DECISION DOCUMENT

on co-funding of Republic of Slovenia – People's Republic of China joint research projects in the period 2026 - 2028

I. Introduction

Based on the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, signed in Ljubljana on 13 September 1993, the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China on Joint Funding of Research and Development Projects signed in Beijing on 17 May 2019, and the Protocol of the 13th Session of Slovenia-China Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation signed on 12 June 2024 in Beijing, the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of the Republic of Slovenia (hereinafter referred to as "MHESI") and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "MOST") (hereinafter referred to as "Parties") confirm the following:

II. Evaluation of joint Chinese – Slovenian project proposals

The Parties announced the Call for joint project proposals in June 2025.

Within the Call, the Slovenian Party received 77 proposals for joint research projects, 3 of which did not pass formal conditions. The Chinese Party received 76 proposals for joint research projects, 2 of which did not pass formal conditions.

74 project proposals passed the formal conditions and were matched and accepted for expert evaluation carried out by both Parties.

III. Approval of joint Chinese – Slovenian projects for funding in 2026 - 2028

The jointly agreed research areas were listed in the Call in accordance with the Protocol of the 13th Session of the Slovenia-China Joint Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation with the note that generally, one project will be selected in each research area: computer science and its applications; energy and power engineering; nanotechnology and materials engineering; biotechnology including modern agriculture and healthcare; carbon cycle karst geology.

Based on the results of the expert evaluation of the project proposals both Parties came to an agreement that according to the peer review screening, 5 projects listed in Annex I, which is an integral part of this Decision Document, shall be jointly funded for the period of three years.

Regarding the field of Carbon Cycle and Karst Geology, both Parties note that only three project proposals were submitted in this field. Following the evaluation procedure conducted

on the Chinese side, none of these proposals met the established funding criteria. Consequently, no joint projects in this area were selected for support under the current Call.

The Slovenian Party will provide 500.000 EUR funding for the projects and the Chinese Party will provide 5 million RMB funding for the projects. The total support for each project is up to 100.000 EUR provided by MHESI and up to 1,000,000 RMB by MOST.

The joint research activities for both Parties should be finished by 31 December 2028 at the latest.

This Decision Document is signed in December 2025 by correspondence, in two copies in the English language.

For the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of the Republic of Slovenia

Tina Vuga 18.12.2025

Head of the EU and International Cooperation Office

Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of the Republic of Slovenia

For the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China

22.12.2025

Xiao Wang

Deputy Director

Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China

ANNEX I

2026-2028 Slovenia-China R&D Cooperation Projects

No.	Project Title	Slovenian Organization	Chinese Organization	Slovenian PI	Chinese PI
1	Research on Cloud-Native Intelligent Orchestration and Efficient Scheduling Methods for Large Model Inference	University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Computer and Information Science	Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Vlado Stankovski	Minxian Xu
2	Year-round smart thermal and humidity regulation method for buildings based on high-efficient sky radiation energy utilization	University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	Shanghai Jiao Tong University	Primož Poredoš	Ruzhu Wang
3	Zinc solid-state battery based on electrolyte Integrated into the confined nanochannels and organic cathode	National Institute of Chemistry	University of Science and Technology of China	Robert Dominko	Longsheng Cao
4	Development of Dual-Targeting hTOPOII/HDAC Split-and-Mix-PROTAC's	University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Pharmacy	Shenzhen Bay Laboratory	Janez Ilaš	Feng Yin
5	Biotechnological Innovations for Verticillium Wilt-Resistant Crops in Sustainable Agriculture	University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty	Huazhong Agricultural University	Ester Stajič	Longfu Zhu