

# CALL FOR PROPOSALS of ANII - MPG Tandem Research Groups

(en español: Grupos de Investigación Tándem — GIT)

**A) General guidelines-** page 1

**B) Guidelines Max Planck Candidates Uruguay 2025 Complementary, requirements for Uruguayan applicants** – page 7

## **A) General Guidelines**

The Agencia Nacional de Investigación e Innovación (ANII) announces this International Call for Proposals to strengthen the collaboration between universities and research institutions in Uruguay and Max Planck Institutes (MPI) worldwide.

Highly qualified investigators with several years of very successful postdoctoral experience are invited to submit research proposals to establish a **Tandem Research Group (TRG)** at universities or research Institutes in Uruguay, in strong collaboration with researchers in one of the current 84 Max Planck Institutes.

The Tandem Research Groups should strengthen the personal collaborative ties between the Head of the Research Group and the MPI, safeguarding the continuity of scientific collaboration and research activities for mutual benefit. They are intended to foster research collaborations on topics of common interest with the Max Planck Institutes following the highest quality standards and significantly contribute to increasing the international circulation of the best minds.

The terms and conditions of the Call for Proposals are described below.

### **1. Objectives of the Call**

- 1.1 This call aims to select highly qualified scientists with several years of outstanding postdoctoral experience who are willing and highly motivated to lead a Tandem Research Group (TRG), which will be funded under the ANII International Research Group Program for 5 years.
- 1.2 This call should help to establish new TRG in universities and research institutions in Uruguay led by outstanding postdoctoral investigators in strong cooperation with outstanding principal investigators at Max Planck Institutes.

### **2. Duration of Tandem Research Groups**

- 2.1 The Tandem Research Group shall be set up for five years with the possibility of a two-year extension after successful evaluation.
- 2.2 After five years, and under the condition that the Group Leader obtained a permanent position in a university or research institution in Uruguay, he/she can continue his/her research activities by applying for funding in ANII regular lines.

### 3. Application requirements

Applications should be submitted to the Representation for Latin America of the Max Planck Society at [latam@gv.mpg.de](mailto:latam@gv.mpg.de), under ANII's conditions and restrictions unless explicitly defined otherwise in this Call for Proposals (See "B) Guidelines Max Planck Candidates Uruguay 2025 " at the end of this document, page 7)

### 4. Eligibility

4.1 Eligible candidates must:

- a) Comply with the eligibility requirements of ANII specified at "Guidelines Max Planck Candidates Uruguay 2025 "at the end of this document, page 6.
- b) Be successful in their scientific career with several years of postdoctoral experience in internationally competitive research groups and highly motivated to develop and carry out an internationally competitive research program.

4.2 This program is particularly suitable for excellent applicants who have already held one or two post-doc positions and who would now like to — and deem themselves apt to — head a research group and to elaborate together their own research ideas independently. Please note that the positions for an TRG are only open to applicants who hold a doctorate degree.

### 5. Fields of research

This Call for Proposals invites research proposals in the following themes:

- Computational Sciences and Informatics
- Molecular Biology, Biomedicine and Health
- Environmental Sciences and Monitoring
- Energy Research
- Research on Education and Social and Legal Development
- Plant Sciences and Biotechnology
- Material Sciences and Nanotechnology

### 6. Timeline

Call announced by ANII	April 8, 2025
Closing date for the submission of proposals including a letter of support from an interested institution in Uruguay and from a Max Planck Institute	June 30, 2025
Evaluation coordinated by the Representative for Latin America of Max Planck Society	September 15, 2025
Meeting of ANII Committee	End of September
Final approved proposals notified	October 2025

## 7. Project Proposal characteristics

The project proposal must be **submitted in English** and contain:

7.1 The following documents are required for the application:

- a) Cover Page
- b) Curriculum vitae including a list of scientific publications and a description of scientific achievements (max. 3pages) **(CV in English)**
- c) Copies of three selected publications (full text copies)
- d) Research plan for the group (max. 2 pages) (please consider item 12.2 to organize available resources during the five years)
- e) Draft budget for the first five years (please specify how you plan to distribute the human resources available in item 12.2)
- f) Names and contact details of six potential international reviewers, a maximum of two may be from Germany. It is the applicant's responsibility to inform the referees in advance that the Representative for Latin America of Max Planck Society might communicate with them requesting an evaluation of their project.

7.2 Candidates must include a **letter of support** in MPI letterhead and signed by a principal investigator at a Max Planck Institute, stating past, present and future collaborative activities and financial commitment. (see sample letter for reference)

7.3 Candidates must include a **letter of support** by the university or research institution in Uruguay which will host the research group. The letter of support should be signed by the Dean of the hosting university or the director of the hosting research institution, stating past, present and future collaborative activities and financial commitment.

