



FP6-507728

EURON

European Robotics Network

Network of Excellence
Information Society Technologies Priority

DR 4.4 and DR 22.2
Results of EURON Open Call for Perspective
Research Projects and Special Interest Groups
proposals for Y3

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Actual submission date: 4 June 2007

Start date of the project: 1 May 2004

Duration: 48 months

Organisation name of lead contractor for this deliverable: KTH/KUL

Revision: First version

Dissemination level: PU

EURON Fourth Call for Proposals

Open deadline

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1 Introduction

The European Research Network *EURON*¹ issues a call for proposals, stimulating short-term innovative robotics research via funding of *Prospective Research Projects* (PRP), and encouraging community-based initiatives by providing financial support for *Special Interest Groups* (SIG). This Call is open from *February, 1st, 2007*, and proposals *must* be sent in via the EURON website, <http://www.euron.org>. This call explains how to apply for funding for PRPs and SIGs.

2 Prospective Research Projects

A *PRP* is meant to test rapidly the credibility of new research ideas and concepts in robotics. Hence it has the following characteristics:

- It investigates *any topic* in robotics in general, with a high level of *innovation and risk*.
- It involves EURON partners of *at least two EU member states* (or associated states).
- It runs over *at most* one full year, so it must be *very focused*.
- Its maximum budget is 100 K Euro. This budget should not be used to invest in *durable equipment*, but in personel, travel and consumables.
- Its expected output must be clearly identified. Typically, this output will be an evaluation of the viability of the investigated novel idea.
- The project partners should indicate why they are capable of bringing the project to a successful end.
- The EURON Board encourages young, unexperienced researchers to participate to this Call, as long as they have creative and challenging ideas.

3 Special Interest Groups

A SIG is an ad hoc collection of EURON members that come together to form a micro community to address a specific topic in robotics that is of common interest to all SIG members, and to the robotics community in general. A SIG should have the following characteristics:

- It involves *at least five EURON partners* from *at least two EU member states* (or associated states). Participants from non-EURON member institutions can be partner in a SIG, but without funding.
- It must have clearly identifiable goals, whose relevance to the robotics community must be motivated.

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- It must meet at least twice a year, with a minimum participation of ten people.
- It must publish its results on the web. (EURON provides a webpage for every SIG, if desired.)
- The maximum budget is 15 K Euro, which can be used for travel costs (under the normal EURON travel grant conditions, as documented on the EURON website), meeting logistics, and/or the invitation of non-EURON specialists in the SIG's domain. The expected costs should be motivated in the budget planning of the SIG proposal.

A SIG should run for more than a year, i.e. till the expected end of the EURON contract in Autumn 2008.

- EURON wants to stimulate explicitly the creation of a SIG on *benchmarking in robotics*. This SIG can receive an extra budget of 15k Euro, but must meet at least four times a year, and have a clear plan about publication of the benchmark ideas, and about wide community involvement.
- One of the yearly SIG meetings must be held at the EURON Annual Meeting, and should be open to all EURON participants.

Interested members are encouraged to use the *euron-dist* mailinglist (euron-dist@lists2.ais.fraunhofer.de) for the preparation of a SIG, in order to reach the maximum number of interested and motivated participants, and to avoid duplication of efforts and overlap between proposals.

4 Applying for funding

The open submission scheme implies that a proposal can be submitted anytime of the year, and that evaluation of proposals will be made periodically (roughly with a monthly periodicity) through a peer-review process, supervised by the *EURON Board*.

Proposal *must* be sent in via <http://www.euron.org>. They will be evaluated for their originality, team excellence, and feasibility; the proposers are required to provide one or more evaluation criteria with which they want the success of their project to be evaluated. Please, keep your proposals short: (i) we want to create a very lightweight instrument, both for you and for the reviewers, and (ii) the reviewers will (anonymously) contact you if they need clarifications or more details.

