THE NATIONAL PLAN FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION 2015-2020, PNIII

Subprogramme 1.1 – Human Resources, Research projects for stimulating young independent teams

Information package 2021[1]

[1] Unauthorised translation. Only the Romanian version of the package has legal validity

Summary

RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR STIMULATING YOUNG INDEPENDENT TEAMS
Call number*:* PN-III-DCD-RU-TE-2021-3

1. Goal

Supporting young researchers with PhDs in order to create or consolidate their own research team and an independent research programme.

2. Obiectives

- ✓ Increasing the capacity of young researchers to apply their own research programme;
- ✓ Developing the abilities of young researchers in order to lead teams and to manage research projects;
- ✓ Increasing the numbers of researchers with visible international results;
- ✓ Increasing the capacity of young researchers to successfully participate in research, development and innovation programmes with international funding.

3. General conditions of participation

- ✓ The project proposal is developed by a researcher called the project leader in a research team;
- ✓ The financing instrument is addressed to young researchers from Romania and from abroad, with achievements demonstrated through the quality and the international recognition of their scientific results. If the project leader is active abroad at the time during which the project contract begins, she/he will end the activity there and will operate their reserch activity in Romania at the host institution of the project accepted for funding;
- ✓ The project leader holds the main responsibility for implementing the scientific activities of the project, according to the project proposal accepted for funding.

4. Eligibility criteria

a) The project leader is a PhD, having obtained the PhD title (Ministerial Order), relevant for the proposed theme, no more than 12 years ago, compared to the moment of submission of the project proposal. The period of parental leave is not taken into account in calculating the 12-year period. If the PhD title has not been granted by Ministerial Order, the date indicated on the diploma will be taken into consideration.

b) The age of the project leader, at the time of the submission of the project proposal, is less than or equal to 45 years old (is not yet 46 years old);

c) The project leader meets the minimal eligibility standards as defined in Appendix 1;

d) The project is implemented at a Romanian institution or R&D unit (research organisation), hereinafter referred as the host institution. The host institution cannot be an enterprise, in the sense of state aid legislation;

e) The host institution is not declared, according to the law, to be in a state of payment default; it does not have accounts blocked following a court order; it has not made inaccurate declarations concerning the information required by UEFISCDI for the selection of contractors; it has not broken the terms of another funding contract signed previously with a Contracting Authority;

f) The project leader is employed full-time at the host institution from Romania, for an indefinite or specified period, which covers at least the period of the funding contract, or has the employment agreement, from the host institution, at least for the period of the funding contract. In the case of a decision to award funding, the full-time employment contract must be concluded by the project leader with the host institution no later than the moment of signing the funding contract, with effect from the start of the project. In the case of a project leader with main affiliation to a foreign institution, upon contracting, the approval of the foreign institution regarding the interruption of the activity there for the implementation of the project in Romania will be provided, as well as for full-time employment at the host institution of the project throughout the project implementation period;

g) A person may submit, as a project leader, only one project proposal type TE – Competition 2021, or a proposal type PD – Competition 2021, or a PCE proposal – Competition 2021. In case more than one project proposal type is submitted (regardless of the type) by the same project leader, all these project proposals will be declared ineligible;

h) A person who is a project leader for a PD or TE in implementation cannot at the same time be the project leader of a new TE project. A person leading a PD-, TE- or PCE- type project in implementation, at the closing date of the submission period of the funding applications, the last 12 months of the project, may apply for obtaining funding for a TE 2021-type project, which will start after the completion of the ongoing project;

i) The project leader did not benefit from a PCE- or PCCF-type research project financed by the National Plan for Research, Development and Innovation, as project leader;

j) It is forbidden to submit project proposals which relate to already financed activities or are funded by other sources, national or international, or which are a result of plagiarism or self-plagiarism. The project leaders who have carried out similar research topics will mention them and will clearly specify the degree of novelty of the present one. It is forbidden to make and use falsified information and experimental data in order to influence the result of the evaluation of the project proposal, activity reports or publications resulted from the implementation of the project. UEFISCDI prepares, in the contracting phase, similarity reports of the project proposals accepted for funding and sends these reports to CNCS for analysis. Projects for which a degree of similarity of over 50% has been identified automatically undergo analysis by the specialized commissions of CNCS. In case of some notification of deviations from the norms regarding the good conduct in scientific research, CNCS informs the National Council of Ethics of Scientific Research, Technological development and Innovation (CNECSDTI). CNECSDTI analyses and ascertains the notified deviations and may order sanctions, according to the legislation in force. Based on the CNECSDTI findings, CNCS may propose the contracting/cancellation of the funding contract, with the reimbursement of the amounts used and the interdiction of the right to participate in the next TE-type competition.

5. Duration

The project duration is min. 18 months – max. 24 months.

6. Budget

The maximum amount awarded for a project lasting a maximum of 24 months is 450.000 lei.

The maximum amount awarded for a project lasting less than 24 months is calculated proportionally according to the project duration reported at 24 months.
The budget allocated to this competition for the entire duration of the projects is maximum 70.000.000 lei.

Eligible expenses[2]

- ✓ *Personnel expenses* – (researchers, postdocs, PhD students and master students employed throughout the implementation of the research project according to the law;) these expenses include legal contributions related to salaries and incomes assimilated to these[3];
- ✓ *Logistics expenses* necessary for the project, including equipment, laboratory supplies, material expenses, expenses for dissemination, information and documentation, access to third-party research infrastructure, etc.;
- ✓ *Travel expenses* corresponding to national or international travels of the research team members for documentation or research stages, participations in prestigious scientific events in the field related the project; travel expenses for national or international collaborators as well as for participants to scientific events organised within the project may also be financed, with respect to the legal regulations;
- ✓ *Indirect expenses* (overhead) are calculated as a percentage (max. 20%) of direct expenses: personnel, logistics (excluding the value of expenses for R&D equipment) and travel expenses. It is recommended that at the host institution level the overhead to be also used for the payment of auxiliary staff (technicians, students, etc.) involved in project implementation.

The funding contract will specify the breakdown over the budget categories. During the project, reallocations can be made between budget categories: personnel, logistics and travel expenses, up to 15% of the total project budget, without any prior approval, in compliance with the funding contract stipulations (does not imply the conclusion of an additional act to the funding contract).

7. The structure of the research team

The research team structure is determined by the project leader. When submitting the project proposal, the team structure must be presented, mentioning the necessary expertise and the connection with the project activities.
The project leader must provide working time rules, on a full-time basis, for at least 3 persons (including the project leader). The members of the research team have, at the time of submitting the project proposal, ages less than or equal to 45 years (they have not reached the age of 46). All positions in the project team structure must be explicitly budgeted in the funding application.
In the funding application, the project leader will specify the minimum number of hours/month that she/he will dedicate to the project.
The non-nominated positions in the funding application must be announced publicly, including on the websites (www.euraxess.ro, https://jobs.research.gov.ro/).

