GETTING INVOLVED

How to propose a new Action

To propose a new Action, you should prepare a one-page summary outlining the future Action's main scientific objectives, and explaining its domain related value, potential national interest and relevance to policy. It should also describe how the proposed work relates to ongoing research activities across Europe, how the Action would be coordinated, and the anticipated products. Please submit this summary to the Science Officer for COST Physics, Piotr Swiatek.

The Technical Committee for Physics assesses the proposed Action. Key criteria include scientific merit, the potential added-value to ongoing research investment and relevance of research objectives to the COST Physics Domain. The Technical Committee then invites a full proposal if appropriate.

Full proposals are assessed against more detailed criteria and, if successful, a recommendation is made for the new Action to be approved. At least five COST Member Countries must sign the action before it can be formally launched.

How to join an ongoing Action

If your country of residence is already represented in the Action, you should contact the relevant National Member of the Management Committee.

If your country of residence is not already represented, you should contact your COST National Co-ordinator (cost.cordis.lu/src/contacts_nc.cfm) or the Science Officer for COST Physics.

COST MEMBER STATES

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel (cooperating state), Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

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For further information on COST in general, and on the work of other Domains please see: cost.cordis.lu

For further information on COST Physics and preparing summary and full proposals please see:
www.cost-physics.org

COST is supported by the EU framework programme

European Science Foundation provides and manages the scientific and technical secretariat for COST

cost

EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH

DOMAIN PHYSICS

More information on COST is available on:
http://cost.cordis.lu

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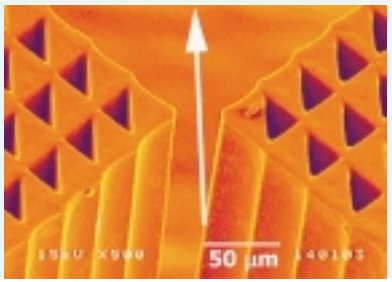
WHAT IS COST?

COST is an intergovernmental framework for European Co-operation in Science and Technology. COST is supported by the EU Sixth Framework Programme, and its scientific secretariat is provided by the European Science Foundation (ESF), through the COST Office based in Brussels.

COST's objective is to add value to research investment by co-ordinating, integrating and synthesising results from ongoing nationally-funded research within and between COST member countries. COST does not fund the research itself, although synthesising research is a valuable scientific exercise in its own right. COST funds coordination, management, workshops, meetings, exchange visits and training schools through its COST Actions which normally have a duration of 4-5 years.

COST stimulates European research by bringing researchers together in Actions (networks) to exchange knowledge, synergise working groups, conduct comparative studies and jointly synthesise findings. Actions are proposed by active scientists (rather than being designed in a "top-down" manner), and, by involving both young and more experienced scientists, COST helps to create international networks for the future.

COST Actions aim to deliver scientific syntheses and analyses of best available practice to aid problem identification, risk assessment and policy development.



WHAT IS COST PHYSICS?

Physics research has a profound cultural value and a great impact on the technological development of our society. Results from physics research have universal validity and applicability for many other fields and physics plays a central role in other sciences such as chemistry, biology and medicine. New developments in industrial technology rely, to a large extent, on the synthesis of new materials, made possible by recent developments in physics and by the new methods derived from this knowledge.

International cooperation is an essential feature and prerequisite in physics research. Cooperation in basic research is becoming also more and more important to European industries because fierce competition in global markets.

Networking and international cooperation is especially important to groups working on emerging research topics. For them COST-Actions form an "exploratorium", where research projects can be effectively coordinated. Also they have often proved to be an incubator for the programmes of the European Community.

ONGOING COST PHYSICS ACTIONS

(AS OF JANUARY 2005)

P7	X-ray and Neutron Optics
P8	Materials and Systems for Optical Data Storage and Processing
P9	Radiation Damage in Biomolecular Systems
P10	Physics of Risk
P11	Physics of linear, non-linear and active photonic crystals
P12	Structuring of Polymers
P13	Forging the missing link: From Molecular Simulations to Nanoscale Experiments
P14	Laser-matter interactions with ultra-short pulses, high-frequency pulses and ultra-intense pulses. From Attophysics to Petawatt Physics
P15	Advanced Paramagnetic Resonance Methods in Molecular Biophysics
P16	ECOM – Emergent Behaviour in Correlated Matter