The financial support to a *Prospective Research Project* is in the form of a fixed contribution (“lump sum”). The payments for an activity will always follow the plan outlined here:

1. A 40% advance of the budget will be paid at contract signature.
2. The last 60% is paid once the deliverables have been approved by the EURON Network Board (within one to three months of completion of the project).

In their final report the project must show that the cost incurred by the participants (at least the part that is eligible for funding) has been at least as high as the financial contribution received from EURON.

The financial support to a *Special Interest Group* is in the form of normal EURON travel reimbursements for participation to the SIG meetings. All other costs (approved in advance by the EURON Board) will be paid via invoices to the EURON administration.

Stepwise Review Procedure

1. The proposal submitted via the web interface is sent to the review group, and to coordinator (Herman) and administrator (Jeanna) for information.
2. **Identification of Conflicts:**

Any of the 3 review group members with a conflict of interest (named in the proposal, same institution as proposal partner, etc.) notify the group and withdraw from the process for this proposal.

If there are at least 2 members of the review group still 'in', move to step 2; otherwise refer to Coordinator for action (appoint, or act as, a second group member). If the Coordinator has a conflict, refer to the Board.
3. The (at least) two review group members independently verify that the proposal meets the formal criteria: diversity of country etc. Proposals that do not meet these criteria fail immediately on those grounds.
4. The review group members commission a specialist review, with a 2 week deadline, from a suitable expert who considers the first two criteria in point 4 below, from a specialist perspective.
5. Meanwhile the review group members prepare brief general reviews (but including -- of course -- specialist knowledge if they are specialists in the area of the proposal) with respect to the criteria:
 - [PRP] how innovative is the core idea (appropriateness for EURON funding)?
 - [SIG] how well does the proposed SIG serve a specific interest of a well-defined community, which is not already covered by other resourcing?
 - do the partners have appropriate expertise, roles and resources for the project to succeed?
 - are the deliverables and evaluation criteria clear, appropriate and commensurate with the proposed scope and requested funding?
6. Using the specialist review and its own generalist ones, the review group clarifies any uncertain points with the proposers and completes the reporting documentation, which includes a brief but argued recommendation to the Board.
7. The Board has 5 days to object to the proposal, on argued grounds. Members of the Board with a conflict of interest do not take part in any discussion.
8. The review group members summarize the discussion if necessary and prepare a revised recommendation, which is passed to the Coordinator for implementation.
9. A (possibly edited) printed version of the HTML proposal forms part of the contract between KTH and the proposers.

Results of EURON Open Call for Perspective Research Projects Proposals Y3 (May 2006 to April 2007)

Date of submission	Project Acronym	Project Full Title	URL	Consortium	Budget	Status
14/03/2007	MoCaForMeRs	Monocular Camera 3D SLAM by Formations of Mobile Robots	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/744701b2ecc8108e39f924f1c34fb9a8-1MNdNX	Univ. Prague, Libor Preucil Univ. Würzburg, Klaus Schilling	99,500	Rejected/23-04-07
05/04/2007	GRASPABLE	Designing a Behaviour for Grasping the Graspable	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/0f6b1bbb8e0743c3a96bcd7aec06e3f-ipXd2y/	KTH, CAS, Danica Kragic TU Vienna, ACIN, Marcus Vincze	99,800	Suggested for approval
03/04/2007	RoTeMAS	Robot Teleoperation through a Motion Analysis System with Force Feedback	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/6020437a5965ccf53eb9812aec685bcc-4c8eLJ	Univ. Miguel Fernandez de Elche, Jose Azorin SSSA, Fabrizio Vecchi	84,000	Suggested for approval
03/04/2007	SIMAR	Study & Implementation of Advanced Coordination Control Algorithms for Multiple Autonomous Robotic Vehicles	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/249c12f2ce0f7321b341b991e7e04672-OBt9vv	IST/ISR, Antonio Aguiar UP delle Marche, LabMACS/DIIGA group Giuseppe Conte	98,520	4
14/02/2007	MATRICES	Marin, Aerial & Terrestrial Robots for Intelligent Coordination Strategies	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/3b4f38a33c78ebd25601aae9958ed70e-wjZ6jo	UNICAS, Gianluca Antonelli SINTEF, Thor Fossen Univ. Reggio Calabria, Massimiliano Mattei Poznan TU, Krzysztof Kozlowski	100,000	3
13/02/2007	EAP4bio	Electroactive Polymer Artificial Muscles for Hybrid Bionic Applications	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/b280d9dc502c33428d9508098b64c31e-tbRv9c	Tartu UT, Maarja Kruusmaa CEA LIST, Moustapha Hafez SSSA, Fabrizio Vecchi U Verona, Debora Botturi	97,000	Approved/29-03-07
07/03/2007	AVRYWARE	A Virtual-Reality-based analYsis for a Wheelchair with Assistive Robotic Extenders	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/f6fa925016257e0f51d3fbfd2630ae07-jUU4sk	UNINA, PRISMA Lab, Vincenzo Lippiello UNIC3M, Alberto Huete UNICAS, DAEMI, Gianluca Antonelli	100,000	3
29/03/2007	REFLORA	Robotic Exogenous Flora	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/f611f2d9a18e194267c6ba36ddb8041e-Owk8sJ	Univ. Campus Biomedico Roma, Dino Accoto EPFL, Intel. Systems lab, Claudio Mattiussi	100,000	Suggested for approval

