

## MINUTES OF THE SELECTION MEETING FOR THE THIRD CALL OF THE MIND ICM23 PROJECT

### ERASMUS+ KA1 ICM

The selection meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> cohort of MIND ICM23 took place online on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2025. The selection committee has worked on valid applications for incoming flows to distribute and award the 12 remaining scholarships approved for funding under this project's scope.

The selection panel included members of the management teams of the four Portuguese universities of the consortium directly involved in the project's management and hosting of selected applicants.

The call for application submission occurred between 26/02/2025 and 20/03/2025, and the total number of applications received was **18**.

According to the referred call Guidelines for Application, all the applicants needed to have a formal link with one Partner Institution of the project.

After the application stage, the coordinating institution provided the guidelines for the technical check of each application eligibility. Partner Countries' HEIs had to validate their outgoing applications on the MIND ICM23 website according to the following criteria:

- The applicant has a formal link to the institution that is performing the validation process;
- The applicant includes all requested documents for their type of mobility;
- The applicant (student) is enrolled in an eligible degree course at the home institution;
- The applicant (staff) has a formal contract with the home institution;
- The applicant provides true information about their contact details and academic/professional background;
- The home institution agrees with the mobility proposal presented by the applicant.

Upon the conclusion of the eligibility check, the total number of **(incoming) applications considered valid was 18.**

The following criteria and weighting factors were adopted to evaluate the valid applications:

Undergraduate, Master: Academic Achievement (43%); Motivation (43%); Language Skills (14%)  
PhD: Scientific Achievement (33%); Proposed research project (33%); Motivation (17%); Language Skills (17%)  
Staff: Previous Experience/Research production (33%); Teaching/Work Plan (33%); Motivation (17%); Language Skills (17%).

In addition, the following criteria - respecting this priority - were used to draw up the final list of selected and reserve list of incoming applicants:

- a. Priority to applicants with fewer opportunities or with any kind of socio-economic vulnerability if well documented;
- b. Number of previous ICM scholarships: applicants who had never benefited from an ICM scholarship in the past were given priority;

- c. Respect for the mobility distribution that was approved by the National Agency, considering the total number of flows foreseen, thus avoiding shifting scholarships to different types of mobility as much as possible;
- d. Evaluation and ranking by each host institution, respecting the priority given to applications graded 80% or higher, to assure the project's quality;
- e. Geographical balance between Portuguese and partner countries' institutions, to assure equal impact amongst all institutions involved;
- f. Attention to cross-cutting issues, namely gender balance.

**In this cohort, 12 incoming applicants were selected. The list of selected applicants is attached as an annex to the meeting minutes.**

Due to an insufficient number of eligible applications to fill the 3 available spots for Albania (2 applications received), Montenegro (2 applications received), and Kazakhstan (3 applications received, with 1 rejected), the consortium agreed to reallocate the remaining positions as follows, in line with the Erasmus+ Programme rule of upholding the flows within the same region:

- 1 incoming student flow from Albania reallocated to Bosnia and Herzegovina (reserve list from 2<sup>nd</sup> call);
- 1 incoming student flow from Montenegro reallocated to Bosnia and Herzegovina (reserve list from 2<sup>nd</sup> call);
- 1 incoming student flow from Kazakhstan reallocated to Kyrgyzstan (reserve list from 3<sup>rd</sup> call).

Given that it was possible to award all the scholarships foreseen during the current call, no further call for applications is foreseen in this project's scope.

Should there be any dropouts from the current approved list, the applicants will be replaced by others on the reserve list. In the absence of applicants in the reserve list, positions will move to a new call (4<sup>th</sup>).

The results will be communicated to each applicant via an individual e-mail (selected/reserve list/not selected) with cc/ to the respective host faculty in charge of the evaluation process and the home institution.

Furthermore, the final list of the selected applicants will be published on the website <https://mind23.up.pt/>.

The selected applicants will have 10 consecutive days to confirm the acceptance of the scholarship after the results are released. Should the applicant not confirm the acceptance of the scholarship, the applicant will be marked as a dropout, and the next applicant in the reserve list will be notified (according to the same selection criteria listed above).

Recommendations for future calls:

The selection panel recommends that partner countries' HEIs concerned should apply additional dissemination measures for attracting students eligible for the fewer opportunities' specific places in the next call of the project.

By approving these minutes and their content, the Selection Committee members, hereinafter identified, confirm and Declare the Absence of Conflict of Interest as stipulated by Portuguese law, in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 13 of the General Regime for the Prevention of Corruption published in the annex to Decree-Law No. 109-E/2021 of December 9<sup>th</sup>. This applies to situations where there may be reasonably serious doubts regarding the impartiality of their conduct or decisions, as outlined in Articles 69 and 73 of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

Porto, 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2025

The Selection Committee members of the 4 Portuguese Institutions:

Luísa Capitão, Director of the International Office (U.Porto)

Carolina Enes, MIND ICM23 Project Manager (U.Porto)

Sofia Bruckmann, Head of International Office (U.Aveiro)

Anabela Manso, Project Officer (U.Aveiro)

Filipa Neto, Project Officer (U.Aveiro)

Paula Xavier, Project Officer (U.Aveiro)

Rita Oliveira, Project Officer (U.Minho)

Lúcia Fernandes, International Relations and Mobility Office (UTAD)