

## **Terms of the PRELUDIUM BIS call for research projects launched by the National Science Centre**

### **I. Addressees of the call**

The call is addressed at institutions operating doctoral schools. The objective of the call is to support PhD student education in doctoral schools and fund research projects carried out by PhD students as part of their doctoral dissertations.

### **II. Eligible applicants**

- §1. Research project funding proposals, hereinafter referred to as the “proposals”, may be submitted by institutions operating doctoral schools defined in Article 198 (3) and 198 (4) of the Act on Higher Education and Science of 20 July 2018 (consolidated text in Journal of Laws of 2021, item 478) as well as institutions jointly operating doctoral schools pursuant to Article 198 (5) of the Act (hereinafter referred to as the “applicants”), for which project funding will not constitute state aid.
- §2. Proposals cannot be submitted by entities that are under receivership, in liquidation or subject to bankruptcy proceedings.

### **III. Terms of entry**

- §3. The following proposals may be submitted under the call:
- 1) to carry out research that has not been funded by the NCN or from other sources;
  - 2) which comprise basic research laid down in Article 2 (1) of the Act on the National Science Centre of 30 April 2010 (consolidated text in Journal of Laws of 2019, item 1384, hereinafter referred to as the “NCN Act”) in any of the disciplines defined in the NCN panels adopted by the NCN Council;
  - 3) which comply with the Regulations on awarding funding for research tasks funded by the National Science Centre as regards research projects, adopted by the NCN Council, hereinafter referred to as the “Regulations”;
  - 4) which cover research projects carried out by a PhD student for the purposes of his/her doctoral dissertation;
  - 5) which cover a research project planned according to the period of a PhD student’s education at a doctoral school for either 36 or 48 months;
  - 6) in which the research team carrying out a research project consists only of the principal investigator and the PhD student;
  - 7) in which the principal investigator meets the requirements of a research supervisor laid down in Article 190 of the Act on Higher Education and Science<sup>1</sup> and acts as a research supervisor of the PhD student operating the project;
  - 8) in which a doctoral scholarship is planned for the PhD student operating the project, in the amount and on terms and conditions laid down in the Regulations;
  - 9) in which a foreign fellowship is planned for PhD students for a period of 3 to 6 months in a foreign research institution, as requested by PhD students under programmes operated by the NAWA pursuant to the Cooperation Agreement between the NAWA and the NCN of 12 September 2019;

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<sup>1</sup> This condition must be met on the last day of the call for proposals.

- 10) in which funding of up to 300,000 PLN shall be awarded (with the exception of doctoral scholarships) for the project duration period, of which up to 40,000 PLN can go to the principal investigator on terms and conditions laid down in the Regulations;
- 11) in which the purchase or construction of research equipment, devices and software is not planned;
- 12) in which a person referred to in §3 (4) shall:
  - a) be selected in a call held pursuant to the Regulations,
  - b) be enrolled in a doctoral school,
  - c) pursue education in a doctoral school and finish it as a PhD holder within 12 months of the project's completion,
  - d) follow an individual research plan referred to in Article 202 (1) of the Act on Higher Education and Science, consistent with the research project that is carried out, and
  - e) complete a foreign fellowship referred to in §3 (9) during the course of the project.
- 13) which contain all information and documents specified in §4.

§4. Proposals shall include:

- 1) a research project title consistent with the subject of the doctoral dissertation (in Polish and in English);
- 2) the project's abstract (up to 4500 characters in English);
- 3) the project's abstract for the general public (1 page in Polish and 1 page in English);
- 4) a description of research to be carried out under the project related to the doctoral dissertation, including the scientific goal, significance of research, general concept and work plan, research methodology and project literature applicable to the subject of the project (up to 5 pages in English);
- 5) a work plan presenting research tasks (in Polish and in English);
- 6) information on the research team (in English), including:
  - a) information on the principal investigator, including:
    - academic and research career;
    - 1-10 of the most important papers published or accepted for publication (letter of acceptance required) in the proposal submission year or over the period of 10 years prior to the proposal submission year<sup>2</sup>, with 1-3 of them attached as PDF files;  
For research in art, 1-10 of the most important papers published or accepted for publication (letter of acceptance required) or artistic achievements and achievements in research in art in the proposal submission year or over the period of 10 years prior to the proposal submission year<sup>2</sup>. If one or more paper(s) are listed, 1-3 of them should be attached as PDF files;
    - information on research project management<sup>3</sup> or other funding awarded under NCN calls or other national or international calls in the proposal submission year or within the period of 10 years prior to the proposal submission year<sup>2</sup>;

<sup>2</sup> This period can be extended by long-term (in excess of 90 days) documented sick leaves or physiotherapy leaves granted on account of being unfit to work. In addition, this period may be extended by the number of months of a child care leave granted pursuant to the Labour Code and in the case of women, by 18 months for every child born or adopted child, whichever manner of accounting for career breaks is preferable.

<sup>3</sup> Acting as a principal investigator also means managing/ coordinating the work of a research group in international research projects or programs.

- description of the most important research achievement;
  - research experience gained in Poland or abroad;
  - the most important national or international distinctions for research and/or other activity in research in art;
- b) information on the required qualifications of a PhD student carrying out a research project;
- 7) information on the foreign fellowship of the PhD student, including place and date thereof as well as justification for choosing the research centre (in English);
  - 8) research project budget drafted pursuant to the Regulations (in English);
  - 9) information on the data management plan concerning data generated or used in the course of a research project, as required by the proposal (in English);
  - 10) information on the ethical aspects of the project, including any consents, opinions, permits and/or approvals necessary to carry out the project pursuant to generally applicable laws and best practices adopted for a specific academic discipline, as required by the proposal (in English);
  - 11) in the case of research projects which include clinical trials with a medicinal product or a medical device, a detailed justification of the non-commercial nature of the trials (in English);
  - 12) in the case of research projects covering research being performed or completed by the principal investigator, or with respect to which the principal investigator applies for funding under other NCN calls or from other sources, description of similar research tasks with reasons justifying the need to have them funded under the project (in English); and
  - 13) administrative declarations by the principal investigator and institution operating a doctoral school and acting as the host institution for the project, as required by the proposal.

#### **IV. Evaluation of proposals**

§5. Proposals shall be evaluated pursuant to the Regulations.

§6. The evaluation of proposals shall focus in particular on:

- 1) the compliance with the criteria of basic research laid down in Article 2 (1) of the NCN Act;
- 2) the quality and innovative nature of research or tasks to be performed;
- 3) the impact of the research project on the advancement of the scientific discipline;
- 4) the assessment of the feasibility of the research to be performed;
- 5) the scientific achievements of the principal investigator, including publications in renowned academic press/journals;
- 6) the evaluation of other projects carried out by the principal investigator and funded by the NCN or from other sources;
- 7) the relevance of the costs to be incurred with regard to the subject and scope of the research; and
- 8) the preparation of the proposal and compliance with other requirements set forth in the call announcement.

#### **V. Funding decision**

§7. The call shall be concluded within 5 months of the proposal submission date.

§8. The results of the call shall be announced by way of a decision of the NCN Director.

Prof. dr hab. Jacek Kuźnicki,  
President of the Council  
of the National Science Centre