

XXXIII. Call for applications of the Interdisciplinary Main Research Area “Transformation of Contemporary Societies”

New call for applications to support theme-development-workshops, preparation of large interdisciplinary grant applications, and early-career research projects

Once again, the Main Research Area “Transformation of Contemporary Societies” invites applications for its three different funding lines. Members of the Main Research Area and doctoral students in its disciplines – e.g. from the Faculties of Social Sciences, Economics, Humanities, and Educational Sciences – are entitled to apply.

Funding will be granted for projects that contribute to and fit into the area’s research focus **“Building Order in a Borderless World”** (see our website), which currently includes four themes: **i) transnational labour markets, ii) the transformation of risk and welfare, iii) global and transnational governance, and iv) international migration.**

Other issues related to this agenda are welcome. Preference will be given to interdisciplinary projects integrating and promoting cross-institute and faculty cooperation which **i) aims at acquiring third-party grants, ii) adds to the internationalization and visibility of the social sciences, arts & humanities and other disciplines at UDE and/or ii) advances UDE’s young academics in the respective fields.** Funding is available for interdisciplinary initiatives and projects beyond UDE’s institutes and faculties; collaboration with external partners, especially within the University Alliance Ruhr, are very welcome. The funded projects should be realized by **March, 2023.**

Funding line 1 – Initiatives for theme development. This funding line supports actions that try to develop and elaborate a research topic with regard to its potential for networking within the University Duisburg-Essen (UDE) and University Alliance Ruhr, and its feasibility for a possible application for major external funding. Grants can be awarded also for ideas and initiatives different from workshops, such as funding to cover experienced moderators, costs for meeting venues or accommodation of guests etc.

Funding line 2 – Support for large interdisciplinary grant applications. This line intends to support interdisciplinary UDE-based project teams that need additional funding to facilitate or conclude the application process for substantial third-party funding. The requested funding may take many forms but needs to be explained in detail. Budget management and administrative support for hiring persons cannot be supported by the PSP Wandel.

Funding line 3 – support for early-career researchers. This funding addresses postdocs, junior professors or advanced PhD students (without participation of full professors W2/W 3). The proposed projects must enhance cooperation between early career researchers at UDE or UA Ruhr from different institutional contexts; project ideas supporting the cooperation between members of different centres and graduate schools are very welcome. The long-run objective of an external grant application is desirable, but not necessary. Funding could be, among others, for data collection, workshops or publication support.

Additional explication

Applications for **theme development workshops** should contain a description of the topic, a list of researchers willing to participate, and a justification why the chosen topic offers promising ways for cross-faculty collaboration and the prospect of successfully applying for major external funding. Projects without the medium-term objective of a major third-party grant application will be dealt with in funding line 3; in any case, interim funding of researchers in established projects cannot be financed.

Applications for funding of the preparation of **large grant proposals** should include information about the scientists involved, their existing collaborations and previous joint achievements. The application must show that the Principal Investigators have considered thoroughly the organizational and strategic aspects of their application for major third-party funding. In these cases, please indicate the specific program and planned action (e.g. DFG Research Training Group) you aim at, the envisaged budget and the application deadline. Prior to that, advice should be sought at PSP Wandel's office and UDE's Science Support Centre.

Early-career researchers are enabled to apply for all the three funding lines.

Application procedure

The applications should provide the following information:

- an explication of the research question, related also to the state of art of the respective field
- a detailed explanation of the interdisciplinary and inter-departmental nature of the project and of its added value to the agenda of the research area
- a cost and work plan, including a time plan (according to the probable Covid-19 situation)

Applications should be no longer than seven pages, and addressed to: The Steering Committee of the Main Research Area "Transformation of Contemporary Societies"

Please submit one pdf-file via e-mail to psp_wandel@uni-due.de by November 22, 2021.

In order to clarify questions before submission, it is recommended to get in contact with Dr. Stephan Hollensteiner. For further information on this call or research area membership:

<https://www.uni-due.de/gesellschaftswissenschaften/profilschwerpunkt/mainresearcharea.shtml>

Contacts

University Duisburg-Essen, Main Research Area "Transformation of Contemporary Societies"

Managing Director: Dr. Stephan Hollensteiner, stephan.hollensteiner@uni-due.de

Speaker of the Research Council: Prof. Dr. Jens Loenhoff, jens.loenhoff@uni-due.de