



Rules and Guidelines for
Research Grant Applications

Fourth Call

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1. INTRODUCTION

EDDA (as the acronym for Equality, Diversity, Development and Advancement) is an interdisciplinary Center of Excellence in critical contemporary research, with a special emphasis on equality and difference. Hosted by the Center of Humanities at the University of Iceland, the EDDA Center brings together a diverse group of researchers in the humanities and the social sciences who work together on various research projects. EDDA also offers grants to support projects directly related to its strategic research programme.

EDDA's strategic research programme is based on three research areas (containing two themes each): (1) *The Politics of Transition* – explores gendered representations of power and in/equality and socio-political and cultural discourses on reconstruction; (2) *The Welfare State, Citizenship and Social Justice* – focuses on the relationship between the state, markets and the private sphere and the consequences different configurations have for human well-being and the quality of society; (3) *The Politics of Reconstruction and Sustainability* – deals with reconstruction and security discourses as part of transnational power politics in various geographic settings.

In EDDA's Fourth Call, applicants are asked to submit proposals for research projects that should correspond to – and be located specifically within – **one** of six research themes described in the Call: (1) Conceptions of Differences and Renegotiations of Equality; (2) Societal and Political Responsibility: Morality, Justice, and Identities; (3) Societal Change and Human Well-Being; (4) Crisis and Economic and Social Inequalities; (5) Transnational Discourses on Conflict, Security and Development; (6) The Geopolitics of Climate Change, Representations of the “North”, and Regional and Human Development.

2. TYPES OF GRANTS – APPLICATION DEADLINES

EDDA allocates research grants in the Fourth Call for up to one year, but with the possibility of an extension for a maximum of three years (a renewed application is required for each extension together with a progress report). The grant amount ranges from 25% to 75% of the total cost of the research project. Each project shall have clear objectives and well-defined milestones, including cost and expenditure estimates. It should also be stated who will carry out each part of the project, with precise details on costs and financing. In addition, the anticipated gains and impact of the project should be listed both in terms of advancement of knowledge in the applicant's field of research and its contribution to the strategic plan of EDDA. EDDA reserves the right to review the amount of funding allocated to the research should changes be made to research plans.

Fourth Call – Application Deadline: 7 February 2012

Applications received after the deadline will not be processed. The application forms can be accessed on EDDA homepage, www.edda.hi.is.

3. FOURTH CALL: SPECIFICATION OF THE GRANT/FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS:

Applications should specify and locate the research proposals within **one** of EDDA's six research themes.

RESEARCH AREA I: THE POLITICS OF TRANSITION

This research area deals with the politics of transition, with an emphasis on (a) representations of in/equality and difference and (b) socio-political debates on crisis, culture and reconstruction. Among the topics explored are: in/equality narratives; social and cultural heterogeneity; masculinities and femininities in transition; civil society and institutional morality; memory politics and transitional justice; political action and ideologies; and social heterogeneity and multiculturalism with reference to dis/integration and dis/empowerment. The research area includes two themes:

THEME 1:

CONCEPTIONS OF DIFFERENCES AND RENEGOTIATIONS OF EQUALITY

Various interdisciplinary methods are used to analyse conceptions, representations, and practices of in/equality and differences. Their discriminatory, emancipatory and/or transformative potential are examined from historical and contemporary perspectives. Special focus is on social and cultural heterogeneity – for example, through the use of the concept of intersectionality – and on ways to renegotiate equality and to deal with problems associated with masculinities and femininities, also in light of nature/environment and embodiment. The purpose is to show how various categories, such as gender, nationality, class or disability, contribute to systemic inequality in social justice. This reevaluation calls for a rethinking of meanings of political and epistemic authority.

