EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COST is supported by the EU Framework Programme Horizon 2020

COST Actions are:

• **Pan-European**: the COST inter-governmental framework spans over **41 Full Members**, one Cooperating Member, and one Partner Member;

• **Bottom-up**: priorities are defined by the research community and coordinated by the Action Management Committees. **Multi-, Inter- and Trans-disciplinary collaborations are promoted!**

• **Open** throughout their lifetime to new members and are **adaptable** in terms of internal organisation and strategy. They shall promote actively the participation of the next generation of researchers and innovators.

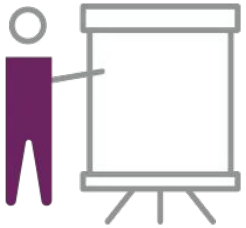
COST is open to all types of organizations, including **universities**, **research institutions**, **SMEs**, and **private sector companies**.

The focus is on bringing together relevant expertise to address the research topic.

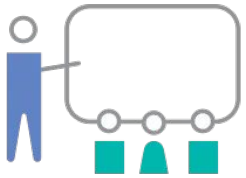
Funding UP TO 500.000 euros

Meetings, workshops, and conferences: COST will contribute to the travel and subsistence costs of invited participants, and to the cost of organising the meeting.

Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs): STSMs provide a good opportunity for both young and experienced researchers looking for mentoring and lifelong learning

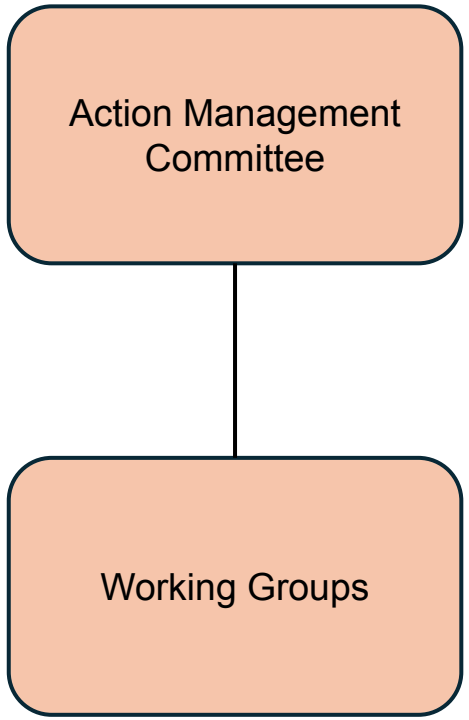


Training Schools
Training Schools offer intensive training on an Action topic at the premises of one of the Action participants.



Conference grants: help individuals attend beneficial international conferences that are not organised by the COST Action.

COST ACTION STRUCTURE:



The decision-making body and is responsible for the coordination, implementation and management of the Action activities and for supervising the appropriate allocation of the grant in view to achieving the Action objectives.

