiliation must be an institution located in an ITC/NNC** *(for definitions on the COST countries, please visit the ANNEX I – LEVEL A: COUNTRY AND ORGANISATIONS TABLE).*

- **The applicant must present an oral or poster presentation at the conference and must be listed in the official conference programme**. The main subject of the oral/poster presentation at the conference must fit with the deliverables of the COST Action AtheroNET CA21153. When making a presentation, ITC Conference Grant beneficiaries need to respect the COST visual guidance rules (https://www.cost.eu/uploads/2023/10/COST_actions-guidelines_adapted_06_10_2023.pdf).

  Additionally:
- The conference, submission of expenses and report **must take place before 30th September 2023** and submit the required reports and relevant documentation at the e-COST platform within 30 days after the end date of the activity or 15 days after the end of the Grant Period, whichever date comes first.
- The application should be submitted up to **2 weeks AFTER** the abstract has been approved by the conference organizers.

How to apply

To apply for an ITC Conference Grant from the COST Action AtheroNET, please take the following steps:
- Applicants must create a Grant application by logging into e-COST (COST Actions) and clicking on the Grant Applications tab
- Applicants must read carefully the rules detailed in the Annotated rules for COST Actions.
- The online application form contains different sections with mandatory documents:
  - Title of the presentation
  - Conference title, date (within the active Grant Period , i.e. no overlap across two consecutive Grant Periods) and country
  - Budget requested
  - Attendance Type (face-to-face or virtual)

- To be uploaded to e-COST:
    - Application form (template available on e-COST) describing: Relevance of the conference topic to the Action and Motivation describing the potential for impact on the applicant's career.
    - Copy of the abstract of the accepted oral or poster presentation.
    - Acceptance letter from the conference organisers.
    - CV (max. 1 page).

Evaluation process

If the Action's budget allows, applications will be submitted for approval by the Core Group of the Action. Priority will be given to applications that support the objectives of the Action. Please see the Action's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for details.

Obligations

Each ITC grantee must send a copy of their presentation/poster/paper to the **Science Communication Coordinator of the Action** and **Working Group 5** leader Prof. George Kararigas (atheronet [at] gmail.com), shortly after the conference. It will be disseminated using the official website, social media, etc.

After the conference, the successful applicants must submit a scientific report, travel documentation and fee invoice (if applicable) within 5 days after the attendance to the congress. The grant is only paid after submission of the requested information.

Contact persons

- Prof. Paolo Magni (paolo.magni [at] unimi.it) **- Action Chair**
- Prof. Susana Novella (susana.novella [at] uv.es **- Grant Award Coordinator**
- Prof. George Kararigas (atheronet [at] gmail.com) - **Science Communications Coordinator**
- Dr. Ines Potočnjak (ines.potocnjak [at] yahoo.com) - **Grant Holder Scientific Representative**