8. Ethics

The project leader has the obligation to ensure that the project proposal complies with the regulations stipulated by Law 206/2004 regarding the good conduct in scientific research,

[2] The categories of eligible expenses are stipulated in the GD 134/2011 approving the Methodological Norms concerning the categories of expenses for research development and innovation stimulation activities, financed by the state budget;
[3] Personnel expenses are subject to in-force regulations regarding the maximum limits of the income earned by a person who participates in one or more projects, according to art. 26 Appendix 2 to GD 583/2015 approving PNCDI III, with subsequent amendments and additions.

technological development and innovation, with subsequent amendments and additions, as well as other legislative regulations regarding the ethics specific to the research field of the project. Also, in case the project domain requires getting approvals and specific accreditations, the project leader will make sure to get them prior to contracting the project.

9. Equal opportunities

Equal opportunities, as well as gender equality, will be ensured for all participants, both in programme implementation and at the project level, in accordance with national legal provisions and European practices.

In developing and implementing the funding application/project, project leaders must take all measures to promote equal opportunities for women and men. As far as possible, there must be a balance between women and men for all positions provided for in the funding application/project.

10. The procedure for submission, evaluation and selection of the projects proposals

Submission of project proposals will be done in a single phase, using the online submission platform, www.uefiscdi-direct.ro.

It is compulsory for the project proposal submission to be done from an account created by the project leader (the identification data to create an account on the platform have to be those pertaining to the project leader). The funding application is written in English, except for projects in Romanian-specific domains (according to **Appendix 5**), where writing in Romanian is allowed.

The funding application will be elaborated according to **Appendix 2** in this information package.

10.1 Eligibility verification

The project proposals received are verified by UEFISCDI personnel to ensure that all eligibility criteria are met both for the host institution and the project leader.

The list of eligible projects proposals will be published on the UEFISCDI website - www.uefiscdi.gov.ro.

Complaints concerning the fulfilment of the eligibility criteria can be sent by e-mail to proiecteTE@uefiscdi.ro, by fax to + 40- (0) 21-311.5992, or directly to the UEFISCDI headquarters within 3 working days from the date of publication of the results.

If, during or after completion of the evaluation phase, a non-compliance with any of eligibility criteria is found, the project proposal will be declared ineligible and will be excluded from the competition.

10.2. The evaluation process

Projects are evaluated by experts of international recognition.

For each project, at least 50% of the expert evaluators are selected from abroad, from the member states of the European Union or from the member states of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, except for the Romanian-specific projects (according to **Appendix 5**).

The selected expert evaluators must meet the minimum eligibility standards provided in **Appendix 3** to this information package. Each expert evaluator, including the members of the panels, will declare in writing their impartiality, confidentiality and competence in the domain to which the project proposal subject to evaluation belongs and if, at any time during the evaluation process, the expert evaluator finds that one of these conditions is not met or if there is a conflict of interest, he/she will report this to UEFISCDI, in writing.

If UEFISCDI finds or is being notified of a conflict of interest or misconduct, it will take the necessary measures to replace the expert evaluator in question.

- ✓ There is a possibility for a project leader to indicate at most two experts to be avoided in the evaluation of the submitted project proposal (institutional or personal conflicts, scientific competition).
- ✓ The evaluations are anonymous, ensuring the confidentiality and impartiality of the expert evaluators.

10.2.1. The individual evaluation

Each project proposal declared eligible is evaluated, from the quality point of view, independently, online, by three expert evaluators who form the committee of expert evaluators. The expert evaluators fill in the evaluation sheet by identifying in the form of lists the strengths and weaknesses for each evaluation criterion, according to the evaluation sheet presented in ***Appendix 4***. ***No points are awarded in the individual evaluation phase.***

For a more uniform evaluation of the level of applicants' publications, each expert evaluator will have access to section B2 (*Visibility and impact of the scientific contribution of the project leader*) of all applications in her/his domain of expertise and statistics on the distribution of the Hirsch index and the number of citations (without self-citations) of the project leaders in the respective domain (section B2 of all projects and statistics on Hirsch indices and citations will be published on the competition website). Upon completion of all individual evaluations for a project, each expert evaluator on the committee will have access to the comments of the other expert evaluators. If deemed necessary, each expert evaluator may adjust her/his initial comments.

10.2.2 Rebuttal

After the adjustment period of the individual comments, the UEFISCDI staff will make available to the project leaders, in the accounts of the online platform for submitting project proposals, the concatenated sheet containing all the comments granted by the three expert evaluators, with the invitation to formulate, in writing, a point of view regarding the comments expressed by the expert evaluators.

Project leaders' rebuttals, limited to 6.000 characters (including spaces), will be completed using a form available on the online application submission platform within 5 working days from the date of the initial request for response. The rebuttal will be written in the language used for elaborating the project and will consist strictly of a counter-argument related to the critical observations of the expert evaluators, as they appear in the concatenated sheet, without introducing new elements to the project proposal, regardless of the nature. If the rebuttal contains new elements that do not appear in the project proposal, these will not be taken into account by the experts. The rebuttal is not mandatory and its absence does not affect the subsequent evaluation phases.

10.2.3. Reaching consensus

After receiving the rebuttals, the phase of elaborating the consensus report begins. This phase will be coordinated by a rapporteur, selected from the three experts who participated in the individual evaluation.

The rapporteur's mission is to mediate the process of reaching the consensus between experts, through discussions through the "forum" interface, available on the evaluation platform. When reaching consensus, the rebuttal will also be taken into account (if any). Once consensus has been reached on the comments, the rapporteur will complete a consensus report and propose scores for each evaluation criterion, in accordance with the comments for that criterion. The other two experts will express their agreement or disagreement with the Consensus Report on the platform (vote "agree" or "disagree").

If the *Consensus Report*, written by the rapporteur, is also validated by the other two experts (vote "agree"), it is considered that the consensus for the respective project has been reached.
Where consensus cannot be reached (one of the experts votes "disagree"), the expert who disagrees with the Consensus Report written by the rapporteur (voting "disagree") must detail the reason and separately specify the comments and the score (or scores) that represent her/his minority option. These minority comments and scores are an integral part of the Consensus Report.
Following the consensus, the projects for which the consensus was reached on all sub-criteria and which obtained less than 80 points in total are declared *unfundable*.

10.2.4 Panel evaluation

Projects for which no consensus has been reached and those that have not been declared unfundable in the consensus stage will be analysed/discussed in the expert panels, which will establish the final hierarchy of projects. The subdomains in which the projects are submitted will be grouped into 12 domains, according to **Appendix 5**. For each domain indicated in **Appendix 5**, a panel is established consisting of rapporteurs of projects in that domain, especially those that have been allocated to the projects to be analysed in the panel. Each panel will consist of at least 9 members.
Each panel member, prior to the panel meeting, will have access to the project proposals, the comments of the expert evaluators, Consensus Reports and the rebuttals (if any) for all projects allocated to the panel. In addition to the rapporteur initially assigned to a project, for each project another panel member will be assigned who will have the task of carefully reading all the information related to a particular project.
In a first phase, the panel will analyse the projects without consensus in the individual evaluation phase and will establish, by consensus, the score at the level of each non-consensual criterion. Then, to establish the final hierarchy of research projects, the projects are discussed based on the evaluation criteria (presented in **Appendix 4**), the panel having the opportunity to arbitrate the summative comments in the Consensus Reports and adjust the final project scores to ensure the homogeneity of the evaluation within each domain. To this end, the panel will make use of all available information, including the rebuttal, of the information in section B2 of all applications in the domain corresponding to the panel and of the scientometric statistical indicators for each domain.
The decisions of the panel can be made only with the approval vote of at least 2/3 of the panel members. If this majority does not exist for the change of the score of a certain project, the final score of the project is calculated as the average of the scores proposed at the panel level. The decision will be motivated by a report from the panel. This report is sent to the project leader at the end of the evaluation.
The panel meetings are coordinated by a *chair* and a *co-chair*, members of CNCS (whose areas of expertise are different from the field of the panel). They will moderate the panel discussions without interfering in decision making.
In order to ensure compliance with evaluation procedures and evaluation fairness, the individual evaluation process and the consensus-building process will be monitored by representatives of the CNCS (scientific officers), avoiding conflicts of interest. They will not be involved in any way in the actual evaluation, but will only ensure that the evaluation of each project is adequately procedural and qualitative.

