

2021 REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Armenian Communities Department of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation supports Armenian and Armenian Studies university students and researchers all over the world through its scholarship programme. Scholarships are awarded through a competitive selection process to highly motivated students and academically meritorious young students who are best placed to make meaningful contributions to the development of their fields of study and to their Armenian communities.

This report presents the 2021 results with the following six scholarship categories:

1. [Armenian Studies Scholarship](#)
2. [Short Term Grant for Armenian Studies](#)
3. [Short Term Conference and Travel Grants to Students in Armenia](#)
4. [Undergraduate Studies Scholarship](#)
5. [Support to Armenian Students in Portugal](#)
6. [Emergency Scholarship](#)

BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION AND ANALYSIS

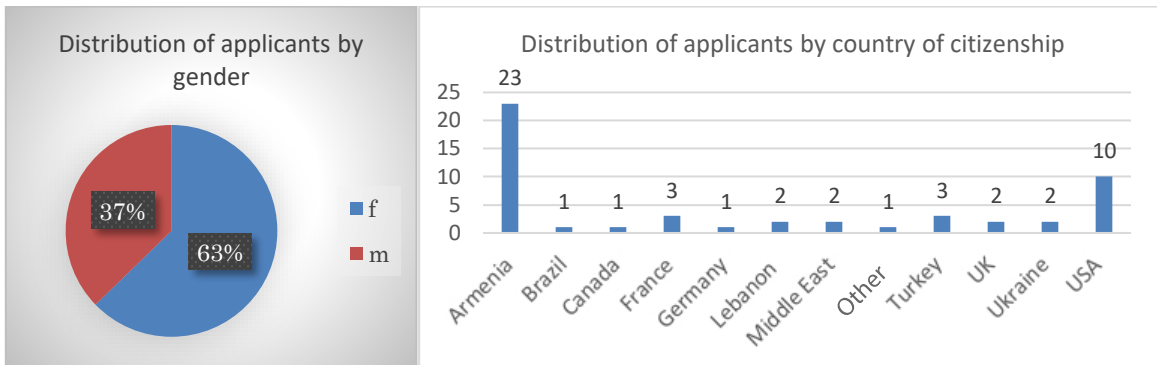
1. [Armenian Studies Scholarship](#)

The Armenian Studies scholarship application cycle was open from 1 March to 14 May; its aim is to promote research in Armenian Studies by students and researchers of any nationality pursuing a Master's, a PhD or a Post Doc in recognized universities around the world. The scholarship category is open to research in various disciplines and subjects, but preference is given to modern and contemporary themes, including current issues considered important to the Armenian world.

In 2021, the Department received 51 applications, 35% of these applications were sent on the last day and 20% on the penultimate day.

The charts below show the distribution of the applicants by gender* and country of citizenship.

* The male and female categories of gender identification are based on the identification documents of applicants.

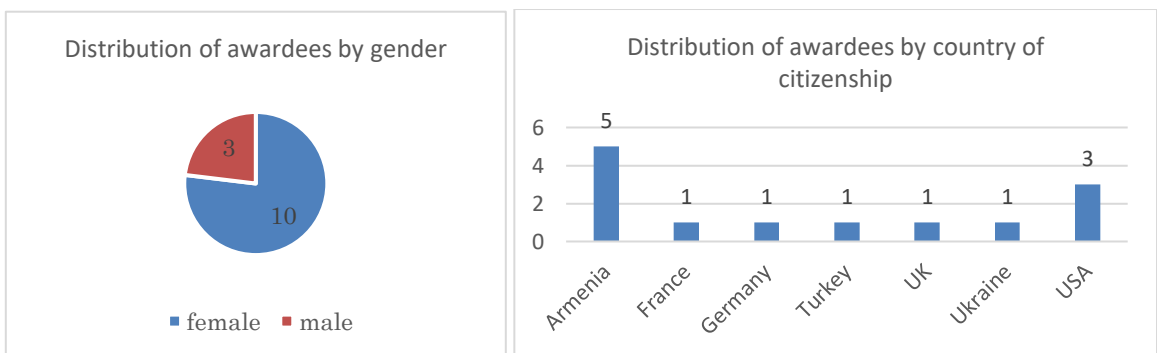


In 2021, 13 scholarships were awarded to students from Armenia, France, Germany, Turkey, Ukraine, the UK, and USA, four of them were for a Master’s degree, eight for a PhD degree, and one for Post Doc. Scholarship amounts ranged from 300 to 25,000 EUR per year, and the maximum period granted was three years.