Results of EURON Open Call for Special Interest Groups Y3 (May 2006 to April 2007)

Date of Submission	Project Acronym	URL	Consortium	Budget	Status
21/02/2007	TeleRob	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/ecd3ab7023f44c62fec931f4e4cf6254-RChlqq	Univ. Würzburg, Klaus Schilling UJI, Angel del Pobil Univ. Of Siegen, Hubert Roth Helsinki UT, Aarne Halme UC3M, Miguel Salichs	12,000	Rejected/23-04-07
19/02/2007	RI-SE	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/893355747cf21c9b2299e806e2b57ac5-Zqm7Mh	UGV Centre RMA, Yvan Baudoin UJI, Cervera UNIGE, PMAR-DIMEC, Molfino U Coimbra, ISR, de Almeida U Murcia, Barbera TU Warschau, PIAP, Maslowski	15,000	Rejected/23-04-07
30/03/2007	CoopRob	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/b739180a315c03936a55a345ff99ae13-JmD2IE	Örebro Univ, AASS Mobile Rob, A. Saffiotti IST, Lisbon, Pedro Lima Fraunhofer IAIS, Gerhard Krätzschar IT+Robotics SRL, Italy, Irene Pagello Middle East TU, KOVAN, Erol Sahin Politec. di Milano, AI&Robotics, Andrea Bonarini TU Crete, Nikos Vlassis TU Darmstadt, Oskar von Stryk U Padua, Inf. Engineering, Enrico Pagello Univ. Rome "La Sapienza", SIED, Daniele Nardi UPC, Rob. & Inf. Industr., Alberto Sanfeliu UVA, Frans Groen	15,000	Suggested for approval
18/04/2007	Good Experimental Methodology	http://www.euron.org/submissions/call-4/56044af5bdde0d530b4314fa00dd1893-dotYoE/	HERON, Fabio Bonsignorio SDU, John Hallam; UJI, Angel del Pobil TAU, A. Moshaiov; Örebro Univ, AASS, A.Saffiotti P Warsaw, C.Zielinski; Univ. Of Crete, N. Vlassis Cyberbotics, O. Michel; KTH, CAS, D. Kragic Politec. di Milano, A. Bonarini; U Zaragoza, J. Minguez; U Milano, IRA Lab, D. Sorrentino Politec. di Milano, Matteo Matteucci Univ. Bremen, Dirk Spenneberg SSSA, Paolo Dario Microsoft Research, Alexander Brandle TU Vienna, ACIN, Marcus Vincze Univ. Zaragoza, Juan Domingo Tardos Univ. Pisa, Antonio Bicchi Tartu Univ., Maarja Kruusmaa; Univ. Leeds, G.Virk	30,000	1