10.3. Publication of evaluation results

The list of project proposals, one for each of the 12 domains (according to **Appendix 5**), and the final scores obtained by each of them, will be published on the UEFISCDI website. The lists will be sorted in descending order by the value of the score.

10.4. Information

The directors of the project proposals are informed of the presence of the final evaluation report in the accounts of the submission platform, www.uefiscdi-direct.ro, by sending a notification, by e-mail, to the address specified in the project proposal. The final evaluation report will include comments and related scores.

10.5. Complaints

The directors of the project proposals can submit complaints within 3 working days after the date of publication of the evaluation results. The complaints may exclusively contain the procedural flaws that the candidate considers inconsistent with the specifications in the information package. The complaints cannot be about the expert evaluators' scores and comments. The complaints can be sent by e-mail to the address proiecteTE@uefiscdi.ro, by fax to no. + 40- (0) 21-311.5992 or directly to the UEFISCDI headquarters.

The publication of the final results is done after resolving all the complaints.

10.6. The results of the competition

Within each domain, project proposals are accepted for funding, in descending order of the scores obtained, within the budget allocated to the competition. The success rate applicable to each domain is related to the success rate of the competition (the ratio between the number of possible projects to be financed within the competition budget and the number of eligible project proposals).

If there are two or more project proposals with identical final scores, their tie will be made according to the total score obtained for criterion 1. If there are two or more project proposals with identical final scores including on criterion 1, the tie will be made according to the score obtained on the sub-criteria, in order 1.1; 1.2 and 1.3. If there are two or more projects with the same scores on the sub-criteria 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3, the tie will be made, in order, according to the scores obtained in sub-criteria 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5.

Projects that have obtained a final score of less than 80 points are declared unfundable.

The list of project proposals accepted for funding, as well as the list of reserve projects, are submitted to the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitization for approval.

After completing the competition, UEFISCDI will publish the list of experts used in the evaluation process for each domain on the website www.uefiscdi.gov.ro.

10.7. Negotiating the budget and signing funding contracts

The leaders of the projects accepted for funding will negotiate with UEFISCDI the amount and structure of the requested budget based on the observations coming from the expert evaluators, regarding the degree of correlation between the foreseen objectives and the requested budget.

The negotiated budget may not exceed the amount of the budget initially requested by the funding application. The financing contract is signed after the negotiation process.

In case there are funds available as a result of not contracting or reducing the proposed budget for projects accepted for funding or as a result of supplementing the budget initially allocated to the competition, the negotiation and contracting of the projects included in the Reserve List, in order of scores, up to the concurrent coverage of the approved amount, will be initiated.

11. Main obligations of the parties

Project Leader and the Host institution:

- Are responsible for the project implementation, with respect of deadlines and allocated budgets;
- Elaborate and send to the Contracting Authority scientific progress reports throughout the project implementation and a final report at the time and in the format specified by CNCS/UEFISCDI. Deadlines of intermediary reports shall be proposed by the project leader, in accordance with the work plan set out in the funding application;
- Promote/advertise the activities and publish the vacant positions in the research project (including on www.jobs.ancs.ro and www.euraxess.ro);
- Ensure that the staff involved in the project has created and updated the scientific profile on the IT platform www.brainmap.ro;
- Provide updated information on the project implementation (at least the abstract of the project, the team members and the updated list of publications resulting from the project) on a web page, in English; for the projects from Romanian-specific domains, the web page can be also elaborated in Romanian;
- The host institution assures the access of the project leader to the existing research infrastructure and administrative support for him/her to implement the project.
- The host institution prepares and transmits the financial reports of the project, at the end of each stage of financial reporting, to the Contracting Authority. The format of the financial reports is established by the Contracting Authority;
- The host institution, through the signature of the legal representative and the signature of the project leader, certifies, on its own responsibility, the legality and correctness of the information contained in the funding application, accepts the project implementation within the institution, provides administrative support for the project, provides resources indicated in the funding application, undertakes to support the implementation of the project in good conditions and to hire the members of the project team, in accordance with the law, according to the project proposal, if the project is funded;
- For project leaders who are not employees of the institution at the time of submitting the funding application, the full-time employment of the project leader during the project implementation must be certified by the institution (according to **Appendix 8**).

UEFISCDI:

- Ensures the funding and the monitoring of the project, according to the funding contract provisions with respect to the law and the available budgetary resources;
- Processes personal data in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (RGPD 2018) and Law 190/2018 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, https://uefiscdi.ro/protectia-datelor-cu-caracter-personal.

12. Mobility of the research project

Usually, the project leader will implement the project at the host institution mentioned in the funding application. However, UEFISCDI, as the Contracting Authority, may allow the project leader to transfer the project to another host institution in the country, at most once and only during the first 12 months of the project period. The purpose of providing this freedom of choice to the project leader is to optimize the chances of project success.

The project leader has the obligation to address UEFISCDI, in writing, the request to transfer the project to another host institution, accompanied by a well-founded justification and the acceptance of the new host institution and the original host institution. If the original host institution refuses the transfer, it must send the reason for the refusal to UEFISCDI in writing. CNCS and UEFISCDI will analyse the transfer request initiated by the project leader and, if applicable, the refusal letter from the initial host institution and will make a decision in order to increase the chances of the successful implementation of the project. In case of acceptance of the transfer request, UEFISCDI will terminate the contract with the original host institution and will sign a funding contract with the new host institution. The initial host institution has the obligation to transfer, within a maximum of 30 days, both the funds and the equipment and goods purchased from the project funds to the new host institution, in order to allow the resumption of the research activities provided in the project without delay. The transport costs related to the transfer of the equipment and goods purchased through the project, from the initial host institution to the new host institution, are financed by the new host institution.

13. Failure in research

The failure in research corresponds to the situations in which, following the proper development of the activities foreseen in a research project, with the obtaining of the deliverables assumed, according to the funding contract, the results obtained are not in accordance with the preliminary ones (working hypotheses from the project proposal are not confirmed, the preliminary functionality in the project proposal is not validated).