Decisions were made on the following criteria:

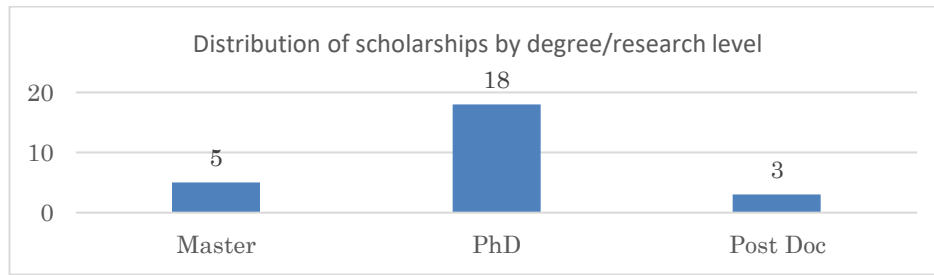
- Excellence of application (reference letters, grades, etc.).
- Originality and relevance of topic.
- Gender, geographic, and disciplinary balance.
- In deciding the final sums, financial need was taken into account, as well as the existence of other sources of funding.

The charts below show the distribution of awardees by gender and the seven countries of citizenship:



In addition, two scholarships from 2018, two from 2019, and nine from 2020 were renewed in 2021.

The chart below shows the distribution of the 13 new awardees by research level and the 13 renewals from the previous year:



Three of the former scholarship awardees (from 2018, 2019 and 2020) defended their theses in 2021.

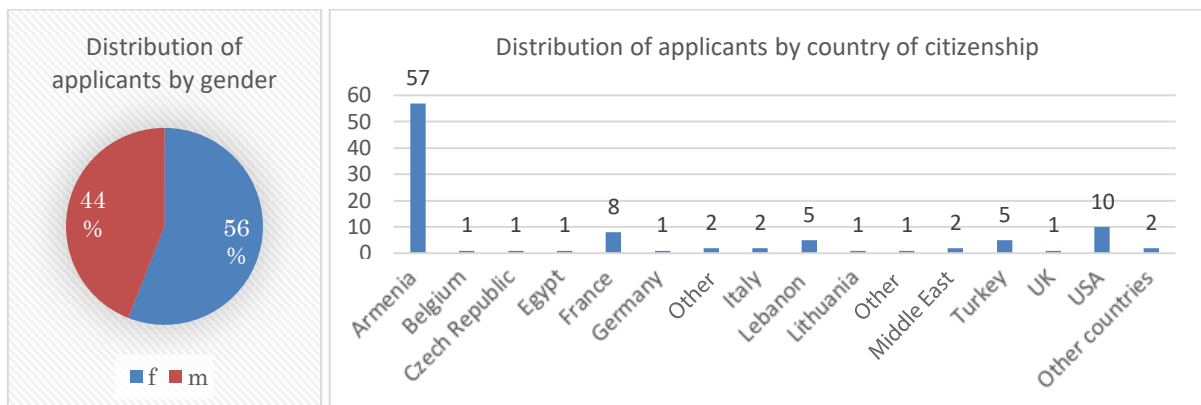
The table below shows the total amount spent for the Armenian Studies Scholarship in 2021:

| Armenian Studies Scholarship | Expenditure (in EUR) | Quantity |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| New Scholarships | 181,426 | 13 |
| Renewals | 200,633 | 13 |
| Total | 382,059 | 26 |

2. Short Term Grant for Armenian Studies

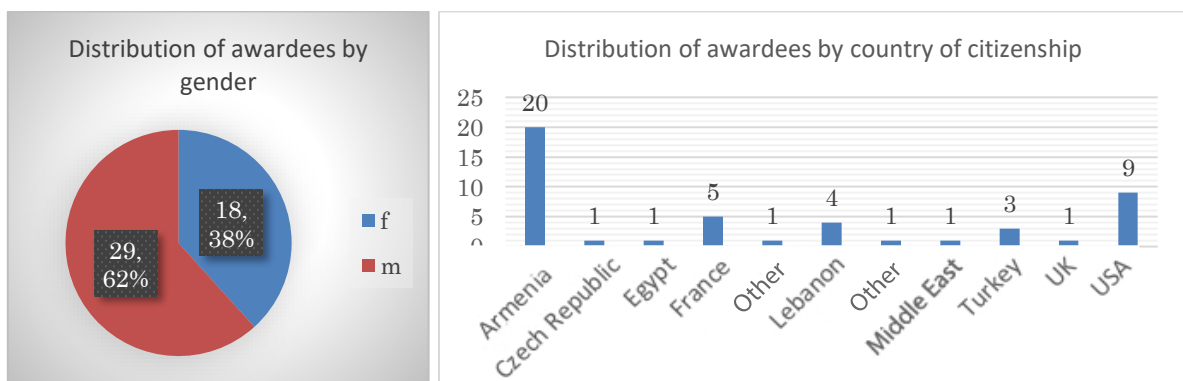
This category of scholarships was open for applications throughout the year; it gives qualified students, academics, and researchers in Armenian Studies (outside of Armenia) the possibility to participate in activities related to their field of studies, encouraging academic interaction and exchange of knowledge and ideas. Within this category, 100 applications were received in 2021. Applications were evaluated on a case-by-case basis, as were the amounts allocated and the duration of the grants. The decisions were based on the academic relevance of the proposed events or research trips to the candidates' topics of research, their qualifications, the quality of their proposals, the international importance of the conferences/seminars, and the letters of reference received.

