

**Basic Sciences 4 Society Needs: Postdoctoral Training**

**Research Proposal**

Call deadline: December 31st, 2025

**Instructions:**

The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 15 mm, the minimum font size allowed is 11 points, and a minimum of 1 line spacing is to be used. You can include figures in the proposal.   
**The** **maximum length of sections 1–2 is 5 pages. Instructions in tables and supporting comments may   
be removed to save space.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Candidate’s Name** |  |
| **Project Title** |  |
| **Approximate Project Start Date[[1]](#footnote-1)** |  |
| **Fellowship Duration** [fixed] | 36 months |
| **IChF Mentor’s Name** |  |
| **Academic Co-Mentor’s Name and Affiliation** [from outside of Poland] |  |
| **Project keywords[[2]](#footnote-2)** |  |

**Start page count** [max. 5 pages]

1. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**
   1. Project Objectives and Research Questions

|  |
| --- |
| *Describe the overall aim of your project and list 2–4 objectives. Formulate the main research questions your project seeks to answer. Ensure that objectives are specific, measurable, and achievable within the project duration (i.e., 36 months).* |

* 1. Reasons for the Selection of a Research Topic

|  |
| --- |
| *Explain why you have chosen this specific research topic. Describe its novelty and relevance to current scientific, social and industry challenges. Highlight how it aligns with your expertise, previous work, and career development goals.* |

* 1. Research Methodology and Approach

|  |
| --- |
| *Please specify the methods, techniques, and tools you plan to employ to achieve the stated objectives, and describe how you will collect and analyse your data.* |

* 1. Interdisciplinary Dimension of the Project

|  |
| --- |
| *Please indicate the research disciplines under which your project will be carried out, noting that the project must be interdisciplinary, and describe how the different disciplines will be integrated into your work.* |

* 1. Research Tasks and Schedule

|  |
| --- |
| *Please specify the most important tasks/activities of the project and schedule them – up to 10 tasks/activities. The following table (or similar) should be used to detail the schedule of the project. Please use abbreviations M1, M2, … (up to M36) to indicate subsequent months of the project duration.* |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Task** | | **Start date** | **End date** |
| **1.** | *Name of the task* |  |  |
| **Description:** | | | |
| **2.** | *Name of the task* |  |  |
| **Description:** | | | |
| **…** |  |  |  |
|  | | | |

* 1. Gender Dimension in the Research Content

|  |
| --- |
| *Describe whether & how biological sex and/or socio-cultural gender differences are relevant to your research topic, objectives, data collection, analysis, major outputs and/or interpretation of results. For this, you may wish to discuss:*   * *How your research topic addresses differences between sexes and/or genders;* * *How these differences will be taken into account in your study design;* * *Whether the research subjects involved (e.g., human participants, animals, cells, data sets) differ in terms of sex/gender;* * *Whether the results might have different impacts or applications for different sexes/genders;* * *How you will ensure that data is collected, analysed, and reported in a sex/gender-sensitive way;* * *Does the designed research output (e.g., product emerging from the research) take into account the different needs of users based on sex/gender?*   *If you consider that sex/gender issues are not relevant to your research, briefly justify why. In such cases, the proposal will be considered as meeting the general criteria; however, no additional points will be awarded.* |

1. **PROJECT’S EXPECTED IMPACTS**
   1. Relevance of the Project Expected Outcomes to the Advancement of Science

|  |
| --- |
| *Describe the scientific context and background of your project, outlining the current state of knowledge in the field. Identify the existing gaps or challenges, and explain how your project will contribute to the advancement of the scientific disciplines concerned.* |

* 1. Relevance of the Project Expected Outcomes to Society

|  |
| --- |
| *Explain how the results of your project could bring benefits to society, such as improving quality of life, supporting sustainable development, or addressing social challenges. Provide concrete examples of potential applications or impacts beyond the scientific community.* |

* 1. Involvement of the Business Sector and its Contribution to Project Impact (if applicable)

|  |
| --- |
| *Describe how the business sector will be involved in the project and how its participation will enhance the expected impact. Specify the role of business partners (e.g. joint research activities, technology validation, technology transfer) and explain how these contributions will support the exploitation, dissemination, and uptake of project results.* |

* 1. Other Expected Impacts of the Project (if any)

**STOP page count** [max. 5 pages]

1. **RESOURCES**
   1. Budget

|  |
| --- |
| *Indicate the project costs, broken down by category. Note that your maximum budget is EUR 1,400 per month. Training costs should cover fees (e.g., conference or training fees), while travel costs should include accommodation (outside of Warsaw) and transportation. Please also include the cost of the compulsory Open Access option for publications generated during your fellowship.* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Cost [EUR]** |
| Research Costs [i.e., consumables] |  |
| Equipment [listed in section 3.3] |  |
| Travels |  |
| Cost of Training |  |
| Others [including compulsory Open Access fees & software licensing cost (if needed)] |  |
| **Total Cost** |  |

* 1. Cost Explanation and Justification

|  |
| --- |
| *Please describe the calculation method for each cost category and justify the need for incurring this cost.* |

* 1. Equipment

|  |
| --- |
| *Please describe the major equipment to be used during the implementation of your project. Use the table below (or similar) to list the equipment. If the given item is not available in the IChF or Partner resources, indicate the cost of purchase. Please bear in mind that under a budget of your research project, you may only purchase tiny research apparatus, and your maximum budget is EUR 1,400 per month.* |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Specification of the Equipment** | | **Available at IChF**  (check [here](https://ichf.edu.pl/en/equipment)) **Y/N** | **Available at Partner Organisation [Y/N]** | **Estimate Cost  of Purchase [EUR]** |
| 1. |  |  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |  |
| … |  |  |  |  |