For an ongoing project, the failure in research can be identified by the evaluation and monitoring commissions, set up for this purpose by the Contracting Authority with the support of CNCS (according to the provisions of art. 87 of OG 57/2002, with subsequent amendments and additions and Article 13 of GD 583/2015 and Article 1 point 17 of Annex GD 583/2015, with subsequent amendments and additions).

During the evaluation and monitoring, the commissions will determine whether:

1. The project research team complied with the funding contract, carrying out the planned activities in good faith, even if the results are not the preliminary ones (expected). This case falls under the risk of research;
2. The research team of the project has inadequately carried out the activities provided for in the funding contract or has not carried them out without notifying the Contracting Authority of the reasons that led to this situation. In these circumstances, the failures are attributable to the Contractor and the Contracting Authority may request the return of the funds used improperly.

The process of identifying and certifying situations that fall under the risk of research involves examining:

1. How the activities were carried out within the project, in accordance with the funding application, annexed to the funding contract (observance of the content and the timeline);
2. How the (theoretical or experimental) results were obtained, including the achievement of deliverables associated with the objectives/activities, even if they differ from the preliminary ones in the funding application;
3. How the communication with the Contracting Authority was carried out regarding the discrepancies between the results obtained during the course of the project and those initially foreseen in the funding application.

Based on the reports of the evaluation and monitoring commissions, the Contracting Authority accepts the failure in the research, without the obligation to recover the funds spent from the state budget.

If the evaluation and monitoring commissions find that, through the Contractor's own fault, the steps/activities and objectives set out in the implementation plan for which funding was received have not been achieved, the project will be interrupted and the funding quota allocated from the programme budget will be returned to the Contracting Authority.

Result indicators:

The following indicators will be taken into account as results of the project:

For the Natural Sciences, Exact Sciences and Engineering Sciences domains:

- scientific articles published in journals indexed in the Web of Science in the red and yellow areas (Q1 and Q2), framed with the type of document (document type) article or review;
- articles published in journals indexed in the Web of Science in the red and yellow areas (Q1 and Q2), framed by the document type (document type) Proceedings paper;
- patent applications, preferably internationals.

For the domain of Social and Economic Sciences:

- scientific articles published in journals indexed in the Web of Science in the red and yellow areas (Q1 and Q2), framed with the type of document (document type) article or review;
- book chapters or books published by publishing houses from CNATDCU lists A1, A2 and B[4].

For the domain of Humanities:

- scientific articles published in journals indexed in Web of Science, SCOPUS, CNCS A;
- book chapters and books published by foreign publishing houses in European Union countries, Australia Canada, Chile, South Korea, Switzerland, Iceland, Israel, Japan, the United Kingdom, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, the United States of America, Russia, Turkey, CNCS A.

Project monitoring:

The project monitoring activity will be performed from a technical, scientific and financial point of view, based on the reports (interim, annual and final) made by the Contractors. Also, 12 months after the end of the project, an evaluation of the updated final results obtained will be made.

14. Call timeline:

Call launch	**07.06.2021**
Funding applications submission	**07.07.2021, 04:00 p.m.**
Publication of eligibility results	**23.07.2021**
Receiving complaints regarding the eligibility	**26.07 - 28.07.2021**
Publication of final eligibility results	**05.08.2021**
The evaluation process of eligible projects	**06.08 - 08.11.2021**
Publication of preliminary results	**23.11.2021**
Receiving complaints regarding the preliminary results	**24-26.11.2021**
Publication of the final list of projects approved for funding	**21.12.2021**
Start of the implementation for the projects eligible for funding	**03.01.2022**

[4] http://www.cnatdcu.ro/metodologie/abilitare/

Notes:

1. The funding applications shall be submitted via the on-line platform http://www.uefiscdi-direct.ro; a printed version is not necessary.
2. The funding applications will be uploaded on the platform, in the dedicated section, in **.pdf textual format** (no scanned documents allowed).
3. The funding application will be accompanied by an **Affidavit on the project leader's own responsibility**, written in Romanian, confirming the correctness of the data contained in the electronic version of the funding application and non-financing from other sources (according to **Appendix 7**). For project proposals whose leader comes from abroad, this affidavit is allowed to be written in English.
4. The funding application must be accompanied by the **Affidavit on own responsibility of the host institution**, in Romanian (signed by the legal representative), certifying the acceptance of the project implementation in the institution, providing administrative support, providing the project team the necessary infrastructure, the commitment to support the implementation of the project in good conditions and hiring of the members of the project team, in accordance with the law, according to the project proposal, if the project is funded (according to **Appendix 8**).
5. The funding application must be accompanied by the **Affidavit on own responsibility of the host institution**, in Romanian (signed by the legal representative), about complying with the definition of the research organisation (according to **Appendix 9**). This declaration must not be submitted by accredited universities, institutes of the Romanian Academy and national research and development institutions.
6. The funding application must be accompanied by the **Affidavit on own responsibility of the host institution**, in Romanian (signed by the legal representative), regarding the fact that it is not declared, according to the law, in a state of insolvency; does not have the accounts blocked according to a court decision; did not provide inaccurate statements regarding the information requested by UEFISCDI for the selection of contractors; did not break the provisions of another funding contract previously concluded with a contracting authority (according **to Appendix 10**).
7. The funding applications where there are PhD students nominated in the project team must be accompanied by the **Agreement of the PhD supervisor**, in Romanian (according to **Appendix 11**). The agreement must present both the connection between the project theme and the PhD research, as well as the working time allocated by the PhD student for the implementation of the project. The Agreement of the PhD supervisor is not required if she/he is a member of the project team.

APPENDIX 1 - Minimum eligibility standards for the project leader

For Natural Sciences, Exact Sciences and Engineering Sciences (according to Appendix 5)

Publication, after obtaining the PhD title, as main author (according to Appendix 6), of some articles[5] in journals that each have a relative influence score[6] at least equal to 1 and whose cumulative relative influence score is at least equal to 1,5. These articles must be published in journals indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection, strictly framed with the type of the document (*document type*) article or review. Double-framed articles: "*article; proceedings paper*" are not taken into account except in the case of applications within the Engineering Sciences (according to **Appendix 5**).

As an exception, for the IT domain (PE6 sub-domain), a project leader is considered eligible on the basis of citations that her/his publications, after obtaining a PhD title, as main author (according to **Appendix 6**), obtained in indexed journals in the Web of Science Core Collection, provided that the **citing journals** each have a relative influence score of at least 1, and the relative influence score of the citing journals, cumulative for all citations taken into account, is at least 4,5. Self-citations (as defined in **Appendix 6**) are not taken into account.

For Social and Economic Sciences (according to Appendix 5)

Accumulation of at least 50 points from papers published, after obtaining the PhD title, from the following categories:

1. **Books published** as author or co-author, including edited books: 60 points x S points for each book (where S=1 for main author; S = 0,5 for co-author);
2. **Chapters published** as author or co-author in collective volumes: 30 points x S points for each chapter (where S=1 for main author; S = 0,5 for co-author);
3. **Articles published as the author** (according to **Appendix 6**) in journals that each has a relative influence score of at least 1. These articles must be published in journals indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection, strictly framed by type of document (*document type*) *article or review*. For each such article, the following score is awarded: 50 points × S points x relative influence score (where S=1 for main author; S=0,5 for co-author).