The charts below show the distribution of the applicants by gender and the 17 countries of citizenship:



In total, 47 grant were awarded in 2021, from which five were for participation in the Armenian Language and Culture summer course organized by the Association Padus-Araxes, and 15 were specifically for contemporary research related to Nagorno-Karabakh by qualified researchers around the world. The sub-category for research related to Nagorno-Karabakh was only open for applications during two specific periods, with a duration of two months. This subcategory was part of the short term grant for Armenian Studies, and had the objective to generate new knowledge and outputs regarding research related to Nagorno-Karabakh that is generally understudied, with particular emphasis on the post-1994 period and on social sciences.

The charts below show the distribution of the 47 awardees by gender and the 11 countries of citizenship:



The table below shows the total amount spent with the Short Term Grant for Armenian Studies in 2021:

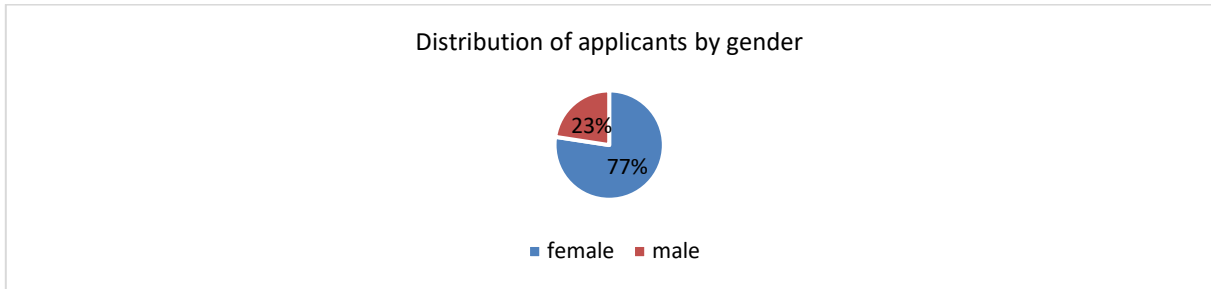
| Short Term Grant Armenian Studies | Expenditure (in EUR) | Quantity |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Short Term Grant Armenian Studies | 81,312 | 27 |
| Armenian Summer Course Padus-Araxes | 13,900 | 5 |
| Research Grants for the Study of Nagorno-Karabakh I & II | 57,609 | 15 |
| Total | 152,821 | 47 |

3. Short Term Conference and Travel Grants to Students in Armenia

The Short Term Conference and Travel Grants to students and young academics in Armenia enable qualified students, early-career academics and researchers in Armenia to present their work at international conferences and workshops abroad, or to take part in short duration training programmes, encouraging academic interaction and exchange of knowledge. Applications were accepted throughout the year and the selection was based on the contribution of the proposed conference or activity to the candidate’s research, on the importance of the event, on the topic to be presented, and on the recommendation letters.

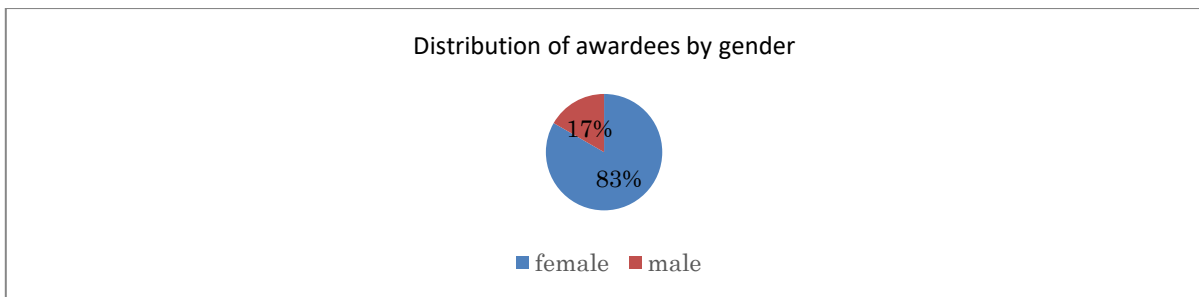
In 2021, the Department received 31 applications.

The chart below shows the distribution by gender:



In 2021, 19 grants were awarded for the participation in conferences or research programmes outside of Armenia.

The chart below shows the distribution of the 18 awardees by gender:



The amounts ranged from 683 to 2,233 EUR and the global expenditure for the 18 scholarships was 20,453 EUR.