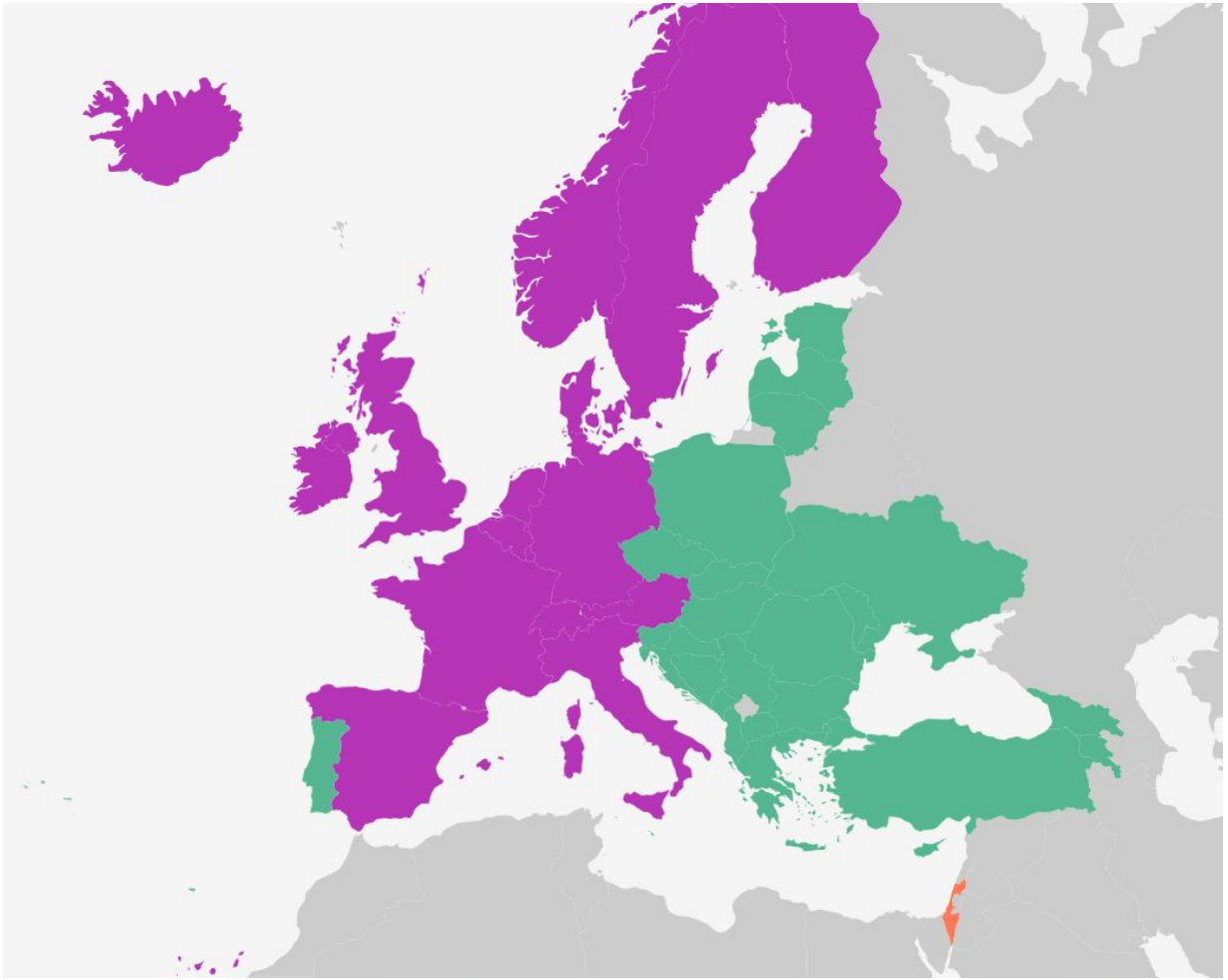
Are in charge of developing the scientific and networking activities needed to achieve the Action objectives, in line with the Action strategy defined by the Action MC

***Ad hoc* Participants**: Individuals who are not MC or WG members and are selected by the Action MC for a specific contribution towards the achievement of the COST Action Objectives.
Examples: *ad hoc* participants can be STSM grantees, trainees and trainers in Training Schools, or invited speakers at COST Action Workshops and Conferences

The 41 COST Full Members are: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, The Netherlands, The Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, and United Kingdom.

COST Cooperating Member: Israel.
A Cooperating Member implies non-voting rights in the COST CSO. However, researchers from COST's Cooperating Member enjoy member rights in COST Action participation.

COST Partner Member: South Africa. A Partner Member implies no rights to attend the COST CSO. However, researchers from COST's Partner Members enjoy observer rights in COST Action participation.



Inclusiveness Target Countries:
Albania, Armenia, Bosnia e Erzegovina, Bulgaria, Cipro, Repubblica Ceca, Croazia, Estonia, Georgia, Grecia, Ungheria, Lettonia, Lituania, Lussemburgo, Malta, Montenegro, Polonia, Portogallo, Romania, Repubblica di Serbia, Slovacchia, Slovenia, ex Repubblica Jugoslava di Macedonia, Turchia.

POTENTIAL SUBJECT of the COST ACTION ?????

Continuous improvement in IVF: optimizing Assisted Reproduction Techniques

1. Standardization and Harmonization of ART Practices across Europe
Development of shared clinical guidelines to improve efficiency and safety. Comparative analysis of legal frameworks, clinical protocols, and laboratory practices. Promotion of cross-border collaboration to align clinical outcomes.

2. Technological Innovation in IVF Laboratories
Integration of artificial intelligence and machine learning for embryo selection. Optimization of embryo culture systems and incubator technology. Development of new biosensors for real-time monitoring of gametes and embryos.

3. Personalization of Fertility Treatments
Identification and validation of biomarkers to predict IVF outcomes. Pharmacogenomics and individualized ovarian stimulation protocols. Advances in precision medicine applied to reproductive healthcare.

4. Long-term Outcomes and Patient Well-being
Follow-up studies on children born through ART (health, development, epigenetics). Psychological impact of IVF on patients, couples, and families. Quality of life assessment post-treatment and patient-centered care approaches.

5. Sustainability and Accessibility of ART
Cost-effectiveness analysis of different IVF protocols and techniques. Research on inequalities and barriers in access to fertility treatments. Strategies to improve affordability and equity in public and private settings.

6. Training and Continuous Education for ART Professionals
Development of multidisciplinary training programs across Europe. Establishment of accreditation systems and quality assurance standards. Fostering exchange of expertise through workshops and mobility initiatives.

7. Big Data and European ART Registries
Harmonization and integration of national ART registries into a pan-European database. Use of advanced analytics