Notes:

1. For categories 1 and 2: only papers published in the list of publishing houses available at the following link will be taken into account:
https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/resource-829619-edituri_recunsocute_cncs_stiinte_sociale_2020.pdf

2. In the case a publication has more authors, the score will be divided as follows:
   - if $2 \leq n \leq 5$, at n/2,
   - if $6 \leq n \leq 80$, at (n + 3)/3,
   - if $n \geq 81$, at 28.

   Where n is the number of the publication authors.

3. The 50 points must be achieved at least in part from the publications where the project leader is the main author.

[5] The articles will be taken into account if they are indexed in ISI Web of Science Core Collection until the eligibility verification.

[6] The relative influence score of the journals is defined in **Appendix 6** and can be found on the UEFISCDI website, at https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/scientometrie-baze-de-date. The relative influence score of the journal at the time of publication of the article is taken into account.
For articles published before 2012, the journal relative influence score from 2012 will be taken into account.
For articles published in 2020-2021, the journal relative influence score from 2019 will be taken into account.

For the Humanities (according to Appendix 5)

After obtaining the PhD title, the accumulation of a minimum of 50 points from authored books (1 and 2), collective volumes (3 and 4), studies in scientific journals or in collective volumes (5 and 6), quantified according to the following table and the attached notes.

Publication	Category	Place of publishing		Qualitative standard	Number of entries in KVK catalogue	Score/ Publication
Authored books. Books of theories of interpretation, respectively that of the musical composition. Reference catalogues for visual arts and architecture. Critical editions of sources with special editing difficulty.	(1)	Publishing house from abroad (excepting the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary)			≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**100** **80** **70** **60**
	(2)	Publishing house from Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary		CNCS - category A	≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**80** **70** **60** **40**
				CNCS - category B	≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**70** **60** **50** **40**
				Publishing house from, Hungary and the Republic of Moldavia	≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**70** **60** **50** **40**
Editing a) study volumes; b) thematic supplements of some journals; c) dictionaries/ encyclopaedia	(3)	Publishing house from abroad (excepting the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary)			≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**70** **60** **50** **40**
	(4)	Publishing house from Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary		1. (CNCS) – A and B categories 2. Thematic suppliments of some CNCS journals A and B categories. 3. Publishing house and thematic suppliments of some journals from Hungary and the Republic of Moldavia	≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**60** **50** **40** **30**
Studies/Specialty articles published in:	(5)	Indexed journals in: (except for thematic suppliments)	(5.1) Web of Science Arts & Humanities Citation Index	regardless of the publication place		**30**
			(5.2) Social Sciences Citation Index	relative influence score>=0,25		
			(5.3) Science Citation Index	relative influence score>=0,5		
			(5.4) ERIH PLUS	Published ouside Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary		
			(5.5) SCOPUS	Published ouside Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary		
			(5.6) CNCS	CNCS - category A		
		Collective volumes published by a publishing house	(5.7) Abroad (excepting Hungary and the Republic of		≥ 20	

		from:	Moldavia)			
			(5.8) Romania	CNCS - category A	≥ 10	
	(6)	Journals indexed in:	CNCS	CNCS - category B		**20**
		Collective volumes published in a publishing house from Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary and thematic suppliments of journals from these countries		(6.1) CNCS publishing houses – B category (6.2) Thematic suppliments of some CNCS journals – A and B categories	≥ 10	
				(6.3) Publishing houses from Hungary and the Republic of Moldavia (6.4) Thematic suppliments of some journals from Hungary and the Republic of Moldavia	≥ 10	

Notes:

1. The 50 points must be achieved at least partially from publications related to categories (1), (3), (5.1), (5.2), (5.3), (5.4), (5.5) and (5.7)
2. The CNCS classifications are:

a) journals: http://www.cncs-nrc.ro/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/categorii.Reviste.CNCS_.2020.2.pdf

b) publishing houses: http://www.cncs-nrc.ro/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/categorii.Edituri.Site_.CNCS_.2020.pdf

3. For articles published in journals and thematic supplements of some journals, only those available online in CEEOL, WoS/Clarivate Analytics or other databases/digital libraries will be taken into account. Confirmation links will be attached for this category of publications.
4. For the entries in the KVK catalogue, https://kvk.bibliothek.kit.edu/index.html?lang=en&digitalOnly=0&embedFulltitle=0&newTab=0, only the libraries from states from the European Union (without Romania and Hungary), Australia, Canada, Chile, South Koreea, Switzerland, Islanda, Israel, Japan, Great Britain, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, The United States of America, Russia, Turkey will be taken into consideration.
5. For the entries in KVK catalogue, the libraries' lists will be attached.
6. The score for each category of publications is divided equally to the number of authors/publishers.
7. The calculation of the score is taken into account only after the condition of identity between the domain of application and the domain of quotation of the publishing house or journal by CNCS is fulfilled.
8. Critical edition of sources with special difficulty of editing means the publication of a volume containing relevant documentary sources for at least one discipline in the humanities, whose origins have no time restriction if they come from manuscripts, and the editing involved the following activities: 1. (re)establishing the original text; 2. editing the text by using special paleographic/epigraphic/linguistic knowledge; 3. elaboration of an introductory contextualizing study and ample explanatory notes.

APPENDIX 2 – Funding application PN-III-DCD-RU-TE-2021-3

The document uses Times New Roman font type, 12 font size, 1.5 line spacing and 2 cm margins. Any modification to these parameters (excepting the tables, figures or their captions) is forbidden. The pages exceeding the established limits will not be taken into consideration in the evaluation process. The imposed number of pages (Section 3 – Funding application) does not contain the bibliographic reference; these will be written on additional pages. For each section, the text marking the information and the mandatory sections of the application will be maintained.

A. General information

The title of the project (maximum 150 characters, including the spaces):

Project acronym:

Abstract (maximum 1500 de characters, including the spaces):

Project leader and the Host institution:

Name:

Previous names (if any):

Surname:

Date of birth:

PhD from year:

Phone number:

E-mail address:

Host institution of the project:

Institution name:

Institution address:

Composition of the research team (nominated team members/the structure of the team in case this is not nominated):

The domains of the project[7] (according to Appendix 5):

(The main chosen domain represents the domain of the project proposal)

Domain:

Sub-domain:

Main research area:

Secondary research area:

Secondary research area (optional):

Keywords:

[7] For the project proposals incorrectly assigned by the project leader there is the possibility for UEFISCDI to reappoint them by domains, according to the proposal of the expert evaluators/panel of expert evaluators.

1:

2:

3:

4 (optional):

5 (optional):

Project duration: min. 18 moths, max. 24 months

Total budget requested: maximum 450.000 lei

B. Project leader

B1. Important scientific achievements of the project leader (maximum 2 pages)

The most important contributions of the project leader in her or his research field (e.g. findings or results that have led significantly to a better knowledge in the field, demonstrated trough publications and patents) will be presented.