## 8. Submission of proposals

8.1 The proposal as specified in the previous section must be submitted by the deadline stated in section six above.

8.2 No proposal will be accepted after the deadline for submission, nor will any addendum or explanation be accepted, unless those explicitly and formally requested by ANII or Max Planck

8.3 Submissions will only be accepted in form of a single PDF file containing all the items in the order stated in 7, to the following email address: [latam@gv.mpg.de](mailto:latam@gv.mpg.de) with the denomination " Call for the establishment of ANII - MPG Tandem Research Groups 2025". Only proposals which have been received within the deadline of this Call will be processed.

## 9. Analysis and selection procedure

9.1 All proposals will be screened considering the eligibility aspects described in item four above. Proposals that do not comply with the terms of this Call will not qualify for analysis.

9.2 The proposals accepted for review will be analyzed by MPG. The merit review process will evaluate primarily the Principal Investigator. Criteria are:

- a) The applicant must be a researcher that has already a remarkable scientific output for their career level, evaluated by the summary of their Curriculum Vitae.
- b) The applicant must be qualified to independently coordinate a research project in order to set up and run a research group.

9.3 Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- a) Definition of objectives.
- b) Originality and relevance of the intended contributions for the respective research field.
- c) Innovative scientific rationale and chosen methods.
- d) Adequacy of the requested resources to the desired scientific or technological contribution.

9.4 Once the evaluation process is ended, the Representation for Latin America of Max Planck Society will submit a list of the proposed candidates to the board of Directors of ANII who will select the final candidates according to budget availability.

## 10. Results of the Call

Final results of the Call will be announced on an ANII website <http://www.anii.org.uy/> and the Max Planck Society web page - Section of Cooperation with Latin America - <https://www.mpg.de/de/international/lateinamerika> and by means of a communication to the candidates.

## 11. The Grant Contract

11.1 Selected proposals will be the object of a grant contract (ANII) to be signed by the Group Leader and a representative of the Higher Education and Research Institution to which he/she will be affiliated.

## 12. Funding

12.1 The Tandem Research Groups are jointly funded and supported by ANII, the collaborating Max Planck Institute and the hosting university or research institution in Uruguay.

12.2 ANII will provide funding for:

- a) research expenses allowed by ANII or for technical personnel (2 years);
- b) a doctoral fellowship in Uruguay to be selected by the Group Leader (3 years).
- c) a postdoctoral fellowship in Uruguay for a postdoctoral researcher to be selected by the Group Leader (2 years);

12.3. The cooperating Max Planck Institute will provide up to € 30.000 per year for the research work of the Tandem Research Group. MPI funding is to be used by the Head of Tandem Research Group to cover personnel and travel costs, material costs and running lab costs, access to facilities and infrastructure and the purchase of minor scientific equipment for the Research Group's work. The budget of the Research Group may not be used towards salary increments or salaries of permanent staff.

12.4 The hosting university or research Institution will guarantee the salary of the TRG leader and of the academic and non-academic staff. The hosting Institution is responsible for the social insurance for the Tandem Research Group leader and other staff and for providing further assistance.

## 13. Facilities and Infrastructure

As a model text for the support letter of the host Institution: "The host Institution in Uruguay, agrees to provide laboratory and office rooms and infrastructure for the Tandem Research Group as well as administrative services. Within the scope of this cooperation agreement, the hosting institution of ... agrees to grant the investigators in the TRG cost-free use of the scientific and technical facilities and infrastructure at the hosting institution of ..., Uruguay".

## 14. Confidentiality, Publications, Intellectual Property

Before any funding by ANII is delivered to the finally selected research proposals, the Hosting Higher Education and Research Institution in Uruguay and the associated Max Planck Institute must formally agree in a Cooperation Agreement for the TRG on aspects of funding, confidentiality, publication and intellectual property rights, among others, in observance of the policies of each funding Party.

**15. Coordination of the Call for Proposals**

All questions related to this Call for Research Proposals should be directed to:

15.1 ANII [becas@anii.org.uy](mailto:becas@anii.org.uy)

15.2 Representation for Latin America of the Max Planck Society [latam@gv.mpg.de](mailto:latam@gv.mpg.de)

---

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR URUGUAY

### B) Guidelines Max Planck Candidates Uruguay 2025 Complementary, requirements for Uruguayan applicants

#### 1. BACKGROUND

This document defines the terms and conditions for the funding awarded by ANII within the scope of the **Call for the establishment of ANII - MPG Tandem Research Groups 2025** for Uruguayan candidates. This call for proposals shall be governed by the current General Regulations of the National Fellowship Program, and by the cooperation agreement between ANII and the Max Planck Gesellschaft.

