



## FORTHEM ALLIANCE

### Diversity and Migration Lab

### Specific Call for Student-Driven Projects

#### 1. Introduction

Each of the nine FORTHem universities coordinates a *Lab*; every *Lab* focuses on a specific theme aimed at solving societal challenges through co-creation among students, researchers, employees, external stakeholders and across countries and cultures.

The *Labs* are not physical entities, but a collaborative network of people who work together on projects or activities.

Within the *Labs*, students play a key role in the construction and implementation of the *Labs* network. The FORTHem Alliance intends to enhance this role as much as possible.

The main goal of the FORTHem *Labs* is to enhance co-creation processes and students' involvement through student-driven projects. To support the *Labs*' co-creation activities, with the direct involvement of students, the Alliance organized the *Labs* Conference at the University of Agder (24-26 October 2023) with multiple workshops on enhancing co-creation processes.

As established by the FORTHem Alliance, in order to improve co-creation processes and student involvement, one of the main objectives of the workshops were the promotion of student-led projects. This call aims to encourage participation among the students (BA, MA, PhD) at the universities that are part of the Alliance, creating their own activities within and across FORTHem *Labs*. The goal of this call is to ensure recognition of student engagement and project work, while offering a possibility for funding.

#### 2. Student-driven projects

The Diversity and Migration *Lab* has an already active network of students who have worked in previous *Lab* actions, including the BIP "Intersectional Approach - Research on Diversity and Migration Narratives", 15-19 May/5-9 June, Valencia.

Through this call, students will have the opportunity to promote and manage projects related to the *Lab* topics, in collaboration with researchers and other external parties.

Projects should foster community building among the students within or across *Lab* and should be scaled in accordance with resources provided.

A project is officially linked to one *Lab* but can involve another(s). Cross-*Lab* projects are also encouraged and could increase the amount of funding provided.

The Diversity and Migration *Lab* provides funding for the development of at least one student-driven project per year (it must be started and completed before October 31st of the year).



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The projects can be implemented physically, in a hybrid way or completely digitally. The projects should be connected to the *Lab* topics and can last from 2 weeks to one semester.

This call is intended to fund 2 projects, one for the year 2023 and one for 2024. Forthem Alliance will support the winning projects with € 5,000 per project in order to support the following eligible costs:

- a) staff costs
- b) dissemination of knowledge and information
- c) travel costs and individual support (subsistence and accommodation of participants during the activities)
- d) other costs (travel and/or subsistence costs of third parties; renting of premises for major events).

Funds will not be paid to the students, contracts or bills from suppliers must be approved in advance by FORTHEM local office based on the budget, eligible costs and legal procedures. The projects will be further supported by the *Lab's* activities through the resources made available by other calls (Erasmus Short Term Mobility, BiP, Forthem Campus etc). A request for funding of travel costs can be made outside of this call to local FORTHEM office.

### 3. Who can apply

All students enrolled at a FORTHEM universities, whether they are already a member of a *Lab* or not.

### 4. Minimal criteria

As with any other FORTHEM project, student-drive projects must involve at least three FORTHEM Alliance partners and, specifically, have at least 6 students from the different universities.

At least student of three FORTHEM universities, and one external stakeholder, must collaborate in the whole or part of the project.

At least one element or phase of the project needs to be co-created with an external partner or a group of internal end-users, or co-creation should be used at one stage of project (needs analysis, planning/designing, implementation/prototyping, testing/evaluating), not necessarily throughout all the stages. The objectives must be feasible, and the projects shall be executed and reported before October 31st 2024. A final report on the result/outcome needs to be presented upon completion of the project.

### 5. How to apply

When submitting projects, it is possible to involve the Lab's academic staff in order to be better supported at these stages and to have guidance that can help the students in planning and implementing the project.



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The project proposal must be submitted by the student project manager. The application must be submitted by 31 January 2024, using the form at the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/cLHnGrHVDP?origin=lprLink>

## 6. Selection of projects

After the application is submitted, the Academic Coordinator of the *Diversity and Migration Lab* convenes the Review Board to evaluate the projects submitted. The Review Board consists of the Academic Coordinators of all FORTHEM universities for the *Diversity and Migration Lab* and its Administrative Coordinator.

The Review Board must select at least one project. Should it be decided to fund several projects, the total amount will be divided by decision of the Review Board among the winning projects. After the approval of the project, the applicants might be asked to adjust the budget. Evaluation results will be published by February 16th 2024.

Students' applications will be evaluated by a review board. After the approval of the project, the applicants might be asked to adjust the budget.

## 7. Development of projects

Students commit to at least one form of alliance-level communication or dissemination operation regarding the project, e.g., a blogpost, a social media post, a video or other.

Project is delivered and concluded when the student reports to the *Lab* with evaluation and reflection.

The activity carried out will be recognized by a certificate, released by the *Lab*, which describes the project, acknowledging the student's role and skills gained. Depending on your university, your project could grant ECTS.

## 8. Contacts

This is a specific call for the Diversity and Migration Lab; for information on the Alliance's general call for student projects see the following link: Projects <https://www.forthem-alliance.eu/news-detail/t/47329>

If you need expert advice about Labs projects, please get in touch with the contact person of your university: <https://www.forthem-alliance.eu/objectives/labs>.

For administrative information on the call, please contact the Administrative Coordinator of the Diversity and Migration Lab: Dr. Vincenzo Fumetta, [labstudentscall@unipa.it](mailto:labstudentscall@unipa.it)



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