



RESOLUTION NO 64/2023
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE

of 5 July 2023

on the terms of the International Multilateral Partnerships for Resilient Education and Science System in Ukraine (IMPRESS-U) call for research projects carried out as multilateral collaboration under the IMPRESS-U programme pursuant to the Lead Agency Procedure

Pursuant to Article 18 (4), in conjunction with Article 20 (1) (4) of the Act on the National Science Centre of 30 April 2010 (uniform text in Journal of Laws of 2023, item 153, hereinafter referred to as the “NCN Act”) and Memorandum of Understanding Concerning IMPRESS-U (International Multilateral Partnerships for Resilient Education and Science System in Ukraine) Initiative, executed by the National Science Centre on 5 July 2023, the Council of the National Science Centre hereby lays down the terms of the international IMPRESS-U call for research projects, carried out as multilateral collaboration under the IMPRESS-U programme pursuant to the Lead Agency Procedure.

1. General Provisions

Whenever this Resolution refers to:

- 1) NCN, it shall mean the National Science Centre;
- 2) Director, it shall mean the Director of the National Science Centre;
- 3) Council, it shall mean the Council of the National Science Centre;
- 4) IMPRESS-U programme, it shall mean the programme organised by the NCN and carried out as multilateral collaboration with the partner institutions pursuant to the Lead Agency Procedure, implemented through the IMPRESS-U call and calls of the partner institutions;
- 5) IMPRESS-U call, it shall mean the international call launched by the NCN and carried out under the IMPRESS-U programme with the NCN acting as the Lead Agency;
- 6) partner institutions, they shall mean foreign research-funding institutions specified in the call text that participate in the IMPRESS-U programme and organise the IMPRESS-U call in cooperation with the NCN;
- 7) lead agency, it shall mean the National Science Foundation (NSF) in charge of the merit-based evaluation of joint proposals under the IMPRESS-U programme;
- 8) lead agency’s call, it shall mean the call for proposals launched by the lead agency and specified in the IMPRESS-U call text;
- 9) co-applicants, they shall mean research teams involved in a joint proposal under the IMPRESS-U programme, applying for funding of a research project to their respective partner institution (in the case of a foreign team) or to the NCN (in the case of a Polish research team);
- 10) coordinating applicant, it shall mean a foreign co-applicant performing the organisational and coordinating duties in the group of co-applicants, responsible for submitting a joint proposal to the lead agency’s call;



- 11) joint proposal, it shall mean a proposal drafted by the co-applicants and submitted by the coordinating applicant to the lead agency's call according to the lead agency's terms;
 - 12) NCN proposal, it shall mean a proposal for NCN funding of the Polish part of the project, drafted by the Polish research team and comprising the joint proposal submitted to the lead agency;
 - 13) Regulations, they shall mean the Regulations on awarding funding for research tasks funded by the National Science Centre under the international IMPRESS-U call carried out as multilateral collaboration pursuant to the Lead Agency Procedure, adopted by the NCN Council;
 - 14) research team, it shall mean the principal investigator together with members of a research team, if applicable in the proposal;
 - 15) NCN panels, they shall mean the disciplines or groups of disciplines defined by the NCN Council, covering the entire span of research in three domains: i.e. Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (HS), Physical Sciences and Engineering (ST) and Life Sciences (NZ), for which NCN calls are launched and held; and
 - 16) OSF submission system, it shall mean the electronic proposal submission system (*Obsługa Strumieni Finansowania*) available at <https://osf.opi.org.pl>.
- 1.1 The call is addressed at Polish research teams that shall apply for funding of their research projects together with the foreign research team, including at least from Ukraine and the United States of America, to the NCN and to the foreign institutions participating in the IMPRESS-U programme and relevant for the foreign research teams.
 - 1.2 This Resolution shall set forth the terms of the IMPRESS-U call and NCN funding of the Polish part of the research project.
 - 1.3 The funds for tasks funded by the NCN under the IMPRESS-U call shall be allocated pursuant to the Regulations.
 - 1.4 The terms of the calls launched by the partner institutions under the IMPRESS-U programme to handle joint proposals shall be set forth thereby.

