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COST
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BECOMING PART OF COST ACTION 'TRANSNATIONAL FAMILY DYNAMICS IN EUROPE'

About COST and COST Actions

The European 'Cooperation in Science and Technology' (COST) is a funding organisation for the creation of research networks, called [COST Actions](#). These networks offer an open space for collaboration among scientists across Europe (and beyond) and thereby give impetus to research advancements and innovation. Since 1971, COST has received EU funding under the various Research and Innovation Framework Programmes, such as Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. [Read more about COST...](#)

A COST Action is an interdisciplinary research network that brings together researchers and innovators to investigate a topic of their choice for 4 years. COST Actions typically consist of researchers from academia, SMEs, public institutions and other relevant organisations or stakeholders and are open to all science and technology fields. They offer an inclusive, pan-European environment for individuals of all seniority levels to expand their professional research networks and boost their careers. [Read more...](#)

More information on [COST funding and technical rules](#) for COST Actions.

COST action 'Transnational Family Dynamics in Europe'

In 2022, the proposal "Transnational Family Dynamics in Europe" was approved as COST Action. The proposal was initiated by Odisee University of Applied Sciences (Brussels, BE) and supported by 40 [co-proposers](#) from academic backgrounds and stakeholder. The first 'Management Committee meeting', the leading body of the Action, took place in Brussels on 3 October 2022.

Details of the Action:

- Title: Transnational family dynamics in Europe
- Acronym: TraFaDy
- Code: CA21143
- The main aim and objective of the Action is to deepen and broaden the scientific understanding of transnational families through international and multidisciplinary knowledge exchange, enable further multidisciplinary approaches and stimulate innovation in research, policy and practice.
- Chair: Prof Mieke Schrooten. All [Leadership positions](#).
- Funding period: 03/10/2022 - 02/10/2026

A COST Action is guided by a 'memorandum of Understanding' (based on the approved Action proposal). Read the MoU [here](#).

Full description of the Action on the COST-website [here](#). A dedicated website on the Action is under construction.

6 Working groups (WG)

6 working groups (WG) are established:

1. Kinkeeping within transnational families in a global and digital era
2. Integrating the perspective of vulnerable children and youth in welfare and policy
3. Social rights and social protection of transnational families
4. Health and well-being of transnational families
5. Talking across disciplines: Methodological issues in TNF research and data collection
6. Practices and policy impact group

Main task of the WGs: achieving the scientific objectives of the Action.

Find the WG leaders [here](#). Their tasks:

- Coordinate and manage activities and tasks related to the Working Group they lead
- Provide input for the preparation of the Progress Reports and Final Achievement Report and present the progress of the Working Group to the Action MC, and the COST Association

How to apply to become part of the Network?

Reimbursement of expenses for travel, organising meetings, representation and other costs related to the Action is often possible, but *only for registered participants in the Action*.

How to apply:

- Go to <https://e-services.cost.eu/user/login>
- Log in or create an account (this may take some time, as you have to link your account to your professional affiliation).
- Then go to <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA21143>. In the right part of the page, you can apply to be a member of a working group (WG):
- Fill in all mandatory questions
About "I'm available to be nominated as MC member": tick the box if you want to be nominated as a member of the Management Committee. Read more in the [COST funding and technical rules](#) (page 34).
About "I'm available to substitute the MC member/observer of my COST member country or Specific Organisation on an ad-hoc basis": Tick the box if you are not an MC Member, but are available to substitute an appointed Member. It is smart to tick this box even if you are not seeking an active role in the MC. Read more in the [COST funding and technical rules](#) (page 35).
- You will receive a confirmation of your registration (with info on how you can modify it later).
- After registration, you will automatically receive all invitations and communications linked to your WG.

Again: this registration is needed for any reimbursement of costs.

Funding of activities

Funding provided by COST supports networking activities, namely:

- Meetings (mainly Action MC, WGs),
- Training Schools,
- Mobility of researchers and innovators,
- Presentations at conferences

Other expenses specifically supporting the Action include:

- Dissemination and communication products,
- Expenses for the benefit of the network.

See the annexes of the "[Annotated rules for COST Actions](#)" for full details. Only costs made by WG Members, that fit into the Action Plan and are approved by the Action MC will be reimbursed. *Please contact [the Action Chair](#) or [the Grant Awarding Coordinator](#) first if you have any suggestions for funded activities.*

Next steps

If the aim and content of this COST Action are relevant to your work as *researcher, policy officer or public servant*, please consider registering as member of this Network. We look forward to meeting you at our meetings.