

#ScienceForUkraine

PRESS RELEASE

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Scholars who remained in Ukraine need remote collaboration opportunities

Within the first month of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, millions of people fled the country, including thousands of scholars. Global scientific community created numerous opportunities in their institutions and labs for displaced Ukrainian scholars, which we are very proud about. At the same time, we should not forget about scholars who remained in Ukraine. Following the calls of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine we ask institutions, funders and companies to provide remote cooperation opportunities for them, such as small research grants, online training or mentoring support.

Based on the data from the Ministry of Science and Education of Ukraine, in 2021 there were 60,000 researchers and 35,000 support staff (almost half of them female) and 1.3 million students. When the war broke out, many of them were forced to flee the country and leave their homes. The majority of academics, however, will remain in Ukraine, either by choice or as a result of national military mobilization. The Ministry works on [detailed measures to support education and science in wartime](#). Providing displaced researchers with the access to research infrastructure and online cooperation opportunities is one of the priority [activities listed by the Ministry](#). Moreover, the Young Scientists Council at the Ministry [explicitly calls](#) for opportunities to be provided for early career researchers who remain in the country. Therefore, we should reach out and create remote collaboration opportunities for scientists in Ukraine.

For the past month #ScienceForUkraine has collected more than 1.5 thousand offers of support from 50 countries, with the potential to help more than three thousand displaced Ukrainian scholars. Only 61 of these positions involve remote work. Therefore, we strongly encourage funders, academic institutions, and companies to provide remote collaboration opportunities for Ukrainian scholars. Two years of COVID-19 pandemic have taught us that research can be performed remotely, and we should think about funding such opportunities for Ukrainian colleagues. For instance, COST Action Virtual Mobility grants could be used for the purpose of data collection (see [NEP4DISSENT example](#)). And it is not only about financial support but also about providing colleagues with means of contact and career development, in spite of the raging conflict. Other support examples include unlocking online courses for Ukrainian scholars or setting up mentoring schemes which are relatively low cost, yet are very meaningful for those remaining near war zones in Ukraine (see the example of [Project Fleck](#)).

Who we are. #ScienceForUkraine(<https://scienceforukraine.eu/>) is an initiative of volunteers providing information about temporary job opportunities for scholars fleeing Ukraine with a wide international reach. Over 800 scientific groups all over the world have already joined our movement and we are hoping that you will be able to open your door to Ukrainian scholars as well.

We need remote #ScienceForUkraine now!

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