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Article 1
Introductory provisions

(1) In this Decree, the Rector of Tomas Bata University in Zlín (hereinafter referred to as "TBU") has announced an internal competition – Support of International Cooperation with a focus on the mobility of doctoral students, academic staff and researchers who are employed at TBU, the incoming mobility of international academics, researchers and non-academic experts at TBU and the development of joint degree programmes at TBU (hereinafter referred to as the "competition").

(2) The competition is funded from the Programme Aimed to Support the Strategic Management of TBU (hereinafter referred to as the "TBU PASSM") and is implemented at the institutional level.

(3) The aim of the competition is to support international mobility of doctoral students, academic staff and researchers at TBU (hereinafter referred to as "mobility"), the incoming mobility of international academics, researchers and non-academic experts at TBU and the development of joint degree programmes at TBU. The above objectives are in line with the Programme Aimed to Support the Strategic Management of TBU for the period 2026–2030, specifically the strategic priority of strengthening the internationalisation of TBU.

(4) The total funding allocated to this call will be distributed equally among the individual component parts of TBU, taking into account the number of component parts. The indicative funding allocation for each component part will therefore be one-seventh of the total allocation.

Article 2
Competition categories

(1) The Rector of TBU has announced the competition in the following categories:

a) Support of international mobility of doctoral students at TBU (hereinafter referred to as the "TBU doctoral students").

b) Support for short-term international mobility of TBU academic and research staff (hereinafter referred to as "TBU staff").

c) Support for incoming mobility of international academics, researchers and non-academic experts at TBU.

d) Support for the development of joint degree programmes within the PIONEER Alliance.

Article 3
Competition deadlines

(1) The deadline for the announcement of the competition is 16 October 2026.

(2) The application submission deadline at TBU component parts is 15 December 2026.

(3) The internal evaluation of applications at the level of TBU component parts shall take place no later than 8 January 2027.

(4) The deadline for the submission of applications selected through the internal evaluation at the level of component parts, together with the record of the internal evaluation, to the International Office of TBU is 8 January 2027.

(5) The deadline for a decision on the allocation of funding (hereinafter referred to as "funding") is 15 January 2027.

Article 4
Description and terms and conditions of the competition

(1) The TBU Rector has set the following terms and conditions for relevant categories:

a) Support for international mobility of doctoral students at TBU

- The term "mobility of TBU doctoral students" refers to a study period of 1 to 6 months taken by a TBU doctoral student at a foreign institution outside the Erasmus+ Programme Countries (specifically outside the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey, North Macedonia and Serbia).
- The funding can be granted in the maximum amount of CZK 50,000 per 1 month of study period, but not more than CZK 300,000 for a six-month study period. The study period can be extended, but without additional financial support from the funds allocated to the TBU PASSM.
- The total amount of funding is set by the Rector in accordance with the proposal by the committee established in compliance with Article 6.
- The mobility period, including the return journey, must be completed by 31 December 2027.
- The application on the appropriate form which is included in Annex 1 to this Decree is available on the website www.utb.cz / University / International / Support of International Cooperation.
- Unless in conflict with Article 7 of this Decree, optional co-funding by the relevant component parts using their sources of funding may be provided.
- It is necessary to prepare and submit a final report on the appropriate form within 15 days of completion of the mobility. The form, i.e. Annex 2 to this Decree, is available on the website www.utb.cz / University / International / Support of International Cooperation. The final report shall contain the results and fulfilment of the mobility goals. The defences of the final reports shall take place in front of a committee appointed by the TBU Rector. Final reports shall be submitted to the TBU International Office.
- The number of applications in this category is not limited.

b) Support for short-term international mobility of TBU academic and research staff

