**SPECIAL RESEARCH FUND**

**Call 2024**

**RENEWAL OF INTERNATIONAL THEMATIC NETWORKS**

**Please consult the document “Announcement and application information”**

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| **Spokesperson:** |  |
| **Title of the research project & acronym** |  |

**Deadline: Thursday 29 August 2024 at 23:59 (Belgian time).**

* The application has to be submitted electronically to Marieke.Merckx@UGent.be
* The document has to be named as follows: “acronym\_ITN\_FP\_2025\_29”
* The application form and annexes are preferably sent in one PDF-file, but two separate files are also allowed (please use a pdf converted from the Word document and not a scanned pdf[[1]](#footnote-2))
* The deadline will be strictly respected; late or incomplete applications will be rejected without review.

# details of network partners

Please add the relevant information on the **composition of the consortium** in sheet *“ITN partners”* of the provided Excel template, and add this as an annex to your proposal. Include both the Ghent University promotors and the international partners in this list. Please also indicate the changes in your consortium as compared to your initial application: you can use the options indicated in Colum C of the template.

# self evaluation of previous funding period

1. **Explain the initial focus and objectives of the ITN[[2]](#footnote-3) (abstract) –** max. 500 words
2. **Results and impact –** max. 2.000 words
* What are the **key results** achieved by your ITN during the period under review? Refer to the indicators formulated in the first application.
* Describe how the ITN has created **impact in terms of education, research and services to society** for Ghent University and your partners Reflect on how the **ITN funding and structure** **contributed** to the generated impact
* Briefly reflect on **progress achieved** and refer to the initial objectives of your network
* Describe - if applicable – **changes in focus / objectives** during the first funding period. Explain how these changes have affected the structure, activities, output and impact of your network
1. **Stakeholder engagement and communication –** max. 1.000 words
* Describe any relevant **synergies or complementarities** between the ITN and other (non-) academic actors both in Belgium and abroad
* Evaluate the actions that have been undertaken to **inform and/or engage internal and external** **stakeholders**, both regarding the topic of your network and regarding the ITN als policy instrument (strategic and operational level)
1. **Management of the network** – max. 500 words
	* Reflect on the organisational structure of your network and the involvement of the partners
	* Elaborate on the acquired co-funding for the network

# Proposal for itn renewal

1. **Justification and added value of a second funding period: Explain the continued relevance of the theme/topic of the network and of the partners, focussing on why this network and its topic needs to be prolonged –** max 1.000 words
* What is the added value for Ghent University and its partners?
* Which Ghent University strengths will you leverage to support or reinforce this network ?
* What are the reasons for choosing the particular partners within the thematic network?
* What outcomes (in research, education and services to society) do you hope to achieve during the next five year period by continuing this thematic network?
* Explain the changes you intend to make in the next phase, based on your experience of the past 5 years with the ITN
1. **Activities & organizational structure: Describe the planned cooperation and roadmap of activities between the network partners (in education, research and services to society) during the next funding period of 5 years –** max 1.000 words
* What type of activities will be developed by the consortium in education, research and service to society, in relation to the main objectives of the ITN
* What will be the specific role and the added value of the different partners, including Ghent University, in the development of these activities?
* How will a second funding period be innovative in terms of activities?
* Which dissemination activities are planned?
1. **Impact: Describe how a second funding period will lead to more impact and more added value –** max 1.000 words
* What will this international thematic network add to the existing cooperation between the partners and to the academic quality of the partnership (cf. joint activities in international research and educational projects, …)?
* How will this network contribute to the academic quality of the individual partners?
* How does the network aim to have an impact within Ghent University?
* How does the network aim to have societal impact?
1. **(Financial) sustainability of the network –** max. 1.000 words
* Describe the overall financial break-down per main action, and specify the type of cost, timing,… by using the provided template. (If necessary, this section can be used to add remarks or specifications regarding the budget)
* Demonstrate how the ITN will realize the co-funding and total turnover of 120.000€
* How will the network ensure to sustain its activities after the second (and last) funding period

# short cv’s of all partners

max. 1 page per person – **only for partners** that joined the network **after the first application**!

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| --- |
| **[Partner Name]** |
| ***Personal data: see Part I*** |
| **Summary of the Curriculum Vitae (max. 1000 characters):** |
| **Experience contributing to the International Thematic Network:*** *Five most relevant scientific publications*
* *Five most relevant educational activities (courses / master thesis / PhDs)*
* *Five most relevant Services to Society*
* *Others*
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# letters of endorsement

A signed individual, personal Letter of Endorsement by each of the international partners.

*The Letters of Endorsement should be submitted in one .pdf-file, either together with the application form, or in a separate file.*

1. *Via File < Export < Create PDF/XPS document* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. A detailed list of activities (based on the annual reports of the ITN) will be provided to the selection committee. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)