The table below shows the total amount spent for the Short Term Conference and Travel Grants in 2021:

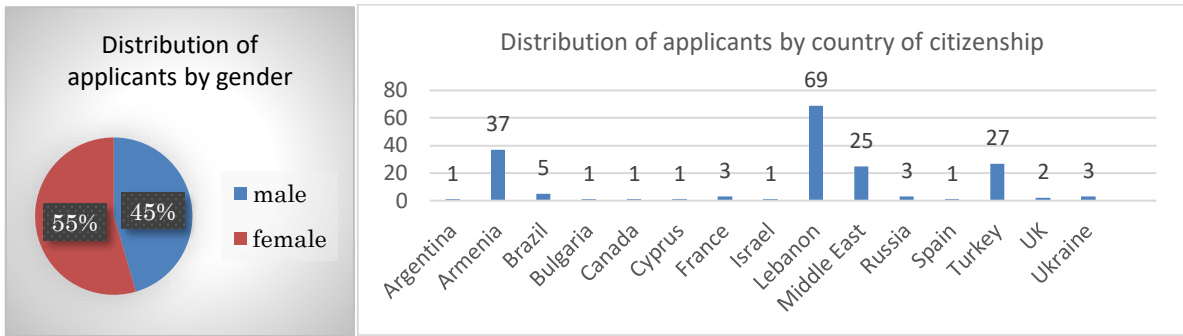
| Short Term Conference and Travel Grants | Expenditure (in EUR) | Quantity |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Short Term Conference and Travel Grants | 20,453 | 18 |

4. Higher Education Scholarships for Armenian Students in Developing Countries

In 2021, the title of the Undergraduate Studies Scholarship category was changed to “Higher Education Scholarships for Armenian Students in Developing Countries” to reflect the widening of the its scope. It still focused on helping Armenian students from less developed countries to obtain higher education in their own countries of residence in the Diaspora. However, in 2021, applicants from countries like Lebanon and other Middle Eastern countries, could also be considered if they wished to study in Armenia. In this case, graduate degrees (Master’s) are also considered.

The Department received 180 applications during the months of April, May and June. 24% of these applications, from 16 countries, were submitted in the last day and 12% on the penultimate day of the deadline.

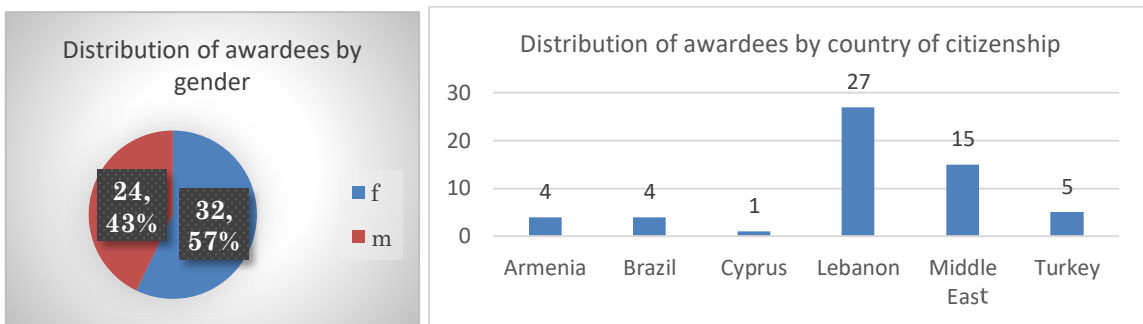
The charts below show the distribution of the applicants by gender and country of citizenship:



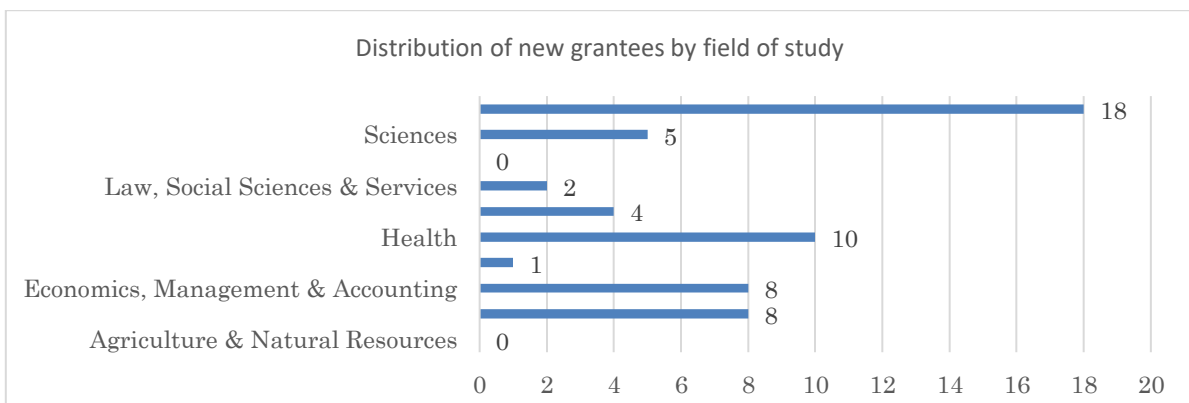
54% of applications were valid, and 46% were invalid and/or incomplete, while within the valid applications, 84% presented an average grade of 80% or more.

The Department selected 57 applications based on merit. One awardee declined the scholarship. The amount of the scholarships ranged between 1,000 and 2,500 USD per year. Subjects included: Architecture, Business, Biology, Biotechnology, Computer Science, Education, Engineering, Graphic Design, History, Information Technology, and Marketing.

