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Directorate for EU Affairs

Central Finance and Contracts Unit

Delegation of the EU to Türkiye



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2027-2028 ACADEMIC YEAR
JEAN MONNET SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

CLARIFICATIONS





IMPORTANT NOTICE

The questions received from potential applicants for the 2027-2028 academic year Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme together with their answers can be seen below. These questions and answers are valid for the 2027-2028 academic year Announcement and the questions and clarifications of the previous academic years do not set a precedent for the mentioned academic year.

Clarifications constitute an essential part of the Announcement; for this reason, the applicants must read the Clarifications document very carefully and pay attention to the details while applying to the scholarship.

Please note that the **replies given to the questions on the eligibility are provided solely for the question asked without consideration of whether the other eligibility criteria stated in the Announcement are fulfilled or not.**

As stated in Section 2.3.3. Important Notes for Application of the 2027-2028 Academic Year Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme Announcement, **questions related to the issues clearly stated in the Announcement document will not be answered in the Clarifications document.**

In the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the contracting authority or the Directorate for EU Affairs cannot give prior opinion/approval neither during application nor during evaluation stages, on:

- the acceptability/adequacy of the application documents,
- the sector from which the applicant should make an application,
- the eligibility of the academic programmes to be pursued,
- the relevance of the field of study (i.e. EU acquis chapter) with the academic programmes planned to be pursued.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATES	
1.	Q: I retook the IELTS/PTE exam using the One Skill Retake option. Can I apply with this document? C: Yes. Applicants can submit the IELTS/PTE One Skill Retake certificate as long as it includes scores for all sections and the overall band score. Please note that only the overall IELTS/PTE score will be taken into consideration and there is no minimum score requirement for individual sections.
2.	Q: Should I take IELTS Academic on "computer" or "online" or "paper"? C: All are acceptable for applying to the Scholarship Programme.
3.	Q: Which type of TCF is accepted as a valid French language certificate? C: Under the Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme, only the general version of the TCF, known as "Tout Public," is accepted, as it is the version valid for academic and professional purposes.
4.	Q: In the TCF test Listening, Grammar and Reading are scored on a scale of 100–699, whereas Written Skills and Verbal Skills are scored out of 20. In this regard, could you please clarify which components are covered by the requirement stated in the Announcement that "a minimum score of 400 must be obtained in each component"? C: There is no minimum score requirement for the optional sections of the TCF exam. Only the scores from the mandatory sections (Listening, Grammar and Reading), which are scored on a scale of 100-699, will be taken into consideration.
5.	Q: I took the TCF Tout Public exam in two different sessions. However, results from different exam sessions cannot be combined into a single TCF certificate. In this case, would it be possible to submit both TCF certificates with my Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme application and have the results from the two exam sessions considered together? C: Only the scores from the **mandatory sections** (Listening, Grammar and Reading) taken on the same session will be considered. The submission of scores relating to optional sections completed in separate sessions is not required.
6.	Q: I would like to use the scholarship to conduct research abroad as part of my doctoral studies in Türkiye. Does the language of my doctoral programme need to be the same as the language in which I will conduct my research under the scholarship programme? C: No. Scholars should conduct their studies in the language(s) for which they prove their proficiency with one of the certificates listed in Section 3: Table of Foreign Language Proficiency Certificates. The language of the study to be conducted under Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme does not need to be in the language of their studies in Türkiye.
7.	Q: Could an exemption or an alternative form of documentation be accepted for the foreign language certificate requirement for deaf candidates? C: At the time of application, applicants should select one or two official EU languages and submit the foreign language proficiency certificate(s) listed in Section 3: Table of Foreign Language Proficiency Certificates. Although prior opinions or approvals regarding the adequacy of application documents cannot be provided, if an applicant has an exceptional circumstance that differs from the criteria set out in the Announcement, the relevant official supporting documents should be submitted along with the application.
SECTOR	
8.	Q: My undergraduate programme has been extended one more semester. Therefore, I am in the 5th year of a 4-year programme. May I apply as a senior undergraduate student? C: Yes. As long as applicants are registered as senior undergraduate students at the time of application, having extended their programmes does not pose a problem.
9.	Q: May I apply as a master student enrolled in a distance education from a university in Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC)? C: No. Only students enrolled in the universities located in Türkiye can apply.