* 1. Key Individuals and Organisations Involved in the Project

|  |
| --- |
| *List all individuals and organisations involved in the project, describing their roles and relevant experience, using the table below (or similar). IChF stands for the “Institute of Physical Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences”.* |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name and Affiliation** | | **Role in the Project** | **Relevant Experience** |
| **Mentor** | ……………….., IChF |  |  |
| **Co-Mentor** |  |  | *(If an individual is not listed among the IChF proposed co-mentors, please also obligatory specify ERC, EIC, or other high-impact grants obtained by the co-mentor.)* |
| **Business Partner** |  |  | *(optional)* |
| **Other:** … |  |  | *(optional)* |

1. **REFERENCES**

|  |
| --- |
| *List key literature supporting your proposal.* |

1. **ETHICS**

|  |
| --- |
| *Applicants submitting research proposals should clearly demonstrate in their proposal that they are aware of, and will comply with, ethical principles as well as applicable international, European, and national laws. Comprehensive guidelines for ethical self-assessment can be found* [*here*](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf)*. Please complete the Ethics Self-Assessment Form. For any item marked ‘Yes’, provide a further explanation below the form, describing how the particular ethical aspect will be addressed.* |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ethics Self-Assessment Form** | **Y/N** | **Page** |
| 1. **Human embryo/foetuses** | | |
| 1. Does your research involve [Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2013:373:0012:0015:EN:PDF) |  |  |
| 1. Does your research involve the use of human embryos? |  |  |
| 1. Does your research involve the use of human foetal tissues/cells? |  |  |
| 1. **Humans** | | |
| 1. Does your research involve human participants? |  |  |
| 1. Does your research involve physical interventions (physical also including imaging technology, behavioural treatments, tracking and tracing, etc.) on the study participants? |  |  |
| 1. Does your activity involve conducting a clinical study as defined by the [Clinical Trial Regulation 536/2014](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32014R0536) (using pharmaceuticals, biologicals, radiopharmaceuticals, or advanced therapy medicinal products)? |  |  |
| 1. **Human cells/tissues** | | |
| 1. Does your research involve human cells or tissues (other than from Human Embryos/Foetuses, i.e. section 1)? |  |  |
| 1. **Personal data** | | |
| 1. Does your activity involve processing of personal data? |  |  |
| 1. Does your activity involve further processing of previously collected personal data (including use of pre-existing data sets or sources, merging existing data sets)? |  |  |
| 1. Is it planned to export personal data (data transfer) from the EU to non-EU countries? |  |  |
| 1. Is it planned to import personal data (data transfer) from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? |  |  |
| 1. Does your activity involve the processing of personal data related to criminal convictions or offences? |  |  |
| 1. **Animals** | | |
| 1. Does your research involve animals? |  |  |
| 1. **Third Countries** | | |
| 1. Will some of the activities be carried out in non-EU countries? |  |  |
| 1. In case non-EU countries are involved, do the activities undertaken in these countries raise potential ethics issues? |  |  |
| 1. Is it planned to use local resources? |  |  |
| 1. Is it planned to import any material (other than data) from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? |  |  |
| 1. Is it planned to export any material (other than data) from the EU to non-EU countries? |  |  |
| 1. Does your activity involve low and/or [lower-middle income](https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519) countries? |  |  |
| 1. Could the situation in the country put the individuals taking part in the activity at risk? |  |  |
| 1. **Environment and Health and Safety** | | |
| 1. Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes (or technologies) that may cause harm to the environment, to animals or plants (during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact)? |  |  |
| 1. Does this activity deal with endangered fauna and/or flora / protected areas? |  |  |
| 1. Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes (or technologies) that may cause harm to humans, including those performing the activity (during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, or the deployment of the technology as a possible impact)? |  |  |
| 1. **Artificial intelligence** | | |
| 1. Does this activity involve the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence-based systems? |  |  |
| 1. Could the AI based system/technique potentially stigmatise or discriminate against people (e.g. based on sex, race, ethnic or social origin, age, genetic features, disability, sexual orientation, language, religion or belief, membership to a political group, or membership to a national minority)? |  |  |
| 1. Does the AI system/technique interact, replace or influence human decision-making processes (e.g. issues affecting human life, health, well-being or human rights, or economic, social or political decisions)? |  |  |
| 1. Does the AI system/technique have the potential to lead to negative social (e.g. on democracy, media, labour market, freedoms, educational choices, mass surveillance) and/or environmental impacts either through intended applications or plausible alternative uses? |  |  |
| 1. Does this activity involve the use of AI in a weapon system? |  |  |
| 1. Does the AI to be developed/used in the project raise any other ethical issues not covered by the questions above (e.g., subliminal, covert or deceptive AI, AI that is used to stimulate addictive behaviours, life-like humanoid robots, etc.)? |  |  |
| 1. **Other ethics issues** | | |
| 1. Are there any other ethics issues that should be taken into consideration? |  |  |

**Explanation and indication of how the particular ethical aspect will be addressed** *(for any item marked ‘Yes’)*:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ethical Aspect Reference No.** | **Description** |
| *(e.g., for letter a) in the Artificial Intelligence Section (8) write: “8a”)* |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. *Please note that the fellowship should start in October 2026 at the latest.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *If your project falls within the thematic scope of any Cluster of Horizon Europe (Health; Culture, creativity & inclusive society; Civil security; Digital, industry & space; Climate, energy & mobility; Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture & environment), ensure that some of your keywords reflect this.* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)