

## **COST Action AtheroNET (CA21153)**

### **Call for ITC Conference Grants - 2025**

The COST Action AtheroNET (CA21153) (<https://atheronet.eu/>) is launching the 2025 call for Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC) Conference Grants (CG). The ITC-CG support PhD students and Young Researchers and Innovators (YRI) from ITC / Near Neighbour Countries (NNC) for attending and presenting their own work within the scope of AtheroNET (oral presentation) at international high-level conferences fully organized by a third party, i.e. not organised by the COST Action.

According to the Work and Budget Plan of AtheroNET for **Grant Period 3 (1 Nov 2024 – 31 Oct 2025)**, we **plan to allocate two ITC-CG** of up to **800 Euro each**. The Grant is a contribution to the overall travel, accommodation and meal expenses of the selected Grantee. Applications will be considered individually on a first-come, first-served basis with the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025 for **conferences finishing before 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025**.

#### **Glossary of relevant EC / COST acronyms:**

YRI:	Young Researcher and Innovator (under the age of 40)
ITC:	Inclusiveness Target Countries
NNC:	Near Neighbour Countries

#### **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.
- **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 presentation of their own primary research work within the scope of the Action at the conference and must be listed in the official conference programme**. The main subject of the oral presentation at the conference must fit with the deliverables of AtheroNET.

#### **Additionally:**

- The conference, the submission of expenses and the reporting **must take place before 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025** and the required reports and relevant documentation must be submitted on 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.
- The application for an ITC-CG should be submitted up to **2 weeks AFTER** the abstract has been accepted by the conference organisers.

## How to apply

To apply for an ITC-CG, please follow the following steps:

- Applicants must create an 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 online)
- To be uploaded on 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 presentation
  - Acceptance (or invitation) 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 align with the objectives of the Action. Please see the Action's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for details.

## Obligations

The required report/documentation for claiming an ITC-CG is:

- Report to the Action MC ([paolo.magni@unimi.it](mailto:paolo.magni@unimi.it) and [susana.novella@uv.es](mailto:susana.novella@uv.es)) on the outcome of the presentation of the accepted contribution, in terms of the Grantee's visibility, including the establishment of new contacts for future collaborations
- The certificate of attendance
- The programme of the conference or book of abstracts / proceedings indicating the oral presentation of the Grantee
- Copy of the given oral presentation (also to Working Group 5 leader Prof. George Kararigas ([atheronet@gmail.com](mailto:atheronet@gmail.com))). 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@unimi.it](mailto:paolo.magni@unimi.it)) - **Action Management Committee Chair**
- Prof. Susana Novella ([susana.novella@uv.es](mailto:susana.novella@uv.es)) - **STSM Grant Coordinator**
- Prof. George Kararigas ([atheronet@gmail.com](mailto:atheronet@gmail.com)) - **Science Communication Coordinator of the Action**
- Dr. Ines Potočnjak ([ines.potocnjak@yahoo.com](mailto:ines.potocnjak@yahoo.com)) - **Grant Holder Scientific Representative**