- The term "short-term mobility of TBU staff" refers to teaching and research mobility of TBU employees of 1 to 4 weeks at a foreign institution.
- Support may be granted in a maximum amount of CZK 20,000 per one week of a TBU employee's stay abroad (accommodation, subsistence allowances and local transport) and up to a maximum of CZK 20,000 for travel to and from the place of mobility. The maximum contribution that may therefore be provided is CZK 100,000 for a four-week stay of a TBU employee. Costs exceeding this contribution shall be borne by the component part. The award of funding under PASSM is conditional upon the relevant component part providing a financial contribution equivalent to 10% of the amount allocated. The stay may be extended; however, no additional financial support from the PASSM funds shall be provided.
- The total amount of funding is set by the Rector in accordance with the proposal by the committee established in compliance with Article 6.
- The mobility period, including the return journey, must be completed by 6 December 2027.
- The application on the appropriate form which is included in Annex 1 to this Decree is available on the website www.utb.cz / University / International / Support of International Cooperation.
- Unless in conflict with Article 7 of this Decree, optional co-funding by the relevant component parts using their sources of funding may be provided.
- It is necessary to prepare and submit a final report on the appropriate form within 15 days of completion of the mobility. The form, i.e. Annex 2 to this Decree, is available on the website www.utb.cz / University / International / Support of International Cooperation. The final report shall contain the results and fulfilment of the mobility goals. The defences of the final reports shall take place in front of a committee appointed by the TBU Rector. Final reports shall be submitted to the TBU International Office.
- Each component part may submit a maximum of three applications.

c) Support for incoming mobility of international academics, researchers and non-academic experts at TBU

- For international academics, researchers or non-academic experts, mobility refers to a teaching and creative stay at TBU with a minimum duration of 5 days. The maximum duration is not limited.
- Support may be granted up to a maximum amount of CZK 100,000. A condition for the allocation of support from PASSM is the component part's participation in the financing in the amount of 10% of the allocated amount per application, regardless of the number of mobility periods or their duration.
- The total amount of financial support shall be determined by the Rector on the basis of a proposal submitted by the committee established in accordance with Article 6.
- The mobility period, including the return journey, must be completed by 6 December 2027.
- The application on the appropriate form which is included in Annex 1 to this Decree is available on the website www.utb.cz / University / International / Support of International Cooperation.
- Unless in conflict with Article 7 of this Decree, optional co-funding by the relevant component parts using their sources of funding may be provided.
- It is necessary to prepare and submit a final report on the appropriate form within 15 days of completion of the mobility. The form, i.e. Annex 2 to this Decree, is available on the website www.utb.cz / University / International / Support of International Cooperation. The final report shall contain the results and fulfilment of the mobility goals. The defences

of the final reports shall take place in front of a committee appointed by the TBU Rector. Final reports shall be submitted to the TBU International Office.

- Each component part may submit a maximum of three applications.

d) Support for the development of joint degree programmes within the PIONEER Alliance

- Joint degree programmes are understood to mean double or joint degree programmes delivered in cooperation with a foreign higher education institution that is a member of the PIONEER Alliance.
- A double degree programme is a degree programme delivered in cooperation between two or more higher education institutions, under which students who meet the prescribed academic requirements are awarded two separate degree certificates, one by each partner institution. A joint degree programme is a degree programme jointly delivered by two or more higher education institutions, under which students who meet the prescribed academic requirements are awarded a single joint degree certificate issued by the partner institutions.
- The applicant and the relevant component part of TBU shall submit the joint degree programme to the TBU Internal Evaluation Board (hereinafter referred to as the "IEB"). The proposal must be discussed by the Rector's Advisory Council by 30 September 2027, and the documentation required for the IEB's assessment must be submitted by 31 October 2027.
- The applicant must be a TBU employee who meets the requirements for acting as the guarantor of a degree programme.
- Funding may be awarded up to a maximum of CZK 200,000 for each approved joint degree programme and CZK 100,000 for each approved double degree programme. The funding may primarily be used to cover the project team's personnel costs and travel expenses. Overheads are not eligible costs. The funding will be released upon submission of an application for internal accreditation to the IEB.
- The application on the appropriate form which is included in Annex 1 to this Decree is available on the website www.utb.cz / University / International / Support of International Cooperation.
- Applications must be submitted in writing to the TBU International Office using the prescribed form. Applications for each component part must be submitted collectively by the Vice-Dean responsible for internationalisation, or, where applicable, by the Dean of the Faculty or the Director of UNI.
- Unless in conflict with Article 6 of this Decree, optional co-funding by the relevant component parts using their sources of funding may be provided.
- Within 15 days of submitting the application for internal accreditation to the IEB, the applicant must complete and submit a final report using the prescribed form. The form is Annex 2 to this Rector's Decree and is available on the TBU website at www.utb.cz / University / International / Support of International Cooperation. The final report must describe the outcomes and achievement of the mobility objectives. The reports will be defended before a committee appointed by the TBU Rector. Final reports must be submitted to the TBU International Office.
- Each component part may submit a maximum of two applications.

