



The PSA Research & Innovation Fund

Application Form & Notes for 2021 (October 2020)

Background

The PSA Research & Innovation Fund is a new initiative for the Political Studies Association (PSA). With the time and resources available for academic research both under increasing pressure, the PSA has decided to create a new source of support for individuals and groups in pursuing high-quality research or innovative engagement exercises that further our discipline.

Access to this fund will be exclusive to PSA members.

The Application and Assessment Process

PSA members have the opportunity to apply for funding (for 2021) as follows:

- Applications open: 30th October 2020
- Deadline for applications: Noon, 20th November 2020
- Feedback to applicants: w/c 30 November 2020.

Depending on the popularity of the first round, PSA members may get an additional opportunity to apply for funding in May 2021. Payments will be subject to the PSA's expenses policy.

Applications will be judged by a panel of PSA Trustees and staff.

Applications can be for high quality research projects, digital events or other engagement exercises, and other innovative endeavours. Projects may relate to any area of political science and international relations and involve the use of any recognised methods and theoretical approaches. Projects relating to the pedagogy of the discipline are also welcomed. Each application will be judged according to:

- The quality of the proposed research or activity
- The thoroughness of the application in terms of realistic and justified costs; and clear, deliverable, and desirable outcomes
- The potential of the funded project to make a significant contribution to advancing knowledge or understanding in important ways
- How well they support the PSA's strategy and aims, including its commitment to making the discipline more diverse and reflective of society
- How innovative it is including outreach beyond academia to the public, media, and policy-makers

The panel will also need to be satisfied that no research ethics concerns will arise from the project, and that proper ethical procedures are being followed.



Bids for funding will be accepted from individual members of the PSA, or from any of the PSA's specialist groups, Teaching and Learning and Early Career networks. Applications from, or prominently featuring, early and mid-career scholars, or that show collaboration between or with PSA specialist groups or networks, are particularly welcomed.

Applications will normally be for funding **up to £2000**, although applications for larger amounts may be considered for proposals which are highly collaborative or innovative, on an exceptional basis. As the fund is finite, we may not be able to support all the applications submitted but may hold these over for consideration in a future round.

All successful applicants will be required to write up an evaluation of their project and what it achieved for PSA trustees and for communication with members. If you have questions or would like any advice on your application, please contact us via grants@psa.ac.uk.

Please email your completed application form to grants@psa.ac.uk

Please fill in the following details:	
Name & email of applicant:	
Higher Education or other Institution:	
PSA Membership	Yes No Membership Category:
Capacity: Individual application/as lead for a PSA Specialist Group, ECN, TLN, etc. <i>NB: if this is a collaboration please list all the relevant groups or organisations</i>	
Amount of requested funds & details of funding from other sources (if applicable):	
Please use the space below to explain your application including, where relevant: a summary of your proposed research/event/activity; aims and objectives; what makes it innovative, target audience/expected number of attendees; outputs/impact of the activity; potential dates and timelines of activities; any activity partners or funding already secured; and any other information in support of your application (including, where relevant,	



how proper research ethics procedures will be adhered to). If this is a collaborative project, please detail the relative roles of the different players including the lead organiser.

(max. 850 words)

How will this activity contribute to the PSA's aims and strategy including its Equality and Diversity agenda and advancing knowledge and understanding in our discipline?

(max. 350 words)



If applicable, how will this proposal help to boost the PSA's membership, reputation, and profile? How does this activity appeal to a wider audience than those who may normally engage with the PSA/your Specialist Group/Network (e.g. politicians, policy-makers, or other non-academic groups)? *(max. 350 words)*



Please explain your proposed budget and cost breakdown, providing as much detail as possible. You should also outline any other funding secured and what costs will be covered by attendees or other partners (if any):

NB: Travel and refreshment costs will not normally be eligible for funding