

# University of Haifa and Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz Joint Research Fund - 2026 Call for Proposals

Guidelines for Applicants  
Deadline: Friday May 15, 2026 (16:00 CET)

## Overview

The University of Haifa (UH) and the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (JGU) are pleased to announce the launch of a new research fund to support collaborative research initiatives between the two institutions.

The purpose of the Joint Research Fund is to initiate and develop new research partnerships that can demonstrate potential to result in significant research outputs. Preference will be given to projects which encourage the building of networks of researchers and have clearly defined plans for applying for future funding.

Projects can include:

- Joint research activities: scoping, feasibility, proof of concept;
- Working on joint research programs aimed at joint publications;
- Submitting joint funding applications to third-party funding institutions.

The Joint Research Fund is open to applications from all research areas, and it encourages applicants from any discipline to submit a proposal.

Proposals will be assessed and recommended for selection by a panel composed of VP for Global Engagement and VP for Research and Development in Haifa; and Head of Research and Transfer Office and Head of International Office and one professor in Mainz. Key evaluation criteria will include a deep collaboration, whereby each side provides unique value from their home institution, and ability to demonstrate potential to receive external research funding and produce joint publications.

## Projects

- To be eligible, a proposal must include a PI from UH and a PI from JGU.
- The funding envelope comprises up to 10,000 € from UH and 10,000 € from JGU.
- We expect to support up to 2 projects in this round for a funding period of max. 18 months.
- The fund is open to proposals across all research areas.
- Projects will be funded starting from July 2026 onwards. There is flexibility on start dates, but all projects must be underway by September 2026 at the latest.

- Proposals demonstrating strong relevance to strategic priorities at the participating institutions and with the potential for sustainability beyond the initial funding period are particularly encouraged.
- External collaborators (including researchers from other universities internationally, or those working in non-academic contexts such as industry or government) cannot lead an application but can be involved in the proposed activities at their own expense, where the benefit of their involvement to the collaboration is justified in the proposal.

### **Proposal submission guidelines:**

The proposal should include the following parts:

- Title of Project
- Team composition from both universities
- Project description, rationale, background (maximum 750 words)
- Timeline
- Project objectives and significance/originality and expected outcomes (maximum 400 words)
- Roles of each partner
- Project budget: *Include as an additional attachment. Please address which partner (UH or JGU) will be responsible for covering each budget item.*
- *Annex with CVs of the principal scientists involved with the 5 most relevant publications*

### **Costs and proposal**

- Generally, the funds can be used flexibly within the scope of the financial regulations of each university. Funds serve in particular to connect the people involved, for example through workshops, invitation of experts or visits to external partners. Funds must be used in their entirety until the end of the funding period.
- Proposals may include workshops, symposia, research seminars, development of a collaborative network, research activities and pilot or feasibility research activities (such as experiments, surveys, etc.). Personnel costs, with the exception of costs for student assistants, cannot be requested.
- Cost of travel between the universities are not eligible. Fellowships and awards are also not eligible for funding.
- Each institution will pay the funds directly to its researchers (via their Institute). Approval of expenditure will be governed by each university for the part of funding provided.
- Fees, venue rental, and catering will not be covered.

We encourage every interested candidate to access both organizations websites for full information on research areas and faculty bios. You can either contact potential collaborators directly through the website or contact the coordinators listed below who can assist in connecting you to researchers at each institution in your area of interest. University of Haifa Contact: Tsameret Einav, [tzohar1@univ.haifa.ac.il](mailto:tzohar1@univ.haifa.ac.il) Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz Contact: Dr. Markus Häfner, [haefner@uni-mainz.de](mailto:haefner@uni-mainz.de).

Applications can be submitted via email until Friday May 15, 2026 (16:00 CET), to both of the contacts above.