THEME 2:

SOCIETAL AND POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY: MORALITY, JUSTICE AND IDENTITIES

This research theme explores how societies deal with ruptures, such as political crises, environmental threats and economic collapse. Iceland is used as a microcosmic case

study of countries with a troubled past engaged in a societal reckoning. The focus is (a) on the morality of institutions, such as universities, and how they serve ruling ideologies, resist them or register passivity; (b) truth-regimes and discourses of denial/non-acknowledgement when it comes to environmental issues; (c) rethinking societal conflicts in light of transnational encounters, multicultural tensions, gender and theories of cosmopolitan democracy; (d) the politics of transitional justice, stressing the role of trials, investigative/truth commissions and “truth reports” as societal mechanisms to “come to terms with the past”, to address the question of culpability and to achieve national reconciliation and healing; (e) political activism and ideological agendas as expressed in public demonstrations or political movements; (f) the introduction of democratization processes, such as constitutional rewriting, to deal with a legacy of political corruption and undemocratic practices; (g) and reconfigurations of national identities in times of transition as manifested in socialization processes, such as Europeanization and in the critical engagement with the European Union as a political, cultural and social project as well as a geographic entity.

RESEARCH AREA II: THE WELFARE STATE, CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

This area focuses on the relationship between the state, markets and the private sphere and the consequences different configurations have for human well-being and the quality of society. Topics covered include welfare state development, citizenship and social justice, the effects of the banking crisis, and the relationship between work and family life. Special attention will be given to differential outcomes for men and women as well as different social groups. Both well-being and social progress are broadly conceived, allowing for both empirical work and normative theory, implicating a wide range of indicators, as well as analysis from both micro and macro perspectives.

THEME 3:

SOCIETAL CHANGE AND HUMAN WELL-BEING

This theme questions conventional approaches to well-being and social progress and develops new theoretical and methodological approaches to these issues. The central questions to be addressed are: (a) does the conventional focus on monetary measures of well-being and progress produce a skewed understanding of those issues? (b) How are well-being and progress to be understood, conceptualized and measured? (c) What does taking a broader approach to well-being and social progress add to our knowledge? (d) What is the relationship between well-being and societal progress?

THEME 4:

CRISIS AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INEQUALITIES

The current global economic and political crisis has had an immediate impact on the quality of people's lives and will inevitably shape the trajectories of social and economic development for years to come. This theme focuses on (a) how the Icelandic banking crisis has affected people's values, life-styles, levels of living and well-being; (b) how the consequences of the crisis differ for different groups; and (c) how the government's policy responses mediate between the economic situation and people's conditions of living.

RESEARCH AREA III: THE POLITICS OF RECONSTRUCTION AND SUSTAINABILITY

This research area focuses on reconstruction and security discourses as part of transnational power politics in various geographic settings. A comparative approach draws on concepts and conceptions, such as transnational politics; gender, conflict and war; securitization/desecuritization; military/civil cooperation or divide; the role of international organizations and development dependencies; neo-colonialism/post-colonialism; post-conflict reconstruction and democratization; development; peacekeeping and peace-building; human rights; and transnational aspects of climate change, the "North", and regional and human development. The area includes two research themes:

THEME 5:

TRANSNATIONAL DISCOURSES ON CONFLICT, SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT

A redefined agenda – through the stripping of the security concept of its exclusively military connotations – has created new venues for looking critically at established foreign policy, development, and security discourses. It also raises political and philosophical questions about the sources of conflict, crisis and war. This includes, among other things, gender and difference, and the intermeshing of discourses on "developed" and "developing" countries. The research theme focuses on Iceland's post-crash foreign policy identity as a donor nation and a participant in regional and international institutions through developmental and peacekeeping operations. This ties directly with the GEST Programme at the University of Iceland, a cooperative programme with the Icelandic Foreign Ministry, which aims to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in developing countries and conflict/post-conflict societies.

THEME 6:

The GEOPOLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE, REPRESENTATIONS OF THE NORTH AND REGIONAL AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The research theme centers on the multiple transnational effects of climate change. One goal is to define and “claim” the “North” in terms of geopolitics, gender, environment, “cultural heritage,” tourism, international law, social and cultural sustainability, military preparations, sovereign demands, and economic interests. This includes factors such as human development and the rights of “indigenous people.” The impact of the restructuring of regions, with particular attention paid to gendered processes, is a key area of research. Finally, the focus is on the current transnational jockeying – with Iceland’s participation – to carve out a role in the “re-territorialization” of the “North” with a focus on the Arctic as a natural resource base, an eco-system, and a potentially contested political terrain.

4. APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY RULES

Application eligibility: **Principal applicants must be established researchers (who hold an academic or research post or equivalent) or post-doctoral researchers.** One of EDDA’s goals is to promote institutional links with diverse partners in Iceland and abroad and to influence public policy and societal developments.