Article 5
Internal evaluation at the level of component parts

(1) Each component part of TBU shall establish an internal evaluation committee for the purposes of this competition.

(2) The internal evaluation committee of a component part shall be composed of the head of the component part or a representative authorised by them, representatives of the academic community of the component part, and at least one representative of doctoral students at those component parts that have accredited doctoral programmes (e.g. a member of the Academic Senate or a student authorised by the Senate). The minimum number of committee members shall be five.

(3) The internal evaluation committee of the component part shall discuss and assess individual application proposals submitted within the component part, determine their priorities, and recommend applications for submission to the university-wide competition.

(4) The internal evaluation at the level of the component part must comply with the evaluation criteria set out in Article 6 of this Decree. Component parts are entitled to establish additional supplementary evaluation criteria, provided that such criteria are not in conflict with this Decree.

(5) Component parts shall submit applications to the competition to the International Office of TBU in written form collectively, through the head of the component part or the Vice-Dean responsible for internationalisation.

(6) Component parts are obliged to clearly define their priorities within the collectively submitted applications.

Article 6
Committee

(1) The TBU Rector shall appoint an expert committee to evaluate applications and prepare recommendations on the allocation of funding.

(2) The committee established at the TBU level shall assess the applications submitted by the individual component parts on the basis of their internal evaluations and defined priorities, carry out an overall assessment within the available allocation, and prepare a final proposal for the allocation of support to be submitted to the TBU Rector. The final decision on the allocation of support shall rest with the TBU Rector.

(3) The committee shall be composed of Vice-Deans responsible for internationalisation or authorised representatives of the individual component parts.

(4) Details regarding the composition of the committee will be made available before 31 December 2026 at www.utb.cz / University / International / Support of International Cooperation.

(5) The evaluation criteria have been specified as follows:

- Quality of the cooperating institution (according to international rankings such as THE, QS, for example).
- Conformity with the TBU strategic aims. (https://www.utb.cz/en/university/official-board/strategic-documents/strategic-plan/).
- Applicant's prerequisites for the fulfilment of the objectives set down (relevance of the application, current collaborations, applicant's prerequisites for proper implementation of the project).

Article 7
Eligible costs

(1) Within the competition, it is not permissible to fund activities that have been or will be financed from other projects that do not allow co-financing from multiple sources.

(2) Routine activities, standard updates of degree programmes and common workplace equipment (e.g. the purchase of literature, chemicals, etc.) cannot be funded from the funds of the TBU PASSM intended for the competition.

(3) Eligible costs must be of a non-investment character.

(4) Financial resources for the implementation of selected mobility periods will be transferred after the completion of business trips and upon submission of eligible cost documentation, no later than 31 December 2027. The mandatory co-financing must be expended on costs directly related to mobility (i.e. travel costs, subsistence allowances, accommodation, etc.). Standard updates of degree programmes and common workplace equipment (e.g. the purchase of literature, chemicals, etc.) may not be reported as part of the co-financing).

Article 8
Final provisions

(1) This Decree shall apply only to this competition announced to be funded from the resources allocated to the PASSM 2027.

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16 October 2026	01	International Office	Creation of document

This English version of the internal regulation, including its Annexes, is provided for informational purposes only and is not legally binding. It may not fully correspond to the Czech version of the document.