B2. The visibility and the impact of the scientific contribution of the project leader

The following categories of information will be presented:

a) *Total number of citations (without self-citations) according to Web of Science Core Collection;*
b) *Hirsch index, according to Web of Science Core Collection;*
c) *Personal link from the www.brainmap.ro platform;*
d) *The profile address from at least one of the following will be indicated: Scopus Author ID, ORCID, Researcher ID, Google Scholar, MR Author ID;*
e) *The most representative publications (max. 10). A maximum number of 10 works in total will be indicated, regardless of their type. If more than 10 papers are indicated in this section, the project proposal will be excluded from the competition.*

For Natural Sciences, Exact Sciences, Engineering Sciences and Social and Economic Sciences: *The most relevant papers of the project leader (maximum 10) will be indicated, where the following can be included:*

Articles*: The most relevant articles published by the project leader will be indicated. Articles accepted for publishing can also be indicated, mentioning the acceptance date. The evaluation will mainly follow the articles where the project leader is the main author, but if there are papers published as co-author which the project leader considers to be relevant for her/his scientific production, these can also be indicated. The presentation format is the following:*

Identification data:	Authors. *Title of the article*, Title of the Journal /Conference, Volume, Pages (year of publication), category (Q1; Q2 etc)
Is she/he the main author?	YES / NO (according to Appendix 6)
Is it in the project domain?	YES / NO
Number of citations:	According to Web of Science Core Collection (see Appendix

	6) **Self-citations** excluded, according to Web of Science Core Collection.
DOI (Digital Object Identifier)	*optional*

***Monographs**: Only the scientific monographs published by international prestigous publishing houses will be indicated. School or university textbooks will not be taken into consideration, even if they are published by international prestigous publishing houses. The presentation format is the following:*

Identification data:	Authors. *Book title*, Publishing house title (year of publication)
Is it in the project domain?	YES / NO
Number of libraries according to world catalogue Karlsruher Virtueller Katalog (KVK).	See https://kvk.bibliothek.kit.edu/index.html?lang=en&digitalOnly=0&embedFulltitle=0&newTab=0
University libraries	Names of the most important university libraries (maximum 10) that purchased the monography (according to https://kvk.bibliothek.kit.edu/index.html?lang=en&digitalOnly=0&embedFulltitle=0&newTab=0 or according to the university library catalogue)

***Patents**: The patents/utility models with techonogical transfer obtained in other countries from the European Union or in countries member of OCDE will be especially indicated. The presentation format is the following:*

Identification data:	Authors. *Title of the patent/utility model* (granting year)
Issuing patent bureau	
Is it in the project domain?	YES / NO

***For Humanities:** The most important (maximum 10) works will be indicated: books, chapters, articles, critical editions, dictionaries, or encyclopedias. The presentation format is the following:*

Identification data:	For books/critical editions/collective volumes edited: Author/authors Name, Surname, *Full title*, City, Publishing house, Year, number of pages. Number of library entries from other EU member states or OECD member states (https://kvk.bibliothek.kit.edu/index.html?lang=en&digitalOnly=0&embedFulltitle=0&newTab=0) For articles published in journals: Author/authors Name, Surname, Full title of the article, in: „Journal title", volume number, the year of publication, issue number, p. xx – xxx. For articles/chapters published in collective volumes: Author/authors Name, Surname, Full title of the article, in: *Collective volume title*, editors Name, Surname, City, Publishing house, Year, p. xx – xxx.
Is it in the project domain?	YES / NO

Note: *The provision of false information in section B2 will lead to the exclusion of the project proposal from the competition.*

B3. The correspondence between the demonstrated experience of the project leader and the proposed theme (max. 1 page).

The relevancy of the scientific experience of the project leader (based on her/his publications) for the theme of the proposed project will be underlined.

B4. Curriculum Vitae (max. 2 pages)

Note: *Section B2 of the funding application will be public. This will be uploaded in the online submission platform, both as an integrated part of the funding application as well as filled in the online submission platform.*

C. Funding application (max. 11 pages)

In this chapter, there will be mentioned, in detail, the scientific context, the goal, the objectives, how the objectives will be implemented (project activities), deliverables and necessary resources.

C1. Motivation of the proposed theme in the current scientific context. Originality and degree of innovation

The scientific motivation of the project theme will be justified by delimiting the approached issue in the current scientific context. The following two aspects will be highlighted: (1) the importance of the issue from a scientific, technological, socio-economic or cultural point of view, the difficulty elements of the issue, the limitations of current approaches, by analysing the current state of knowledge related to the theme of the project; (2) the elements of originality and innovation that the proposed project brings to the domain, related to the current state of knowledge. If the proposed theme has been addressed in previous projects, their details (funder, name and project code, website, results obtained) will be indicated and the novelty elements in relation to previous studies will be clearly mentioned.

C2. Objectives, methodology and work plan

The approach of the project at the principle level will be presented by highlighing the following three aspects: (1) the concrete objectives of the project; (2) the proposed work strategy, including investigation methods and tools; (3) a work plan, staggered in time, which will describe the organisation of the project, in relation to the proposed objectives.

C3. Project feasibility: available resources and research team structure

Both the existing resources in the host institution, relevant for the implementation of the project (the link from the platform www.erris.gov.ro will be indicated), as well as the necessary ones that will be purchased within the project will be presented. In particular, the following aspects shall be

specified: (1) the estimation of the time allocated to the project by each member of the project team, in months/member units, in accordance with the work plan presented in section C2; (2) motivation of the adequacy of the project team and the research infrastructure available to meet the project objectives in the allocated time; for the vacancies, the expected competencies will be briefly described.

C4. Risks and alternative approaches

The potential scientific and administrative risks, as well as the approaches through which these risks would be addressed, will be described.

C5. Impact and dissemination

The expected impact of the project in the wider scientific domain will be discussed, with emphasis on the following aspects: (1) the estimated scientific results of the project, specifying the expected result indicators; (2) the potential impact of the project on the host institution, the project team, the scientific, social, economic or cultural environment (only if the last three are relevant to the domain or theme of the project) and/or the applicative directions to be explored within the project (if is applicable to the proposed research direction); (3) concrete elements of the strategy for disseminating the scientific results.

C6. Requested budget

The following aspects will be presented in detail: (1) the distribution of the budget by types of expenses and by project years must be indicated and motivated; (2) justification of the purchase of new equipment with a value higher than 60.000 lei (price without VAT), by referring to the project objectives; (3) The minimum number of hours/month to be dedicated to the project will be specified for the project leader. The types of expenses on which the budget is distributed are: personnel expenses, logistics expenses, travel expenses and indirect expenses (overheads).

Section C6 will not receive a score in the evaluation, the expert evaluators' comments associated with this sub-criterion will be used, if the project will be funded, only in the negotiation and contracting process.