5. COSTS

The cost model used for each project application should be made on a total costs basis similar to general practices in the 7th Framework Programme of the European Union. Special forms in Excel are available on EDDA’s website (www.edda.hi.is) as part of the application documentation. Applicants shall affirm the contribution already secured, signify plans for funding from other sources than the EDDA Center, and state the amount which has already been applied for.

a) Salaries and Employment-Related Costs

EDDA follows the guidelines of the University of Iceland in relation to salaries and employment-related costs for Post-Doctoral Students and the Icelandic Center for Research (RANNÍS) Guideline in relation to salaries and employment related costs for Research Scholars and Scientists. The following table shows the maximum salary and employment-related costs recognized by EDDA as part of project costs for applications submitted in 2011:

Position	Maximum Salaries and Employment-Related Expenses per Month
Research Scholar/Scientist 1 (e.g. Professor) Or equivalent	ISK 530.000
Research Scholar/Scientist 2 (e.g. Associate or Assistant Professor) or equivalent	ISK 425.000
Post-Doctoral Researcher	ISK 370.000

EDDA neither pays for overtime nor for salaries of those who are receiving full pay for other work during the research period. Also, the rate for contracted work cannot be used as a reference in the calculation of salaries.

b) Operational Expenses

This part shall consist of the sum of all the necessary supplies for the project with the exception of items coming under overhead or facilities. Applications cannot be made for the purchase of equipment.

c) Travel Expenses

This part consists of the sum total of travel and subsistence expenses (field work, meetings and conferences). All travel and how it relates to the project should be justified in detail. Allowance for air travel will not exceed the costs of round-trip, economy airfares.

d) Contracted Service

This part contains work which is not carried out by the participants in the project while being necessary for its progress.

e) Overhead and Facilities

The EDDA Center does not fund costs of overhead or facilities or any surcharge on salaries beyond employment-related expenses.

6. ACCOUNTING

Amounts and expenses budgeted must be consistent with the cost accounting practices used in accumulating and reporting costs. The EDDA Center reserves the right to arrange for an audit to be carried out on the accounting of the project.

7. APPLICATIONS – GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

All applications and supporting documents should be in English. The application documents are available on the EDDA website www.edda.hi.is.

8. EVALUATION PROCESS

All applications are subjected to a peer-review process, with specific criteria for project evaluations. The Selection Committee oversees the selection process in consultation with Icelandic and foreign academic specialists in the relevant subject fields and makes a shortlist of projects on the basis of peer-review evaluations. The Academic Council of EDDA makes the final grant decisions based on the Selection Committee's recommendations, the Center's academic priorities, and budgetary considerations.

The Evaluation Criteria for Grants are as follows:

1. Project Relevance to EDDA's Goals
2. Academic/Scientific Value
3. Purpose, Creativity, and Originality of the Project
4. Scholarly Methods, Project Planning, and Time Frames
5. Multi- and Inter-Disciplinary Implications and Various Forms of Research Collaboration, involving Academics, Policy Makers, and/or Institutional and Corporate Actors
6. The Quality of the Project Management, Individual Participants, and Resources/Facilities
7. The Impact of the Knowledge Production on Academic Research, Societal Developments and/or Government Policies

9. DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENT AND PROGRESS REPORTS

EDDA concludes a grant agreement with the grantee within two months from the allocation. Continuation is dependent on periodic project evaluations. Annual reports, interim, and final reports, are required to verify the quality of the research, working documents and research results, measured against the project vision, objectives and quality requirements of EDDA.

10. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Grantees/Fellows are required to abide by the existing rules, regulations and laws of those countries where the EDDA-funded research takes place, and, if applicable, obtain themselves the necessary work permits, involving, for example, ethics committees, and academic/science committees or governments agencies.
- Grantees/Fellows should indicate – in all printed materials, scholarly findings, and publications – the part of the work made possible by a grant from EDDA.
- Grantees/Fellows should submit to EDDA copies of all publications funded by the Center. EDDA is also permitted to use their scholarly results and publish them in its publications in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. In all such cases, EDDA will acknowledge the authorship of the work. EDDA will in no circumstances make available research results to a third party without the author's explicit permission.