Call for expression of interest to carry out short research stays for junior researchers of the EMERGE Alliance

1. Purpose and main features

The University of A Coruña, within the framework of the European Alliance of Universities EMERGE – Empowering the Margins of Europe through Regional and Global Engagement, opens a call for expression of interest to finance short research stays of predoctoral research staff between UDC and the universities of the EMERGE Alliance.

This action is part of the EMERGE research activities funded by the Xunta de Galicia, aimed at fostering scientific collaboration, the internationalisation of research and the establishment of links between research groups of the universities of the Alliance.

The call is structured in two lines:

- **Line 1** – Outgoing mobility: stays in an EMERGE university other than UDC, or in an institution linked to it (EMERGE "*Third Place*"), of people enrolled in an official doctoral programme of UDC.
- **Line 2** – Incoming mobility: stays at UDC, or in an institution linked to UDC (EMERGE "*Third Place*"), of people enrolled in a doctoral programme of another EMERGE university.

Main features:

- Total number of funded stays: 4.
- Length of Stay: One month.
- Stays must be carried out and completed before 31 December 2026.
- Maximum amount of funding: up to EUR 2.500 per person.

It will be positively valued that the stay contributes to establishing or strengthening links with research groups from more than one EMERGE university, as well as the existence of relevant connections with the business sector.

2. Funding

The funding of these mobilities will come from the Xunta de Galicia, in charge of the research budget allocation of EMERGE, reference 0599230178-541A-64000.

The maximum amount allocated to each stay will be EUR 2.500, intended to cover transport and accommodation costs linked to mobility. The maximum number of funded stays will be four.

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Observacións		Páxina	1/5
Url De Verificación	https://sede.udc.gal/services/validation/MUu5PJ6BZmuVZHkcg0wBNw%3D%3D		
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The financing system will be different depending on the mobility line:

Line 1 – Outgoing mobility from UDC.

In the case of people enrolled in an official doctoral programme of UDC selected to carry out a stay at another EMERGE university, the grant will be paid directly and in advance to the beneficiary, prior to the mobility. The amount paid will be applied, if applicable, the corresponding IRPF (Spanish personal income tax) withholding.

Line 2 – Incoming mobility to UDC.

In the case of people from other EMERGE universities selected to make a stay at UDC, no direct payment will be made to the participant. UDC will cover, up to a maximum of EUR 2.500 per person, the corresponding transport and accommodation costs through the travel agency designated by UDC. The selected applicants must accept the funding and provide the travel agency d by UDC with their specific travel needs within the period communicated to them.

The eligible expenses and their justification will be adjusted to the conditions of the financing of the Xunta de Galicia and to the economic management procedures of UDC. Double financing of the same items and mobility period will not be allowed.

3. Eligibility and requirements

An expression of interest may be submitted by persons who meet any of the following conditions:

- **Line 1**: Be enrolled in an official doctoral programme of the University of A Coruña during the period of stay and propose a mobility to another EMERGE university or to an institution linked to it (EMERGE "*Third Place*").
- **Line 2**: Be enrolled in a doctoral programme at an EMERGE university other than UDC during the period of stay and propose a mobility to the University of A Coruña or an institution linked to it (EMERGE "*Third Place*").

In both cases, the applicant must have a hosting commitment from the person head of the research group or host unit at the host institution.

The applicant must commit to developing the research plan presented during the stay and to participate in the academic or research activities agreed with the host institution.

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4. Presentation of expressions of interest

The deadline for submission will be until 23:59 (mainland Spain time) on 18 October 2026.

Interested persons must submit their application in the following way:

- **Line 1, outgoing from UDC**: by filling in the form at the following link: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/UTPUAKiUJz
- **Line 2, incoming to UDC**: by sending an email to the EMERGE Office, at the address administration.emerge@udc.gal, which includes documents a) b) and c) indicated below.

The application must include:

a) Abbreviated CV, with a maximum length of two pages, including contact details (email address and telephone).

b) A short research proposal, with a maximum length of two pages, describing the research that will be carried out during the stay, its objectives, the destination institution and the planned dates.

c) Email or commitment document of the person in charge of the research group of the EMERGE university, linked institution (or EMERGE "*Third Place*") that will host the stay.

d) If applicable, information on the link of the proposal with other EMERGE research groups or with the business sector.

5. Evaluation and selection

Nominations will be evaluated by a committee composed of:

· The person in charge of the Vice-Rectory for Research and Transfer of UDC, or the person to whom they delegate, who will chair the committee.

· The person in charge of the Vice-Rectory of Degrees and Internationalisation of UDC, or person to whom they delegate.

· The person responsible for EMERGE's work package 6 (WP6) at UDC, who will act as secretary.

· A person from the administrative office of the Alliance EMERGE at UDC.

The evaluation will be made on a maximum of 10 points, according to the following criteria:

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Relevance of the academic track record to mobility and EMERGE (2 points): the applicant's academic training and track record will be evaluated, taking into account their doctoral training stage and, in particular, its relevance to the objectives of the proposed stay and to the EMERGE Alliance's areas and priorities for collaboration.

Relevance of the research track record to the mobility and EMERGE (3 points): the applicant's research experience, publications, participation in projects, conferences and other relevant merits will be assessed, with particular attention to their relevance to the research to be conducted during the stay and their potential to foster scientific collaboration within EMERGE.

Quality, feasibility and EMERGE dimension of the research proposal (5 points): the clarity of the objectives, the suitability of the planned activities to the duration of the stay, the feasibility of the work plan and the expected contribution of the mobility to the doctoral research will be assessed. Particular consideration will be given to the proposal's potential to establish or strengthen scientific collaborations between EMERGE universities, as well as to the existence of links with more than one university in the Alliance and, where applicable, with the business sector.

The committee will seek a reasonable balance between mobilities in which UDC acts as the home institution and those in which it acts as the host institution, as well as balanced representation across different scientific fields, while always taking into account the quality of the applications submitted.

In the event of a tie, priority will be given to the application with the higher score for the quality and feasibility of the research proposal. If the tie persists, priority will be given to the application with the higher score for research track record. If a tie still remains, a draw documented by the committee will be held.

The committee will draw up a ranked list of selected applicants and, where applicable, a waiting list. The results will be published on the EMERGE UDC calls for applications webpage before 22 October 2026.

6. Confirmation and participation commitments

Selected applicants must confirm their acceptance of the funding within the timeframe communicated to them and complete the academic and administrative procedures required for the mobility.

In the case of Line 2, selected applicants must provide the travel agency designated by UDC with their specific travel requirements, so that UDC can directly manage eligible expenses within the established limit.

Selected applicants must have the necessary insurance coverage for the stay and, where applicable, provide evidence of compliance with this requirement.

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After completing the stay, participants must submit a report describing the activities carried out, the objectives achieved, and the results or prospects for collaboration arising from the mobility. This report must be submitted by 28 February 2027 at the latest.

Failure to comply with the requirements or commitments established in this call may result in the full or partial revocation of funding and, where applicable, the repayment of amounts received.

Selected applicants must report any withdrawal or incident as far in advance as possible. Vacancies may be filled according to the order of the waiting list.

The EMERGE UDC Office will provide selected applicants with the necessary guidance for the organisation of the mobility, insurance coverage, and the justification or management of expenses, as applicable to each line.

7. Information

For any queries related to this call, interested applicants can contact the EMERGE UDC Office through the email coordination.emerge@udc.gal.

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