Pre-calculation estimate (in lei, per calendar year):

Budget chapter	**Year I (lei)**	**Year II (lei)**	**Total budget (lei)**
Personnel expenses			
Logistics expenses			
Travel expenses			
Indirect expenses			
Total			

Pre-calculation estimate (in Euros, at the project level):

Budget chapter	Total budget (euros)
Personnel expenses	
Logistics expenses	
Travel expenses	
Indirect expenses	
Total	

C7. Bibliography

APPENDIX 3 – Minimum eligibility standards for the expert evaluators

For Natural Sciences, Exact Sciences and Engineering Sciences

Publication, after obtaining the PhD title, as main author (according to **Appendix 6**), of some articles in journals that each have a relative influence score[8] at least equal to 1 and whose cumulative relative influence score is at least equal to 6. These articles must be published in journals indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection, strictly framed with the type of the document (document type) article or review. Double-framed articles: "article; proceedings paper" are not taken into account, except in the case of applications within the Engineering Sciences (according to **Appendix 5**).

As an exception, for the IT domain (PE6 sub-domain), an expert evaluator is considered eligible on the basis of citations that her/his publications, after obtaining a PhD title, as main author (according to **Appendix 6**), obtained in indexed journals in Web of Science Core Collection, provided that the **citing journals** each have a relative influence score of at least 1, and the relative influence score of the citing journals, cumulative for all citations taken into account, is at least 18. Self-citations (as defined in **Appendix 6**) are not taken into account.

For Social and Economic Sciences (according to Appendix 5)

Accumulation of at least 200 points from papers published, after obtaining the PhD title, from the following categories:

1. **Books published** as author or co-author, including edited books: 60 points x S points for each book (where S=1 for main author; S = 0,5 for co-author);
2. **Chapters published** as author or co-author in collective volumes: 30 points x S points for each chapter (where S=1 for main author; S = 0,5 for co-author);
3. **Articles published as the author** (according to **Appendix 6**) in journals that each has a relative influence score of at least 1. These articles must be published in journals indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection, strictly framed by type of document (*document type*) *article or review*. For each such article, the following score is awarded: 50 points × S points x relative influence score (where S=1 for main author; S=0,5 for co-author).

Notes:

1. For categories 1 and 2: only papers published in the list of publishing houses available at the following link will be taken into account:
https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/resource-829619-edituri_recunsocute_cncs_stiinte_sociale_2020.pdf
2. In the case a publication has more authors, the score will be divided as follows:
   - if $2 \leq n \leq 5$, at n/2,
   - if $6 \leq n \leq 80$, at (n + 3)/3,
   - if $n \geq 81$, at 28.

   Where n is the number of the publication authors.
3. The 200 points must be achieved at least in part from the publications where the expert evaluator is the main author.

[8]The relative influence score of the journals is defined in **Appendix 6** and can be found on the UEFISCDI website, at https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/scientometrie-baze-de-date. The relative influence score of the journal at the time of publication of the article is taken into account.
For articles published before 2012, the journal relative influence score from 2012 will be taken into account.
For articles published in 2020-2021, the journal relative influence score from 2019 will be taken into account.

For the Humanities (according to Appendix 5)

After obtaining the PhD title, the accummulation of a minimum of 200 points from authored books (1 and 2), collective volumes (3 and 4), studies in scientific journals or in collective volumes (5 and 6), quantified according to the following table and the attached notes.

Publication	Category	Place of publishing		Qualitative standard	Number of entries in KVK catalogue	Score/ Publication
Authored books. Books of theories of interpretation, respectively that of the musical composition. Reference catalogues for visual arts and architecture. Critical editions of sources with special editing difficulty.	(1)	Publishing house from abroad (excepting the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary)			≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**100** **80** **70** **60**
	(2)	Publishing house from Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary		CNCS - category A	≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**80** **70** **60** **40**
				CNCS - category B	≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**70** **60** **50** **40**
				Publishing house from, Hungary and the Republic of Moldavia	≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**70** **60** **50** **40**
Editing a) study volumes; b) thematic supplements of some journals; c) dictionaries/ encyclopaedia	(3)	Publishing house from abroad (excepting the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary)			≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**70** **60** **50** **40**
	(4)	Publishing house from Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary		1. (CNCS) – A and B categories 2. Thematic suppliments of some CNCS journals A and B categories. 3. Publishing house and thematic suppliments of some journals from Hungary and the Republic of Moldavia	≥ 60 ≥ 35 ≥ 20 ≥ 10	**60** **50** **40** **30**
Studies/Specialty articles published in:	(5)	Indexed journals in: (except for thematic suppliments)	(5.1) Web of Science Arts & Humanities Citation Index	regardless of the publication place		**30**
			(5.2) Social Sciences Citation Index	relative influence score>=0,25		
			(5.3) Science Citation Index	relative influence score>=0,5		
			(5.4) ERIH PLUS	Published ouside Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary		
			(5.5) SCOPUS	Published ouside Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary		
			(5.6) CNCS	CNCS - category A		
		Collective volumes published by a publishing house from:	(5.7) Abroad (excepting Hungary and the Republic of Moldavia)		≥ 20	

			(5.8) Romania	CNCS - category A	≥ 10	
	(6)	Journals indexed in:	CNCS	CNCS - category B		**20**
		Collective volumes published in a publishing house from Romania, the Republic of Moldavia and Hungary and thematic suppliments of journals from these countries		(6.1) CNCS publishing houses – B category (6.2) Thematic suppliments of some CNCS journals – A and B categories	≥ 10	
				(6.3) Publishing houses from Hungary and the Republic of Moldavia (6.4) Thematic suppliments of some journals from Hungary and the Republic of Moldavia	≥ 10	

Notes:

1. The 200 points must be achieved at least partially from publications related to categories (1), (3), (5.1), (5.2), (5.3), (5.4), (5.5) and (5.7)
2. The CNCS classifications are:

a) journals: http://www.cncs-nrc.ro/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/categorii.Reviste.CNCS_.2020.2.pdf

b) publishing houses:

http://www.cncs-nrc.ro/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/categorii.Edituri.Site_.CNCS_.2020.pdf

3. For articles published in journals and thematic supplements of some journals, only those available online in CEEOL, WoS/Clarivate Analytics or other databases/digital libraries will be taken into account. Confirmation links will be attached for this category of publications.
4. For the entries in the KVK catalogue, https://kvk.bibliothek.kit.edu/index.html?lang=en&digitalOnly=0&embedFulltitle=0&newTab=0, only the libraries from states from the European Union (without Romania and Hungary), Australia, Canada, Chile, South Koreea, Switzerland, Islanda, Israel, Japan, Great Britain, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, The United States of America, Russia, Turkey will be taken into consideration.
5. For the entries in KVK catalogue, the libraries' lists and will be attached.
6. The score for each category of publications is divided equally to the number of authors/publishers.
7. The calculation of the score is taken into account only after the condition of identity between the domain of application and the domain of quotation of the publishing house or journal by CNCS is fulfilled.
8. Critical edition of sources with special difficulty of editing means the publication of a volume containing relevant documentary sources for at least one discipline in the humanities, whose origins have no time restriction if they come from manuscripts, and the editing involved the following activities: 1. (re)establishing the original text; 2. editing the text by using special paleographic/epigraphic/linguistic knowledge; 3. elaboration of an introductory contextualizing study and ample explanatory notes.

APPENDIX 4 – Evaluation sheet

Please deliver your comments for each sub-criterion as a bullet point list of strengths (+) and weaknesses (-).