The charts below show the distribution of the awardees by gender and country of citizenship:



The chart below shows the distribution of the new scholarships by fields of study:



67 scholarships were renewed in 2021 as part of the regular undergraduate studies scholarships awarded in previous years.

Furthermore, within the call for applications for candidates who wanted to pursue their studies in Special Education in Lebanese universities (launched in 2016), three scholarships awarded in 2019 were renewed in 2021.

The table below presents the amounts awarded in each granting phase, as well as the total for the 126 awardees:

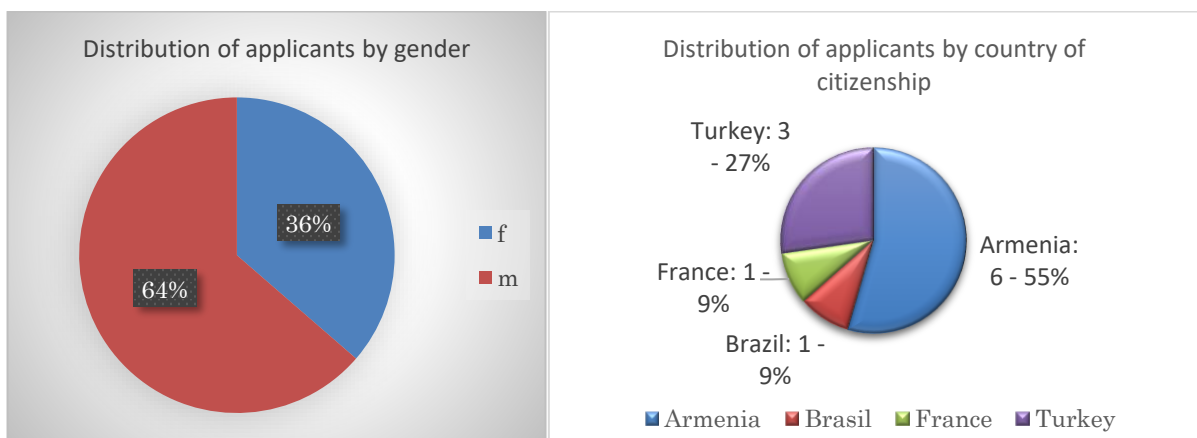
| Higher Education Scholarship | Expenditure (in EUR) | Quantity |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Regular Scholarship Programme - New Scholarships | 107,642 | 56 |
| Regular Scholarship Programme - Renewals | 146,392 | 67 |
| Special Education Lebanon - Renewals | 11,185 | 3 |
| Total | 265,219 | 126 |

5. Support to Armenian Students in Portugal

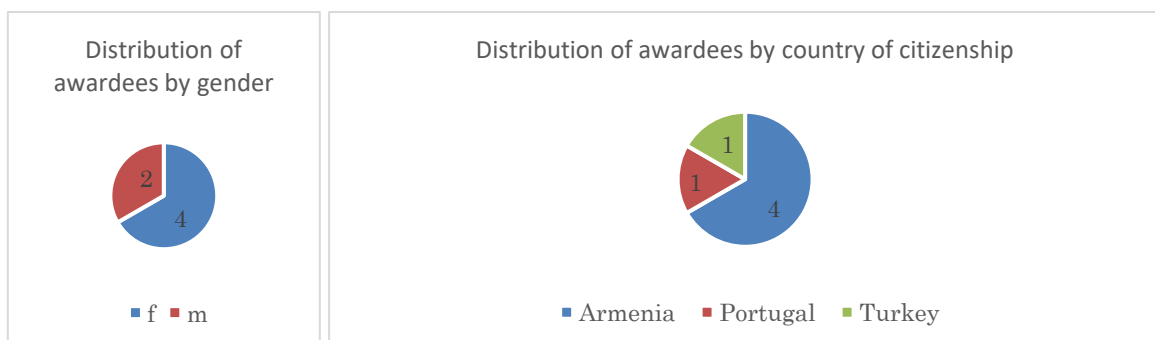
Within the framework of this scholarship programme, the Department supports Armenian students enrolled in higher education institutions in Portugal. The evaluation of applications was made on a case-by-case basis, throughout the year.

In 2021, the Department received 11 applications for this category.

The charts below show the distribution of applicants by gender and country of citizenship:



As shown by the charts below, four students from Armenia, one from Portugal and one from Turkey were awarded a grant within this category. In addition, four awardees from 2020 renewed their scholarships in 2021.