10.	Q: Would working part-time be eligible? C: Yes. You may apply so long as you submit all the application documents related to the relevant sector.
11.	Q: I have completed my undergraduate education and am **not currently employed**. However, I will be participating in **volunteering activities** abroad under the European Solidarity Corps (ESC). Am I eligible to apply? C: No. Applicants who are interns or volunteers cannot be considered as eligible in the scope of "*working in the public sector/private sector/universities in Türkiye"* and cannot apply for the scholarship since "*working*" means "p*rofessional work done under a social security network in return for a wage*".
12.	Q: I am currently working in the private sector; however, I am also registered as an undergraduate/graduate student. Would this be a problem if I apply from the private sector? C: The applicants who are entitled to apply from more than one sector (e.g. applicants who are public employees and graduate students at the same time) should decide from which sector they will apply by themselves and submit the application documents relevant to that sector accordingly.
13.	Q: I have an undergraduate degree and I am also a student in an open education (Açık Öğretim) undergraduate (4-year) programme. May I apply? C: Senior undergraduate students enrolled in an open education (4-year) programme may apply.
14.	Q: How would leaving the sector for any reason, such as resignation, affect the scholarship after the contract is signed? C: Leaving the sector **after the contract signature** does not affect the scholarship status. It is the applicants' decision whether they would like to benefit from the scholarship by using their leave of absence or resigning.
15.	Q: Is it possible if the applicant leaves work permanently or has periods of unemployment after the application? C: Applicants have to submit an employment letter in order to prove they are still working in the same sector after they are awarded with the scholarship. It is important to note that in any stage of the scholarship programme, applicants may be required to submit additional documents when the information provided is unclear, thus preventing the evaluation committee/contracting authority to conduct an objective assessment.
16.	Q: I am currently a senior undergraduate/graduate student. Would it be a problem if I graduate after submitting my application documents? C: No. As long as applicants are registered as senior undergraduate/graduate students at the time of application, having graduated in the following stages do not pose a problem.
17.	Q: As part of a cotutelle arrangement, I am enrolled as a graduate student at both a university in Türkiye and a university in another country. Am I eligible to apply for the scholarship? C: Prior opinions or approvals regarding the eligibility of applicants or adequacy of application documents cannot be provided, if an applicant has an exceptional circumstance that differs from the criteria set out in the Announcement, the relevant official supporting documents should be submitted along with the application.
18.	Q: I am living abroad and enrolled as an undergraduate/graduate student at a university in Türkiye. Am I eligible to apply for the scholarship? C: Prior opinions or approvals regarding the eligibility of applicants or adequacy of application documents cannot be provided, if an applicant has an exceptional circumstance that differs from the criteria set out in the Announcement, the relevant official supporting documents should be submitted along with the application.
19.	Q: I'm currently serving in the military as a second lieutenant, but my duty will be finished by the 6th of November. Officially I am working in the public sector but it's temporary. Is it possible to apply to the public sector or not?