#### 2. REQUIREMENTS

##### ● HEAD OF A TANDEM RESERACH GROUP (HEAD OF THE ASSOCIATED GROUP IN URUGUAY)

- Uruguayan or foreign researchers residing in Uruguay for a period of no less than two years at the closing date of the call, who have the support of national public or private non-profit institutions and whose activities include research, may apply for funding. (Specific template for the ANII - Max Planck call is attached).
- Applications will not be accepted if the principal investigator of the associated group in Uruguay, at the closing date of the call, is in default with ANII in any of its programs (e.g.: outstanding technical progress reports, final reports, closure reports, surveys).
- National researchers, including grant applicants, must submit their curriculum vitae (CV) in CVUy format and updated by the closing date of the call.
- It will be possible to be responsible and scientific co-responsible for up to 2 research projects with national funding in simultaneous execution (ANII, INIA-FPTA, CSIC).

##### ● NATIONAL DOCTORATE FELLOW IN URUGUAY

The candidate for the national doctoral fellowship must meet the following requirements:

- Be Uruguayan or a foreigner residing in the country. Foreign candidates must present proof of residence in Uruguay/identity card at the time of being nominated for the scholarship.
- At the time of signing the contract, the candidate must provide ANII with proof of membership in the doctoral program.
- A counselor must be a member of the proposing team. The quotas and requirements for counselors established in the General Regulations of the National Scholarship System shall be respected. At least one of the counselor, counselor, or co-counselor must reside in the country.
- If the counselor resides abroad, it is the co-counselor who must sign the contract with the ANII and provide the scholarship places.
- The candidate, counselor, and co-counselor (if applicable) must have entered their CVs in the CVUy system at the time the scholarship contract is signed.
- Have 30 hours per week to dedicate to the scholarship and cannot have a workload greater than 30 hours per week.
- Not have failed to comply with a previous scholarship or be disqualified by resolution of the Board of Directors for

non-compliance with the Agency's programs.

### **NATIONAL POSDOCTORATE FELLOWSHIP IN URUGUAY**

The candidate for the postdoctoral fellowship must meet the following requirements:

- Be Uruguayan or foreigner with residence in Uruguay or abroad.
- Not have benefited from another ANII postdoctoral fellowship
- Have completed his/her CV in CVuy format at the time of signing the fellowship contract
- Submit a letter of endorsement from the national institution where he/she will carry out the fellowship (signed by the highest institutional authority). The scholarship recipient must have both endorsements, which must be executed simultaneously during the scholarship period.
- Possess a doctoral degree obtained no more than six years prior to the date of signing the contract.
- To have a Research Group Leader who must be a member of the proposing team.
- To have a dedication for the grant of 40 hours per week
- To present a letter of support from the Max Planck Institute involved in the project
- Not to be disqualified by resolution of the Board of Directors for non-compliance with the Agency's programs.

Fellowships must be executed within the duration of the project.

### **3. ITEMS TO BE FINANCED**

For the operation of the Tandem Research Group, ANII shall award financial support for:

- **Doctoral fellowships in Uruguay (3 years):** A national doctoral fellowship shall be awarded for a maximum term of 36 months (not renewable). During the term of this fellowship, the grant holder shall receive the current sum awarded for ANII's national doctoral fellowships
- **Postdoctoral fellowships in Uruguay (2 years):** A national doctoral fellowship shall be awarded for a maximum term of 24 months (not renewable). ANII may fund up to 80% of the total sum awarded, with a maximum monthly stipend of (UYU 71.939), while the applying institution must cover the remainder of the grant. The cost of a one round-trip airline ticket to or from Uruguay shall also be reimbursed for up to USD 4,000.
- **Research expenses (2 years):** A sum of up to USD 12,000 shall be awarded as funding for supplies and/or the hiring of technical staff.

### **4. FOLLOW-UP AND DISBURSEMENTS**

Support will be formalized through the signing of an agreement between the beneficiary and ANII. In the case of the national doctoral fellowship and the national postdoctoral fellowship, each grantee must sign an agreement with ANII that will include his or her work plan for the funded project.

### **5. RESULTS AND PRODUCTS**

The results of the research will be compiled in a final technical report that will be published in REDI, ANII's institutional open access repository. Any work resulting from the selected projects must be reported in this final report and deposited in the open access repository of the institution of affiliation in Uruguay of the project leader or, failing that, in ANII's institutional repository, as established in ANII's open access regulations.

## **6. PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

The application implies the authorization to ANII to communicate and disseminate in different channels (web page, press, etc.), without time limitation and within the framework of its legal duties, the identification data of the applicant(s) (individual or legal entity), information on the call for proposals and the project, such as project amount, ANII contribution, other contributions, publishable summary, related persons or institutions, and other information or personal data necessary to ensure transparency in the fulfillment of ANII's legal duties, unless it is expressly classified as confidential.

ANII will treat the data in accordance with its privacy policy and terms of use.

## **7. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

The application implies full acceptance of these terms and conditions. ANII reserves the right to decide on any circumstance not expressly provided for in them, without right of appeal by the applicants. ANII is governed by Law No. 18,084.