



COST Action MP 1405
Quantum Structure of Spacetime



7th CALL for Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)

Call opening:	13 March 2018
Application deadline:	13 April 2018
Decision and notification:	28 April 2018

“Quantum structure of spacetime” is opening the 7th regular call for exchange visits (STSMs) aimed at strengthening ties among network members, fostering knowledge transfer and enabling researchers to promote new ideas, skills or techniques within the scientific objectives of this Action.

Total budget of STSM grants for this call: **10,000 €**, with max 2,500 € per general STSM or max 3,500 € for Early Career Investigators (ECI = within 8 years from PhD date) staying over three months. These missions must take place **between 15 May and 15 November 2018**. We expect that the next call will be announced in September 2018.

Detailed information can be found also

under → CALLS → STSM on our webpage

<http://www.qspace-cost.eu/>

or in the COST Vademecum

<http://www.cost.eu/participate/networking>

and in the user guide

http://www.cost.eu/STSM_userguide

APPLICANT & HOME INSTITUTION:

A PhD student, a postdoc or a staff member in an institution either located in a participating COST country or else having been formally approved onto our Action from a Near Neighbour Country (NNC) or a European RTD Organisation. We encourage in particular applications from PhD students and ECIs, and candidates from or travelling to Inclusiveness Countries. For details please visit

http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/mpns/Actions/MP1405?parties

HOST INSTITUTION:

An applicant from a participating COST country can be hosted by an institution in another COST country or an approved non-COST organisation (in an NNC or IPC). An applicant from an approved non-COST organisation (only European RTD or in an NNC, not in an IPC) can be hosted only in a participating COST country. The applicant must obtain the agreement of the host institution before submitting the STSM application.

DURATION:

There is a **minimum duration of 5 working days** for any proposed STSM, and a **maximum of 90 days**, raised to 180 days for ECIs.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

The financial support provided by the STSM scheme is intended to cover a part, but not necessarily all, of the costs of the proposed visit. The financial contribution for an STSM will be a fixed grant based on the applicant's budget request and the evaluation of the application by the STSM assessment committee. **Indicative values for the requested amount for daily allowance and travel expenses are 60–90 €** (max 160 €) and 300 € (max 500 €), respectively. However, the total amount requested per STSM shall not exceed 2500 € (3500 € for ECIs staying longer than 90 days). Advance payment is not possible, except for STSM applicants from an ITC country. STSM grantees must make their own arrangements for all health, social, personal security, fiscal and pension matters. Top-up funding from the host institution is not mandatory but is encouraged in order to maximise the effectiveness of the STSM.

BEFORE the STSM:

The applicant must (have) create(d) an **e-COST profile** on <https://e-services.cost.eu/w3/index.php?id=91> and submit her or his application by clicking on the STSM application tab. The following information has to be provided:

- Applicant details
- STSM details
- Bank details
- Host details
- Financial support
- Supporting documents (2nd page reachable via upper-left-corner button)

The applicant should also send an **email** to the STSM coordinator Prof. Olaf Lechtenfeld <<mailto:qspace@itp.uni-hannover.de>> clearly indicating the Working Group (WG1, WG2, or WG3) and science topic most relevant to her or his application. In addition, we ask the applicant to **register on the website of the Action** <http://www.qspace-cost.eu/> and to acknowledge it in publications resulting from the STSM with a phrase like *“This work is based upon work from COST Action MP1405 QSPACE, supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).”*

The deadline for the application is 13 April 2018 by midnight UTC.

The scientific and budgetary assessment of the STSM applications will be executed by a **selection committee** (Prof. J. Arnlin (SE), Prof. A. Chatzistavrakidis (HR), Prof. M. Lukarevski (MK), Prof. V.G.M. Puletti (IS), with possible involvement of Chair, Vice-Chair or WG Leaders). The criteria of assessment are scientific excellence, how effectively the STSM will contribute to the scientific aims of Action MP1405, and juniority of the applicant, together with geographical distribution and gender promotion. The STSM coordinator will inform the Grant Holder of the successfully evaluated proposals by **28 April 2018**. The Grant Holder will subsequently either activate or reject the application **via e-COST**. The result, including the amount of the grant or justification for rejection, will then be visible to the applicant.

AFTER the STSM:

Within **30 days from the end of the STSM** the grantee is required to upload a **scientific report** and a **host approval** of his or her report (can be an email). **Submission past the deadline will result in automatic cancellation of the grant.** A template for the report can be found at http://www.cost.eu/STSM_report_template. The report has to be approved by the STSM coordinator, who will then initiate the payment of the grant, which will be executed by the Grant Holder.

Prof. Olaf Lechtenfeld

STSM Coordinator of the COST Action MP1405