The following table shows the amounts spent under Support to the Armenian Students in Portugal category:

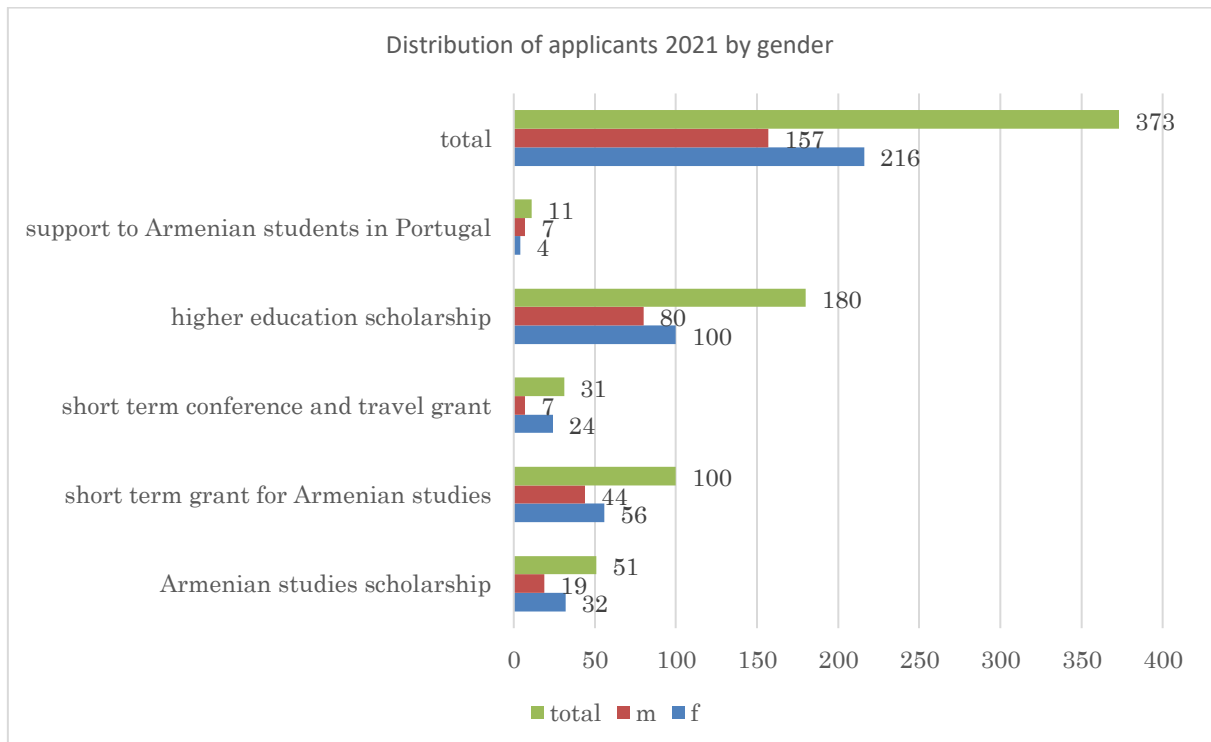
| Armenian Students in Portugal | Expenditure (in EUR) | Quantity | F | M |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------|---|---|
| New Higher Education Grants | 25,450 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| Renewals | 20,800 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Total | 46,250 | 10 | 7 | 3 |

6. Emergency Scholarship

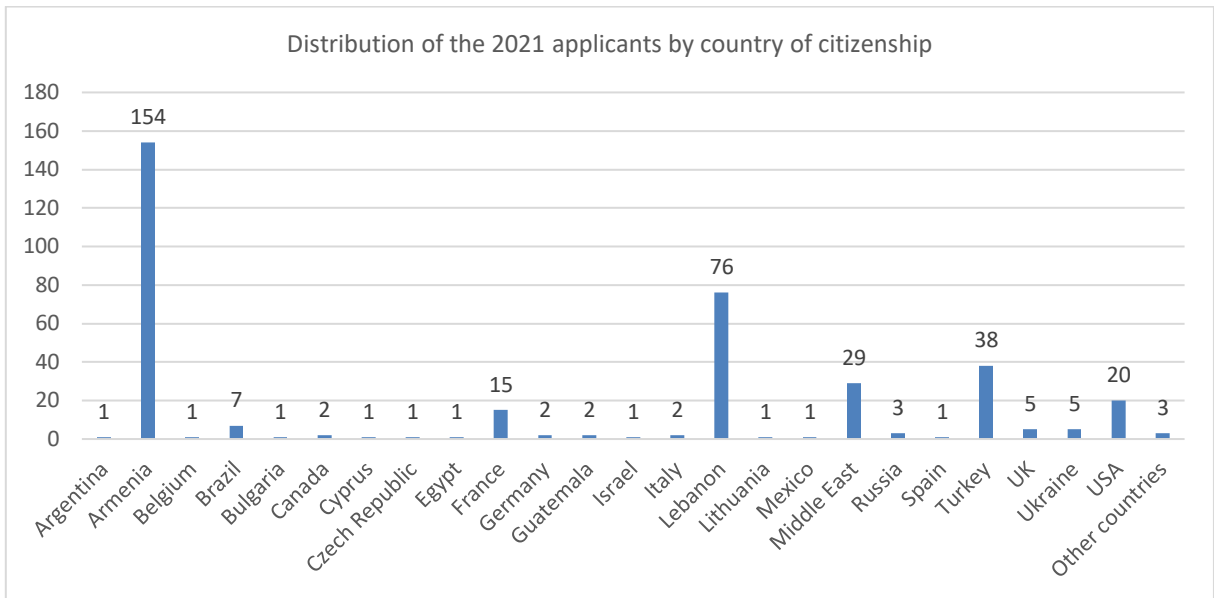
The aim of this scholarship category is to respond to emergency situations helping Armenian students who face severe crisis, enabling them to continue their education within possible limits. In 2021, the Department awarded five grants, in the total amount of 26,789 EUR to three students from Armenia and two from Lebanon (three were men and two women).

