

TEMPUS GLOSSARY

The terms used in Tempus should be understood as follows:

Bologna Declaration	A commitment by 29 countries in June 1999 to reform their higher education systems in order to create overall convergence at European level.
Bologna Process	The process of convergence in European higher education systems started in Bologna, where higher education ministers from 29 European countries launched the initiative of creating a “European Higher Education Area” by 2010. Since 1999 more than 10 other countries have joined the process.
Candidate countries	Countries with which the European Community is negotiating or plans to negotiate membership. These currently include: Bulgaria, Croatia ⁱ , Romania and Turkey.
CARDS	European Community Programme for Assistance, Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation. It is the main channel for the European Community’s financial and technical assistance cooperation with the Western Balkans.
CARDS countries	See “Western Balkan countries”.
Consortium	The group of partners involved in a Tempus Joint European Project or in Structural and Complementary Measures
Consortium member	Any university, industry, company or institution involved in a Tempus Joint European Project.
Grantholder	The consortium member which is legally responsible for the grant agreement. The Grantholder manages the grant on behalf of the consortium.
Grant coordinator	The consortium member responsible for the management, coordination and monitoring of the project.

ⁱ Although Croatia is a Candidate Country it remains an eligible Partner Country for Tempus funding

Council of the European Union	Its various formations are composed of specialised government ministers representing each Member State who meet periodically to take decisions in the various policy areas under their responsibility. Together with the European Parliament, the Council constitutes the European Community's budgetary and legislative authority.
Diploma Supplement	A document attached to a higher education diploma aimed at enhancing international transparency.
Eastern European, Caucasian and Central Asian countries	Indicates the following countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.
European Credit Transfer System	The European Credit Transfer System of academic credit allocation and transfer was developed in the European Community and originally introduced on a wide scale within the Socrates programme. For further information please consult the website: http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/index_en.html
Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements	An essential feature of the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements have been concluded between the European Union and nine of its Mediterranean Partners to replace the 1970s Cooperation Agreements.
Euro-Mediterranean Partnership	New "partnership" phase of the relationship including bilateral and multilateral or regional cooperation (also called Barcelona Process) between the European Union, the 15 Member States and the 12 Mediterranean Partners, launched at the Conference of European Union and Mediterranean Foreign Ministers in Barcelona (27-28 November 1995).
European Commission	Is the European Community's primary executive body. It initiates legislative proposals and also acts as manager and executor of the European Community's common policies, including the European Community's external assistance programmes.
European Higher Education Area	A common qualification framework which is expected to emerge from the Bologna process.

European Parliament	Is the directly elected expression of political will of the peoples of the European Community. Together with the Council (see above), the Parliament adopts legislation, approves the European Community's budget and monitors the execution of the European Community's common policies.
Individual Experts	Indicates individuals invited to participate in specific Tempus project activities at the request of the consortium members and who are not employed by any of the consortium member institutions.
Graz Process	An initiative of the Austrian European Community presidency, launched in October 1998, promoting democratic and peaceful development in Southeast Europe (see below) by supporting and co-ordinating educational co-operation projects.
Industries and companies	Those are entities performing all types of economic activity, irrespective of legal status (including NGOs), autonomous business organisations, chambers of commerce and industry and/or their equivalents, professional associations, and the training bodies of those. ⁱⁱ
Institutions	Those are local and public authorities, and the social partners' and their training bodies. ⁱⁱⁱ
MEDA	The MEDA programme is the principal financial instrument of the European Union for the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. The programme offers technical and financial support measures to accompany the reform of economic and social structures in the Mediterranean Partners.
Mediterranean Partners	The ten Mediterranean Partners, situated in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean are Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia (Maghreb); Egypt, Israel, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, Lebanon, Syria (Mashrek); Turkey; Libya currently has observer status at certain meetings.

ⁱⁱ Article 4 of the Council Decision of 29 April 1999 adopting the third phase of the trans-European cooperation scheme for higher education (Tempus III) (2000-2006) (1999/311/EC)

ⁱⁱⁱ ditto

MEDA Partners eligible for funding under Tempus	Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, Lebanon, Syria.
Member State	One of the twenty-five countries of the European Community.
Multi- Country project	Refers to projects involving institutions from two separate European Community Member States and at least two separate Partner Countries.
National Contact Point	Tempus reference point in each of the Member States
New Independent States	The countries that emerged from the dissolution of the Soviet Union
National Tempus Office	Tempus Office in the CARDS, MEDA and Tacis Partner Countries.
Partnership and Cooperation Agreements	Bilateral legal frameworks setting out the political, economic and trade relationship between the European Community and third countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia.
Social partners	Representative organisations of employees and employers.
Southeast Europe	Indicates the whole Balkan region; that is, the Western Balkan countries, together with Bulgaria and Romania.
Stabilisation and Association Agreements	These provide the formal mechanisms and agreed benchmarks which allow the European Community to work with each of the Western Balkan countries.
Stabilisation and Association Process	A long-term European Community commitment to offer a prospect of accession to the Western Balkan countries by gaining the region's agreement to a clear set of objectives and conditions.
Stability Pact for Southeast Europe	European Community initiative launched in June 1999 to develop a shared strategy for stability and growth in Southeast Europe.
Tacis	European Community programme to assist economic reform and recovery in the Eastern European, Caucasian and Central Asian countries.

Tacis countries	See “Eastern European, Caucasian and Central Asian countries”.
University	All types of post-secondary educational and vocational training establishments which offer, within the framework of advanced education and training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called. ^{iv} Any type of state-recognised higher education institution. For the purpose of this Tempus Guide for Applicants the term “university” covers also associations/organisations of universities
Western Balkan countries	Indicates the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

^{iv} Article 4 of the Council Decision of 29 April 1999 adopting the third phase of the trans-European cooperation scheme for higher education (Tempus III) (2000-2006) (1999/311/EC)