	C: **Before the contract signature**, the candidates/awardees will not be allowed to change their sectors. Awardees who are employees in the "public or private sector" or academic or administrative staff in the "university sector" **while applying to this call**, should still be working in the sector they applied from. In this regard, changes of the institutions will be accepted on the condition that the candidate remained in the **same sector**.
20.	Q: I am a graduate student. Is it possible to change my university and/or programme in the second term? C: It is possible to change university and/or programme as long as the applicant maintains and proves the graduate student status. Those who applied from the "university sector" as graduate (master/PhD) student should either have graduated from their programmes or still be maintaining their student status before the submission deadline of the contracting documents.
FIELD OF STUDY	
21.	Q: Is it necessary to submit any document (e.g. course catalogue) other than the Programme Approval Form (PAF) to demonstrate the relevance between the academic programme and the field of study? C: The academic programme is assessed based on the course content stated in the PAF and the dissertation topic, where applicable. The Directorate for EU Affairs may request additional information or documents if deemed necessary.
22.	Q: During the programme approval process, is the name of the programme taken into consideration or is the assessment based on the courses taken and the thesis? C: The content of the mandatory/elective courses and the compliance of the dissertation (if applicable) will be examined in addition to technical criteria, such as the duration and language of the academic programme. Please also see clarification 21.
23.	Q: Should the master programme to be pursued be related to the field I am currently working/pursuing a study in? Or can it be in a different field? C: The Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme considers the compliance of the study field selected with the field of the academic programme to be pursued as well as compliance with the objective of the scholarship. In this manner, the scholarship programme does not take into consideration the compliance of the selected academic programme with the academic or professional background of the applicant.
CGPA, DIPLOMA AND TRANSCRIPTS	
24.	Q: Can I submit an application document **after** the application deadline? C: No.
25.	Q: I have graduated from a double major programme. Would it be possible to apply using the diploma and transcript from the programme that meets the scholarship's GPA requirement, while using my diploma from the other programme for university admission purposes? C: You may apply for the scholarship with the diploma and transcript that meet the application requirements. The diploma submitted for the scholarship application does not have to be the same as the diploma submitted to universities.
26.	Q: When calculating the "36 months of professional experience" requirement, is eligibility assessed based on calendar months of employment, SGK contribution days or another method? C: The official letter(s) certifying that the applicant has 36-month work experience should be taken from the institution(s) (institution, organisation, foundation, university etc.) in which the applicant is currently working or worked before or from the e-state system (Service Scheme obtained from the e-state system will also be accepted). The assessment is made on a day and/or month basis, corresponding to 36 months of full-time employment.
27.	Q: Can periods of paid and SGK-registered internship experience be included in the calculation of professional work experience?

	C: No. Please note that social security registration under "internship" profession code (9901.02) does not correspond to "professional work" definition under Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme, thus will not be included in the calculation of professional work experience.
28.	Q: As a senior undergraduate student, I took courses abroad within the Erasmus Programme last term, which is not yet reflected in my signed official university transcript. Can I apply? C: Prior opinion/approval cannot be given on the adequacy of the application documents. However, you are recommended to submit official supporting documents (preferably taken from the university) explaining your situation.
29.	Q: Due to insufficient credits, I will appear as a 3rd year student in my transcript document at the time of application. However, I will be a final year student in spring term and graduate in 2026-2027 academic year. May I apply? C: Undergraduate students who are expected to graduate before the contracting process may apply to the Scholarship Programme as senior undergraduate students. Although prior opinion/approval cannot be given on the adequacy of the application documents, it is recommended to submit official supporting documents (preferably taken from the university) explaining this situation.
30.	Q: Is there a requirement regarding duration of work experience when applying for a scholarship? C: Minimum 36-month work experience or a graduate degree is only required from the applicants whose CGPA is less than 2.70 /4.00 or 70/100. Otherwise, there is no minimum work experience requirement for application.
INTERNS	
31.	Q: I am currently pursuing my legal internship at a law firm. In addition, I am working at another firm under the social security system in a role that is unrelated to law. Am I eligible to apply? C: Yes.
32.	Q: I am currently working full-time under the social security system; however, my service scheme shows that I was registered under the "internship" code in July and August. Would this be an issue? C: Social security registration under "internship" profession code (9901.02) does not correspond to "professional work" definition under Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme. If your current profession code is not reflected in the application documents, you are advised to provide supporting documentation demonstrating your current status.
APPLICATION CRITERIA	
33.	Q: I completed a master's programme at the X College/University abroad with a joint Turkish-EU Member State/ private company funded scholarship. Does having this prevent me from applying for the Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme? C: Having a graduate degree from a university abroad obtained by benefitting from a scholarship is not solely a ground for elimination. However, those who have earned a graduate degree (master's or PhD) abroad by benefitting from another scholarship **funded by an EU member country** or **an EU institution** (Exchange programmes such as Erasmus or short-term academic/language scholarships are not considered in this category) are not eligible for the scholarship.
34.	Q: Can Blue Card (*Mavi Kart*) holders apply for a scholarship? C: Blue Card holders may not apply as Turkish nationals. Only nationals of EU member countries, Türkiye or Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) beneficiary countries may apply to the Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme.
35.	Q: I hold a bachelor's degree and will provide the required documents with my application. However, my statement of insured employment shows my educational qualification as a high school graduate. Would this be an issue? C: As long as you meet the requirements specified in the Announcement and provide the required documents, the educational qualification stated in the aforementioned document will not be taken into consideration.