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Considering the 373 applications received in 2021, the charts below show the gender and 28 countries of citizenship distribution of the candidates:

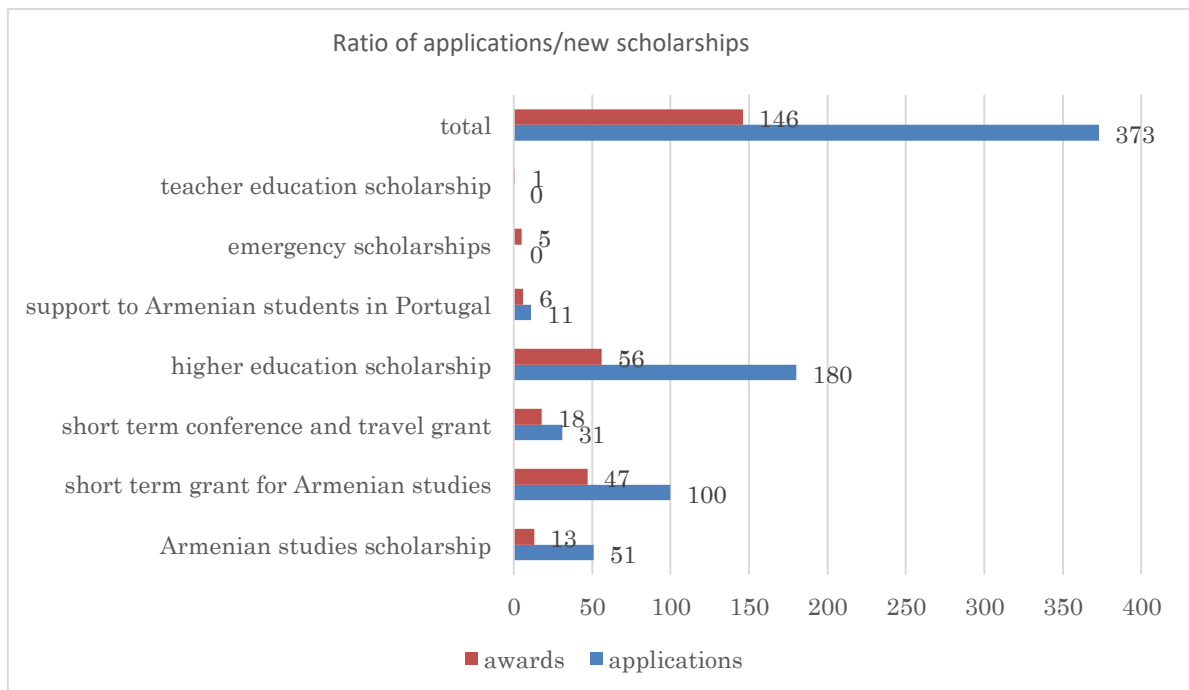


— 58% of the candidates were female and 42% were male.