2. Terms of Entry

- 2.1 The IMPRESS-U call shall be open to NCN proposals:
 - 1) for research which have not been funded by the NCN or from other sources;
 - 2) in which the principal investigator is at least a PhD holder;
 - 3) which involve basic research for the purposes of Article 2 (1) of the NCN Act in any of the scientific disciplines covered by the NCN panels, within the scope specified in the terms of the lead agency's call and IMPRESS-U call text;
 - 4) which cover research based on a coherent and complementary contribution of research teams under multilateral collaboration between Polish, Ukrainian and American research teams. Under the IMPRESS-U call, collaboration is also allowed with research teams from Lithuania, Latvia and/or Estonia. Research teams from each country shall apply for parallel funding of their research to their respective institutions participating in the IMPRESS-U programme;
 - 5) for the Polish part of the research project to be carried out over a period of 24 months, whereas the duration of the foreign project parts must be the same as the duration of the Polish project parts;
 - 6) in which principal investigators of each research team involved in the project are identified and a Polish research team member identified in the proposal as the principal investigator is in charge of the Polish part of the project;
 - 7) which comply with the Regulations; and
 - 8) which contain the documents and annexes specified in Point 2 (2) hereof.



2.2 NCN proposals shall include information provided for in the proposal form available in the OSF submission system, the template of which is provided in the call text, including:

- 1) research project title included in the joint proposal (in Polish and in English);
- 2) joint proposal in pdf format, including the required documents in compliance with the terms of the lead agency's call, consistent with the proposal submitted to the lead agency's submission system;
- 3) project's abstract for the general public (1 page in Polish and 1 page in English);
- 4) work plan (in Polish and in English) identifying research tasks performed by the Polish research team;
- 5) information on the required qualifications and scope of work of the Polish investigators in the research project (in English);
- 6) budget for the Polish part of the research project (in English) drafted in compliance with the Regulations;
- 7) information on international cooperation covered by the project, including names of foreign research institutions to be involved in such cooperation as well as description of benefits that may result from such international cooperation (in English);
- 8) information on the data management plan concerning data generated or used in the course of the Polish part of the project, as required by the proposal (in English);
- 9) information on the ethical aspects of the Polish part of the project, including any consents, opinions, permits and/or approvals necessary to carry out the project in compliance with generally applicable laws and best practices adopted for a specific academic discipline, as required by the proposal (in English);
- 10) in the case of the Polish part of the project which includes clinical research with a medicinal product or medical devices, a detailed justification of the non-commercial nature of clinical research (in English);
- 11) in the case of research projects covering research underway or completed by the principal investigator or with respect to which the principal investigator has requested funding under other NCN calls or from other sources, a description of similar research tasks with reasons justifying the need to have them funded in the submitted project (in English);
- 12) in the case of research projects to be carried out in institutions that do not receive any institutional core funding for research activities, information on research carried out in the last 2 years with a list of publications and information concerning research equipment and other devices crucial to research (in English);
- 13) in the case of research projects to be carried out by a group of Polish entities set forth in Article 27 (1) (2) of the NCN Act, a research project cooperation agreement, as required by the proposal (in Polish); and
- 14) administrative declarations by the principal investigator and host institution for the Polish part of the project, as required by the proposal.

3. NCN Proposal Submission Procedure

3.1 The IMPRESS-U call shall be open to NCN proposals submitted pursuant to the proposal submission procedure set forth in the Regulations, with joint proposals attached thereto.

3.2 Joint proposals shall be drafted and submitted pursuant to the terms of the lead agency's call set forth in IMPRESS-U call text.

3.3 The continuous IMPRESS-U call shall be open within the call timeline set forth in the call text.

3.4 The call shall be suspended if the total amount of funds allocated by the NCN Council for projects performed by the Polish research teams under IMPRESS-U has been depleted or if the total amount of funds set by any partner institution has been depleted.

3.4 The decision to suspend the call for proposals shall be taken by the Director. Should the NCN decide to suspend the call for proposals, information to this effect shall be displayed on the NCN website (www.ncn.gov.pl).



4. Evaluation of Proposals

Proposals shall be evaluated pursuant to the Regulations and documents governing the merit-based evaluation of joint proposals applicable to the lead agency's call.

5. Funding Decision

- 5.1. The funding decision shall be made by the NCN Director within 12 months of the NCN proposal submission.
- 5.2. Under the IMPRESS-U call, the Polish research team shall be awarded funding for research projects where all partner institutions award funding for the foreign research teams.

Prof. dr hab. Robert Hasterok
President
of the Council of the National Science Centre