HOST INSTITUTIONS & ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES	
36.	Q: If I am directly admitted to the second year (M2) of a two-year master's programme (M1 + M2) and complete only the M2 year over one academic year, would this programme be considered eligible under the Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme? C: Prior opinion/approval cannot be given regarding the acceptability of the academic programme in which the applicant intends to pursue studies. Scholars shall be eligible to conduct academic studies at graduate or research level, so long as the duration of the studies is a minimum of 3 (three) and a maximum of 12 (twelve) months. Academic studies extending beyond 12 months will not be supported, even if the scholars are willing to fund, by their own means, any period falling outside the 12-month scholarship period, whether before or after it.
37.	Q: As far as I know, the United Kingdom will accept students under the Erasmus+ Programme as of January 2027. Will the United Kingdom be an eligible host country for the Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme? C: No. Scholars may only conduct academic studies in one of the EU member states.
38.	Q: Are there any restrictions regarding the start or end dates of the research? C: There is no specific requirement regarding when the study period must begin or end, provided that the **completion of the assignments** related to the academic programme (**courses, thesis etc.**) shall not exceed **1 March 2029**.
39.	Q: Can scholars in the research programme use their scholarship in multiple periods, provided that the total duration is at least 3 months and does not exceed 12 months? C: No. Scholars should use their scholarship in a single, uninterrupted period.
40.	Q: Can I pursue a programme without dissertation if I am awarded a Jean Monnet scholarship? C: Yes. Pursuing an academic programme with a dissertation is not mandatory under the Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme.
41.	Q: What is the format of the offer letter for research programmes? Is it an invitation letter from the academic advisor? Should I find the professor, determine the project topic and then submit for approval? C: It is the applicants' responsibility to contact the universities. The offer letter should specifically contain the name of the award holder, start and end dates of the research programme, topic of the research, as well as the name of the academic advisor with whom the research will be conducted. It may be issued either by the university or academic advisor.
42.	Q: Can scholars conducting research take courses as part of their academic programme? If so, does the scholarship programme cover the fees for these courses? C: Scholars conducting research may take courses, provided that they are relevant to their field of study. The scholarship programme covers the fees for such courses.
43.	Q: Where a host institution requires a mandatory bench fee, research fee, visiting researcher fee or similar institutional fee in order to conduct an approved research-level academic study, can this fee be covered within the EUR 22,000 tuition-fee ceiling? C: Yes.
44.	Q: Are scholarships granted for post-doctoral study or research? C: Jean Monnet Scholarships are not limited for master's degrees only, meaning that scholarships can be granted for post-doctoral studies or research levels for periods of minimum 3 months, maximum 12 months. However, academic studies longer than 12 months will not be supported even if the scholars are willing to fund the remaining period by their own means.
45.	Q: Does X University continue to offer a tuition fee discount/waiver to Jean Monnet scholars? C: Some universities offer discounts at different rates to Jean Monnet scholars. It is applicants' responsibility to contact the host institutions regarding discounts.