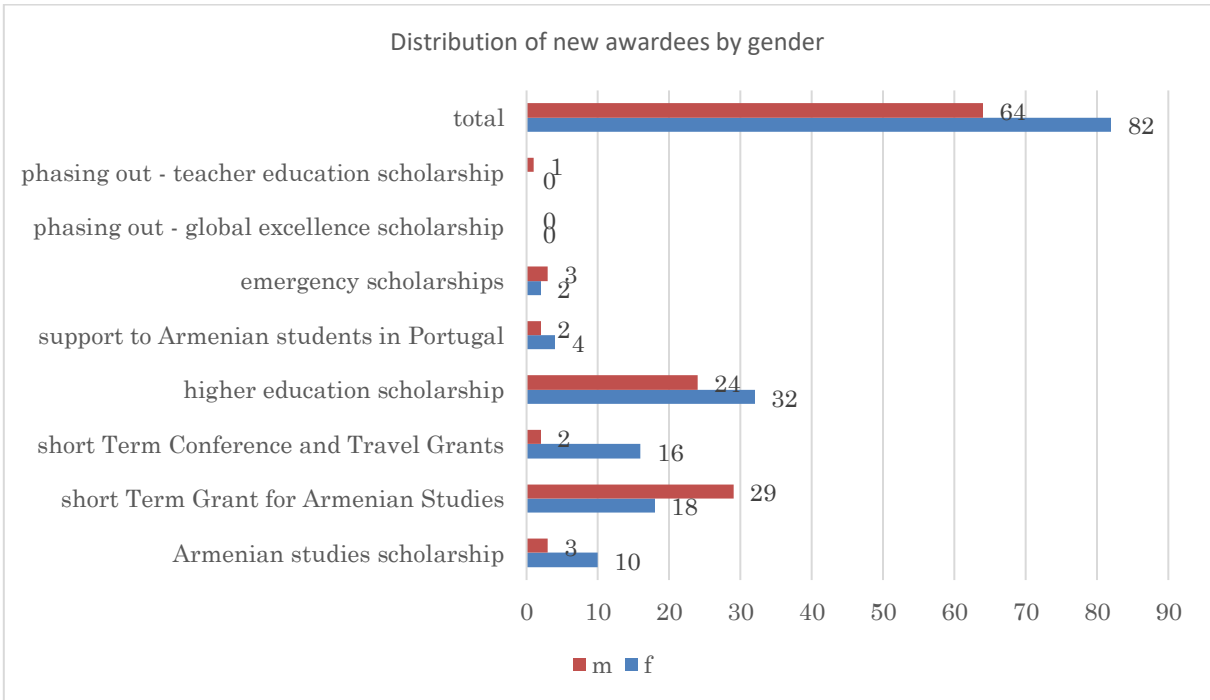
— From the 28 countries, 41% were from Armenia, 20% from Lebanon, 10% from Turkey, 6% from the Middle East, 5% from USA, and the other 18% distributed over 23 other countries.

As shown in the chart below, the overall percentage of grants awarded in relation to the applications received was 39%:

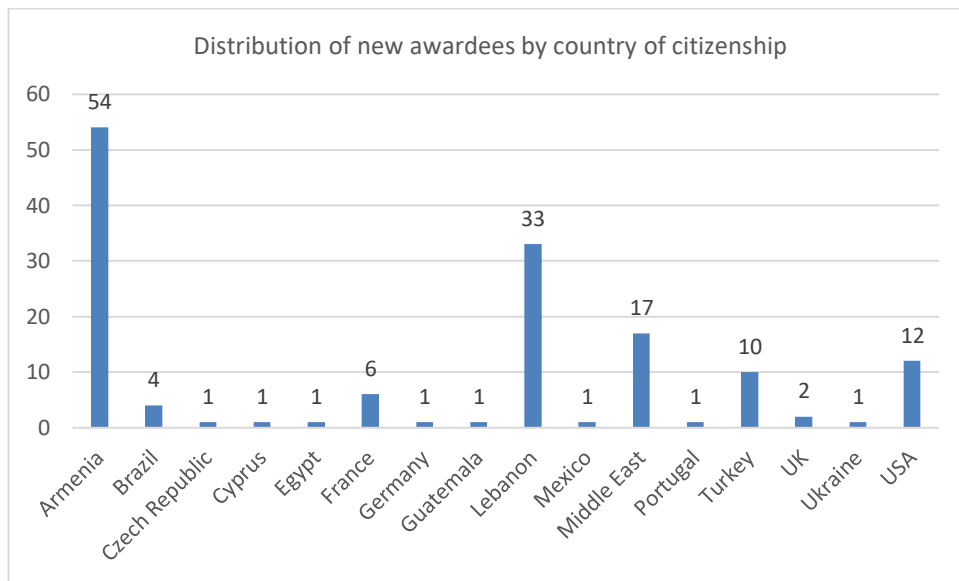


— 39% of the applications received were granted a scholarship.

The following two charts show the distribution of the new 146 awardees by gender and the 16 countries of citizenship:



— 56% of the new awardees were female and 44% were male.



— 37% of the awardees were from Armenia and 33% were from Lebanon.

In sum, in 2021, the Department awarded a total number of 236 scholarships in the total amount of 919,591 EUR.

The chart below shows the amounts, number of scholarships and gender distribution within each scholarship category and the totals:

| Scholarship Programme 2021 | Expenditure (in EUR) | Quantity | F | M |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| 1. Armenian Studies Scholarship | 382,059 | 26 | 17 | 9 |
| 2. Short Term Grant for Armenian Studies | 152,821 | 47 | 18 | 29 |
| 3. Short Term Conference and Travel Grants | 20,453 | 18 | 15 | 3 |
| 4. Higher Education Scholarship | 265,219 | 126 | 80 | 46 |
| 5. Support to Armenian Students in Portugal | 46,250 | 10 | 7 | 3 |
| 6. Emergency Scholarship | 26,789 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| Phasing out - Global Excellence Scholarship | 15,000 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Phasing out - Teacher Education Scholarship | 11,000 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 919,591 | 236 | 142 | 94 |

Several awardees, from different categories, defended their theses in 2021: three PhD student beneficiaries from the Armenian Studies programme, one PhD student beneficiary of the Global Excellence scholarship, and one Master's student beneficiary of a grant from the Armenian Students in Portugal category.