1. Principal Investigator (PI) - 40% of the total score;

1.1 Quality of the PI's research output - 40% of the total score of Criterion 1 *(see sections B1 and B4)*

Evaluate to what extend the PI's research has led to progress in their field of expertise, in general (i.e. not only in the narrow field/theme of the project). Comment on the importance of the PI's scientific discoveries, as reflected in their track record or other achievements.

1.2 Visibility and impact of the PI's research output - 30% of the total score of Criterion 1 *(see section B2)*

Evaluate to what extent the PI's scientific output is internationally recognized. Comment on the international visibility of the PI's scientific output as reflected, for example, in citations in top journals, citation number, H-index and/or ranking (Q1-Q4) of their published work.

(in the case of the Humanities, please take into account the relevance and impact of the journals and publishers for the professional sub-field of the PI, as well as the presence of specific publications in the online catalogues of major international libraries).

(in the field of Mathematics, while the use of numerical indicators in evaluating the PI is permitted, it is not particularly encouraged. The evaluation of this criterion should not be based exclusively on such indicators, and should vastly include the evaluator's objective assessment of the intrinsic value of the PI's scientific contributions and its actual impact on advancing the state-of-the-art in the specific mathematical field).

(for 1.2. please see statistical charts of H-index, citations and Q1/Q2 articles of all competing PIs, for use if relevant)

(for 1.1.-1.2. please take into account the scientific output in relation to the current career stage of the PI)

1.3 Match between the PI's previous research output and proposed topic - 30% of the total score of Criterion 1

(see section B3)

Evaluate to what extend the PI's research output is relevant for the present project. Comment on how the previously published work or previous projects of the PI relates to the proposed research.

2. Research Project - 60% of the total score

2.1 State-of-the-art and originality/innovation - 30% of the total score of Criterion 2

(see section C1)

Evaluate whether the problem addressed by the project is clearly identified in relation to the state-of-the-art in the field. Comment on the originality and novelty of the proposed solution. If previous projects of the applicant addressing a similar topic are mentioned, comment on the novel aspects investigated in the present project.

2.2 Research objectives, methodology and work plan - 30% of the total score of Criterion 2

(see section C2)

Evaluate the clarity and coherence of the scientific objectives. To what extent is the proposed methodological approach suitable for reaching these objectives? How effective is the work plan

(timelines, milestones, deliverables) in terms of achieving the proposed objectives? Comment on the coherence of the approach in terms of activities and time scales.

2.3 Feasibility (resources and research team) - 20% of the total score of Criterion 2

(see section C3)

To what extent the infrastructural support and human resource (research team) available at the host institution will ensure successful implementation of the project?

2.4 Risks and contingency plans - 10% of the total score of Criterion 2

(see section C4)

To what extent the risk analysis correctly identifies potential pitfalls? Also comment on the effectiveness of the alternative solutions proposed.

2.5 Expected impact and dissemination plan - 10% of the total score of Criterion 2

(see section C5)

To what extent is the expected scientific output of the proposed work realistically described and how likely is it to lead to significant progress in the field? How will the proposed research impact (the visibility of) the host institution, PI and research team? Also, comment on the quality of the proposed measures to disseminate the scientific output of the proposal. Social, economic, or cultural impact should be considered only if relevant for the proposed research.

3. Budget; this section will not be scored

(see section C6)

Please provide an overall assessment of the research budget requested and evaluate to what extent it is justified by the proposed research activities. There will be no score associated with this criterion, but the assessment will be useful to the funding agency in negotiating the final financial award.

Please deliver your comments for each sub-criterion as a bullet point list of strengths (+) and weaknesses (-).

Recommendations for Rapporteurs:

1. Propose a score **only after** consensus has been reached on the comments; make sure that the comments are **concrete**, **complete** (i.e. address all questions) and **consistent** with the semantics of each score, namely:

0	**ABSENT**	The proposal fails to address the criterion under examination or cannot be judged due to *missing or incomplete information.*
1	**UNSATISFACTORY**	The criterion is addressed in an *inadequate manner*, or there are *serious inherent weaknesses.*
2	**SATISFACTORY**	While the proposal *broadly addresses* the criterion, there are *significant weaknesses.*
3	**GOOD**	The proposal addresses the criterion *well*, although *improvements would be necessary. A number of weaknesses/shortcomings are present.*
4	**VERY GOOD**	The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although *certain improvements are still possible. A small number of weaknesses/shortcomings are present.*
5	**EXCELLENT**	The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

2. When scoring each subcriterion use the full scale, from 0 to 5 – in 0.5 increments.
3. The scores must reflect the strengths and weaknesses and they must be in line with the comments. Scores below 5 (including 4.5**) must be in accordance with the identified weaknesses, which should be clearly indicated** in the Consensus Report!
4. Each strength and weakness must be reflected only once in the report and the scores (**no double penalty, no double reward**).

Note: The final score will be calculated as a weighted sum of the scores for each subcriteria multiplied by 20 (final score between 0 and 100);

Final grade = 20*[(s1.1*40/100 + s1.2*30/100 + s1.3*30/100)*40/100 + (s2.1*30/100 + s2.2*30/100 + s2.3*20/100 + s2.4*10/100 + s2.5*10/100)*60/100], where si.j is the score for criterion i.j

APPENDIX 5 – Scientific domains

Domain Code:	**SH**
Subdomain Code:	**SH1, SH2, SH3, SH4, SH5, SH6**
Research Area Code:	**SH1_1..SH1_12, SH2_1..SH2_14....**

DOMAIN
SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

SH1	**Individuals, Markets and Organisations:** Economics, finance and management
SH1_1	Macroeconomics; monetary economics; economic growth
SH1_2	International management; international trade; international business; spatial economics
SH1_3	Development economics, health economics, education economics
SH1_4	Financial economics; banking; corporate finance; international finance; accounting; auditing; insurance
SH1_5	Labour and demographic economics; human resource management
SH1_6	Econometrics; operations research
SH1_7	Behavioural economics; experimental economics; neuro-economics
SH1_8	Microeconomics; game theory
SH1_9	Industrial organisation; strategy; entrepreneurship
SH1_10	Management; marketing; organisational behaviour; operations management
SH1_11	Technological change, innovation, research & development
SH1_12	Agricultural economics; energy economics; environmental economics
SH1_13	Public economics; political economics; law and economics
SH1_14	Competition law, contract law, trade law, Intellectual Property Rights
SH1_15	Quantitative economic history and history of economics; institutional economics; economic systems
SH2	**Institutions, Values, Environment and Space:** Political science, law, sustainability science, geography, regional studies and planning
SH2_1	Political systems, governance
SH2_2	Democratisation and social movements
SH2_3	Conflict resolution, war, peace building
SH2_4	Constitutions, human rights, comparative law, humanitarian law, anti-discrimination law
SH2_5	International relations, global and transnational governance
SH2_6	Sustainability sciences, environment and resources
SH2_7	Environmental and climate change, societal impact and policy
SH2_8	Energy, transportation and mobility
SH2_9	Urban, regional and rural studies
SH2_10	Land use and regional planning
SH2_11	Human, economic and social geography
SH2_12	GIS, spatial analysis; big data in political, geographical and legal studies
SH3	**The Social World, Diversity, Population:** