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“Etta-Becker-Donner” Scholarship Programme

5th call for applications
17 of February to 31 of March 2017

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1. Introduction

The Austrian Latin America Institute (LAI) was founded in 1965 with the objective to deepen the scientific and cultural dialogue and exchange between Austria and Latin America. In the area of science and technology, the LAI understands itself as a coordination and cooperation platform between researchers and research institutions located in Austria and abroad. By means of different projects, events and trainings, the network of contacts spreads from Europe to Latin America and promotes a continuous exchange of knowledge and experiences. In the sector of scientific cooperation, higher education and development cooperation, the institute is financed by the Austrian Ministry for Science, Research and Economy (BMWFV), the Austrian Development Cooperation and the European Union.

Due to financing by the BMWFV, the LAI has the opportunity to realize different activities for supporting the cooperation and scientific exchange between Austria and Latin America. One of these activities is the Etta-Becker-Donner Scholarship Programme.

Violetta (Etta) Becker-Donner was director of the Museum of Ethnology of Vienna as well as co-founder and president (1965-1975) of the Latin America Institute. In the last years of her scientific work she especially concentrated on South and Central America.

2. Objectives of the calls

The objective of the Etta-Becker-Donner Scholarship Programme is to promote the mobility of Latin American researchers and support contacts between research institutions of Austria and Latin America. To this end, calls are launched periodically in order to support Latin American researchers to participate in scientific conferences and to establish scientific relations with Austrian research institutions which might evolve into a scientific partnership. This year only researchers from the following regions may apply for the scholarship: Central America: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Caribbean: Cuba, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Andean Region: Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia

The scholarship programme consists of two components:

1. The participation in a conference: The scholarship programme supports the participation of researchers from Latin America and the Caribbean in **scientific conferences taking place in Austria** (between May and November 2017). The participation in the conference allows the researchers to get to know their Austrian counterparts and/or find potential partners. Moreover, it allows the researchers to make their institutions and research work known to a broader public. Thus, the scholarship also works as a mechanism to facilitate the creation of scientific networks.

2. Visits to Austrian research institutions: In order to maximize the benefits of the researchers' stay in Austria, they also have to organize a visit to a research institution which is of thematic interest to them. The visit to an Austrian research institution allows the Latin American researchers to further deepen the scientific relations to the Austrian counterparts and to explore possibilities for joint cooperation.

Calls

The first call was closed in September 2011, the second in March 2012, the third in January 2014 and the fourth in March 2016. Information on the results of the first and the second call can be found at: <https://www.lai.at/wissenschaft/kompetenzzentrum/etta-becker-donner-stipendien>.

The fifth call has been opened for researches until the 31st of March 2017.

For the second time, 1-2 Scholarships will be reserved for the annual conference of the Austrian Research of Latin America (Jahrestagung der österreichischen Lateinamerika-Forschung in Strobl/Wolfgangsee). It will be held and organised bei LAI and LAF Austria from the 19th of May until the 21st of May 2017. The LAF Austria is an Austrian platform of scientists and investigators, working within the broad topic of Latinamerican Studies with the aim to built a network of investigation and science on national, european and international level.

3. Guidelines

To participate in the Etta-Becker-Donner Scholarship Programme, specific eligibility criteria and evaluation criteria are defined in the following way:

Eligibility criteria

The following criteria **have to be met** in order to be eligible:

- Be a researcher from **Latin America and the Caribbean**
- Present a **complete application form** together with all required documents within the indicated timeframe
- Have a **postgraduate level and/or at least three years of research experience** (full time)
- Be a member or an employee of a **research institution and/or a higher education institution and/or a SME¹** which dedicates its work to research. The objective is that the participation has a multiplier effect in your country/region. For this purpose a recommendation letter of your institution is required.
- **Participate actively** in a scientific conference taking place in Austria. A confirmation of the conference organizers about the active participation is required.
- Have **sufficient knowledge of the conference language** in order to be able to participate actively.
- **Visit to an Austrian research institution.**

Evaluation criteria

These criteria are used by the evaluators to assess the applications:

- Have carried out **research projects** in your country/region during the last three years.
- **Impact of the participation** at the conference: benefits for the researcher and his/her research activities.

¹ SME: Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

- **Give evidence of your participation** at the conference, e.g. give a presentation, present a poster. The abstract of the presentation/poster as well as the confirmation of the conference organizers on the active participation has to be included in the application.
- **Impact of your visit to** the Austrian research institution on possible future cooperation. It is required to add an expression of interest of the Austrian research institution which you plan to visit.

Additional evaluation criteria

- Participation in **research networks**
- **International cooperation:** within and outside of Latin America and the Caribbean
- **Multiplier effect:** benefits for the applicant's research institution
- Balanced regional and thematic distribution
- Priority will be given to female researchers.

4. Selection process

The selection process contains two steps:

I. Formality and eligibility check

The following criteria have to be met in order to be considered in the second step of the selection process (evaluation):

- Complete and correct forms and documents (application form, letter of recommendation of the applicant's research institution, confirmation of the conference organizers that the applicant will participate actively in the conference, expression of interest of the research institution to host the applicant).
- Meeting of deadlines
- Eligibility of the participants (within the eligibility criteria, see chapter 3)

II. Evaluation and selection of the applications

The evaluation will be realized by the Austrian Latin America Institute according to the defined evaluation criteria (chapter 3). An evaluation model and a scoring matrix based on the criteria are used to assess the applications. The LAI will give a score for each criteria and a total score for each application.

Scoring Matrix

Evaluation criteria	Judgment based upon	Scoring
Be a researcher from Latin America and the Caribbean	Application form	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Present a complete application form together with all required documents within the indicated timeframe	Application form and required documents	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Have a postgraduate level and/or at least three years of research experience (full time)	Application form	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Be a member or an employee of a research institution	Letter of recommendation of	Minimum criterion;

and/or a higher education institution and/or a SME which dedicates its work to research	the applicant's research institution	complied: yes, no
Participate actively in a scientific conference taking place in Austria.	Application form and confirmation of the conference organizers	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Have sufficient knowledge of the conference language in order to be able to participate actively	Application form	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Visit an Austrian research institution	Application form and expression of interest of the Austrian research institution	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Have carried out research projects in your country/region during the last three years	Application form	0-2
Impact of the participation at the conference: benefits for the researcher and his/her research activities	Application form	0-2
Give evidence of your participation at the conference	Confirmation of the conference organizers and application form	0-2
Impact of your visit to the Austrian research institution on possible future cooperation	Expression of interest and application form	0-2
Participation in research networks	Application form	0-2
International cooperation within and outside of Latin America and the Caribbean	Application form	0-2
Multiplier effect: benefits for the applicant's research institution	Application form	0-2

Selection

The Selection Committee is responsible for the selection of the applicants. It is constituted by a representative of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Science, Research and Economy and representatives of Austrian Universities and/or research institutes. Its aim is to create a balanced selection, considering the objectives of the call, the quality of the applications, the results of the evaluation and a balanced regional and thematic distribution. Priority is given to female researchers.

After the selection process, the applicants are informed about the results.

5. Funding principles and reporting

The scholarship covers costs up to a total amount of € 2.600 for travel (economic class), local public transport and subsistence in Austria (up to 10 days)² and for the conferences fees. Loss on currency conversion is not within the eligible costs.

Payment

The scholarship amount is paid in two rates. The first rate (€ 1.300) is paid after signing the document "Compromiso de beca" (see below). The second rate is paid after the revision of the report and the invoices. In case that the grantee spends less than the total amount of the scholarship, the second rate covers the remaining amount of the realized expenses. The

² Subsistence costs in Austria cover a daily rate of € 26,40 per day for meals and costs for accommodation up to a maximum of € 90 per night (according to the guidelines of the Austrian Reisegebührenverordnung – RGV).

scholarship amount is transferred to the applicant's account mentioned in the application form.

Commitment of the grantee (Compromiso de beca) and reporting

In order to receive the grant, the selected applicants have to sign the document "Compromiso de beca" which obligates them to send a final report on their activities and expenses, including:

- a **narrative report** (2 A4-pages)
- a compiled **list of expenses** (a template will be provided)
- all **original invoices** (for expenses for travel and subsistence, local public transport, conference fees and for the receipt of the grant in your bank account as well as for currency conversion)
- the **original boarding passes** of the flight
- the **confirmation of participation** issued by the conference organizers
- a **confirmation letter of the visited research institution**

The final report includes the above-mentioned items. It has to be sent first by e-mail including scanned copies of all invoices and boarding passes. After the revision of the report and the invoices, all original invoices and original boarding passes have to be sent for revision to:

Austrian Latin America Institute / Österreichisches Lateinamerika-Institut
Schlickgasse 1
1090 Vienna / Wien
Austria / Europe

As soon as the controlling procedure is finalized, the second rate of the grant will be transferred.

6. Fifth call and submission of applications

The fifth call is open from **the 17th of February until the 31st of March 2017**. The call is open for researchers of all scientific disciplines.

This year only researchers from the following regions may apply for the scholarship:
Central America: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama,
Caribbean: Cuba, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Andean Region: Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia

Applicants have to indicate in the application form, which conference they want to attend, either one of the conferences listed in the annex (page 8) or another scientific conference of their choice taking place in Austria.

Programme of the fifth call

17/02/2017	5 th call opens
31/03/2017	Deadline for submission of applications
April 2017	Evaluation
April 2017	Selection and Information of the applicants

Submission of applications

Please use the following link for further information and to download the documents necessary for the application: <https://www.lai.at/wissenschaft/kompetenzzentrum/etta-becker-donner-stipendien>.

The application form has to be completed in English or Spanish.

The application form and all additional required documents have to be submitted (one pdf file) to the Austrian Latin America Institute via e-mail to becas.ebd@lai.at until the 31st of March 2017. Applications submitted after this deadline cannot be considered.

Contact

Austrian Latin America Institute / Österreichisches Lateinamerika-Institut
Schlickgasse 1
A-1090 Vienna/Wien
Austria/Europe

E-mail: becas.ebd@lai.at

Telephone: 0043 – (0)1 – 310 74 65

Website: www.lai.at

ANNEX – List of conferences and links that might be helpful

Please consider that this list only contains suggestions for international conferences which may be interesting for the applicant. Each applicant may participate in an international conference of his / her own choice. Participation in one of the listed conferences does not have any consequences on the evaluation of the application.

- ISA Forum of Sociology
- ISEKI Food Conference
- SGEM International Scientific Conference
- ICLA 21. Weltkongress der International Comparative Literature Association
- HPCS Conference on High Performance Computing & Simulation
- PACT Summer School
- EAGE - The European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers
- STS- Society of Thoracic Surgeons Annual Conference Graz
- European Music Therapy Conference
- Tropentag BOKU
- LAF – Strobl: <http://laf-austria.at/>

Helpful links

Austrian Academy of Sciences: List of Institutes

<http://www.oeaw.ac.at/en/research-institutes/research-institutes-of-the-oeaw/all-oeaw-institutes/>

Conferences in Austria:

<http://conferences-in-vienna.info/de/konferenz-kalender.html>

<http://www.conference-service.com/konferenzkalender/at/>

Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy:

<http://www.en.bmwf.gv.at/Seiten/default.aspx>

University of Vienna:

<https://www.univie.ac.at/ueber-uns/leitung-organisation/fakultaeten-zentren/>

Technical University of Vienna:

https://www.tuwien.ac.at/wir_ueber_uns/fakultaeten_institute/

List of Universities in Austria:

<http://wissenschaft.bmwf.gv.at/bmwf/studium/studieren-in-oesterreich/unis-privatunis-fhs-uebersicht/>

Österreichische Forschungsgemeinschaft – Members:

<http://www.oefg.at/en/organisation-2/committees/>