

Call for Expressions of Interest

Interdisciplinary Research Sciences Po & Université Paris Cité

1. Background

The bilateral partnership between Sciences Po and Université Paris Cité aims to support research at the highest international level by fostering ambitious new collaborative interdisciplinary research projects bringing together the two institutions to address major contemporary challenges. Within this framework, Sciences Po and Université Paris Cité are launching a joint call for projects.

2. Objectives

This new call, entitled Interdisciplinary Research Sciences Po & Université Paris Cité (involving the Faculties of Societies and Humanities, Science and Health, as well as the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris (IPGP)), will be organised in two stages: a Call for Expressions of Interest, followed by a Call for Proposals.

It will fund new innovative collaborative research projects built on the complementary expertise of both institutions.

The call is open to all research themes.

3. Admissibility Criteria

- Projects must be jointly led by one Principal Investigator (PI) from Sciences Po and one from Université Paris Cité, both of whom must hold their appointment throughout the duration of the project. The two PIs must come from different disciplines.
- Both PIs must be permanent faculty members or permanent researchers affiliated with a research unit at Sciences Po or with a research unit for which Université Paris Cité is the *tutelle principale*¹.
- The interdisciplinary dimension of the project must be clearly described in the Letter of Intent
- One of the project's disciplines must belong to the social sciences and humanities. Interdisciplinarity may be achieved within the social sciences and humanities, while interdisciplinarity between the social sciences and humanities and other disciplines is strongly encouraged.
- Each PI may lead only one proposal submitted under this call.
- The Letter of Intent must follow the prescribed template and be submitted in accordance with the procedures described in Section 10.

4. Additional Information

- Academic and non-academic partners from other institutions and/or national research organisations may contribute to the project. However, they are not eligible to receive funding.
- Activities promoting knowledge dissemination and societal impact are encouraged.

¹ In the French research system, *tutelle principale* refers to the lead supervisory institution of a research unit.

- Any communication activities resulting from funded projects must acknowledge the partnership between Sciences Po and Université Paris Cité.

5. Funding and Eligible Costs

Between two and four selected projects will each receive funding ranging from €200,000 to €300,000, to be spent between September 2027 and 31st December 2030. No extension beyond this date will be granted.

The salaries of permanent faculty members and researchers at Sciences Po or Université Paris Cité, as well as teaching exemptions, are not eligible. Please refer to the Letter of Intent template for the main categories of eligible costs.

Funds may only be managed by Sciences Po and Université Paris Cité (including IPGP).

6. Research Data and Ethics

Depending on the type of data collected and/or processed, the project may require approval from a research ethics committee. Where applicable, this requirement should be taken into account when planning the project.

Principal Investigators whose projects are selected for funding will be encouraged to prepare a Data Management Plan.

7. Evaluation Criteria

Projects will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Scientific excellence;
- Interdisciplinarity;
- Innovation;
- Contribution to the visibility of the Sciences Po–Université Paris Cité partnership;
- Coherence between the scientific project, the budget, and the implementation timeline.

8. Selection Process

Projects will be selected in two stages:

Stage 1: Internal pre-selection by Sciences Po and Université Paris Cité based on a Letter of Intent.

This pre-selection stage will ensure that the proposed projects meet the objectives of both institutions, clearly define the scientific theme, ambitions and expected outcomes, describe the scope of the research and the members of the research teams involved, and provide an indicative budget.

Where appropriate, the pre-selection committee may provide recommendations in preparation for the submission of the full proposal during the second stage.

Only projects selected during the first stage will be invited to participate in the second stage.

Stage 2: Scientific evaluation of full proposals by international experts, together with an internal strategic assessment by Sciences Po and Université Paris Cité.

9. Timeline

- 8 September 2026: Launch of the Call for Expressions of Interest;
- 16 November 2026, 1:00 p.m. (Paris time): Deadline for submission of Letters of Intent;
- Early December 2026: Pre-selection committee review;
- Second half of December 2026: Notification of the pre-selection results and distribution of the Call for Proposals documentation and template to the two Principal Investigators of the pre-selected projects;
- 15 March 2027, 1:00 p.m. (Paris time): Deadline for submission of full proposals;
- Mid-March to the end of June 2027: Evaluation, selection and announcement of the selected projects;
- September 2027: Projects start.

10. Submission of Letters of Intent

Letters of Intent may be submitted in French or English, using the provided template.

Applicants invited to the second stage will be required to submit their full proposal in English.

Letters of Intent must be sent to mathilde.croquet@sciencespo.fr no later than 16 November 2026 at 1:00 p.m. (CET). Any submission received after this deadline will not be considered.

11. Contacts

For any questions regarding this call, please contact both of the following addresses:

- mathilde.croquet@sciencespo.fr
- maud.maruchau-de-chanaud@u-pariscite.fr