46.	Q: Universities may request payments when issuing acceptance/offer letters. Am I responsible for making these payments? C: It is solely the applicants' responsibility to identify the suitable academic or research programmes in line with their field of study and to obtain acceptance/offer letter(s) from the academic programmes. On the other hand, applicants should be aware of the risk of the academic or research programme for which a deposit/tuition fee has been paid, may not be approved, as the Directorate for EU Affairs retains the right to make the final decision on the programme approvals to ensure the compliance of the programmes with the fields of study (EU acquis chapters) and the optimal implementation of the scholarships. Please also note that the Directorate for EU Affairs will decide on the placement of the scholars based on the success rankings provided by the Evaluation Committee and considering the aim of achieving a balanced distribution of scholars among various eligible host countries.
47.	Q: What form should the research outputs be in for applicants applying under the scope of postgraduate research? Is there a specific timeline for the publication of these outputs resulting from research conducted under the postgraduate research scheme? C: Those conducting research under the Scholarship Programme are required to produce an output, such as a research report, article, symposium paper or similar work. All obligations under the Scholarship Programme must be fulfilled within the scholarship period specified in the contract (the completion of the assignments related to the academic programme (courses, thesis etc.) shall not exceed 1 March 2029).
OTHER	
48.	Q: I am unable to obtain X document as described in the Announcement. How can I apply? C: Prior opinions or approvals regarding the adequacy of application documents cannot be provided, if an applicant has an exceptional circumstance that differs from the criteria set out in the Announcement, the relevant official supporting documents should be submitted along with the application.
49.	Q: Can scholarship holders with disabilities travel to the country where they will study with a companion and if so, does the scholarship programme cover the companion's expenses? C: There are no specific arrangements for friends, family members or companions accompanying scholarship holders and **no payments are provided** for accompanying persons.
50.	Q: I have an orthopaedic disability. Is there a specific quota for applicants with disabilities under the scholarship programme? C: No.
51.	Q: I'm a personnel of "X" Institution, however I'm seconded at the "Y" Institution. Should I get the official consent letter from both institutions? C: The consent letter should be obtained from the institution which has the authorisation to approve the applicant's academic study via the Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme in the relevant EU member country when he/she is awarded the scholarship.
52.	Q: Does the consent letter / employment document / payroll from the employer institution of an applicant have to be translated or is the Turkish version accepted? C: Documents prepared by the employer in Turkish or English are accepted.
53.	Q: I hold both EU and Turkish citizenship. Some of the documents I will submit include my EU passport number, while others include my Turkish ID number. Which citizenship should I indicate in my application? C:It is at the discretion of the applicant to decide which nationality to use while applying. It is recommended that supporting documents showing that the passport number or Turkish ID number stated on the documents belongs to the applicant are included in the application.

54.	Q: For the "Home Institution" and "Department/Directorate" fields in Part 2 of the application form, should public sector applicants enter the name of the institution they are affiliated with or the directorate/office where they currently work? C: Public sector applicants should enter the name of the institution they are affiliated with in the "Home Institution" field and enter the name of the directorate/office where they currently work in the "Department/Directorate" field.
55.	Q: In the Application Form, should I indicate the official Turkish name of my "Home Institution" in parenthesis for easy reference? C: Application form should be filled in one of the EU official languages. You may indicate the name of the "Home Institution" and "Department/Directorate" in Turkish in parenthesis for easy reference.
56.	Q: I have lost my ID card. Can I apply using my passport, which is valid until January 2027? C: Yes, you may submit photocopy of a passport valid at the time of application.
57.	Q: The letters in my name, such as "ğ" and "ş," appear differently in the application form. What should I do? C: If the characters are readable, it is not an issue if they appear differently. If the characters are not readable or do not appear correctly, the closest corresponding characters, such as "g" or "s," may be used.
58.	Q: I cannot fill the form electronically or tick the boxes. Would it be acceptable if I fill them with electronic pen or by hand? C: The English Application Form for the 2027-2028 academic year should be filled in electronically, printed out in colour or black&white, dated (electronically or in hand-writing) and signed in handwriting preferably in blue ink. You are recommended to try to download and fill it from a different browser or from the other websites (www.cfcu.gov.tr, www.ab.gov.tr, www.avrupa.info.tr or www.jeanmonnet.org.tr) or use a different computer or install the proper software to display and fill-in the document.
59.	Q: Would the inclusion of a document not required as part of the application (e.g., a CV, internship certificate or a document related to a sector other than the one applied for) result in the application being rejected or would the document simply be disregarded? C: Irrelevant additional documents are not solely a ground for elimination, they are disregarded.
60.	Q: Can a Turkish Sign Language interpreter be provided when required? C: Yes. Turkish Sign Language interpreter may be allocated in case of a need.
61.	Q: In the Application Form, at the end of Part 2: Sector and Institution of the Applicant, it is stated in parenthesis as "University Sector Applicants only". Do the applicants from public and private sectors need to complete the fields under Part 2 or are these fields only relevant to university sector applicants? C: "Sector Category", "Home Institution" and "Department/Directorate" fields under Part 2: Sector and Institution of the Applicant of the Application Form must be filled by all applicants regardless of their sectors. The "Position/Title" field should be completed additionally for University Sector applicants.
62.	Q: In the contract documents (Description of the Action, General Conditions, Declaration of Travel, etc.), X rule/condition is defined. How will this rule/condition be executed? C: Please note that this question is related to the implementation period. Prior to the signature of the scholarship contract, a pre-departure meeting/training related to placement process as well as the implementation of the scholarship contracts will be held to support the scholars.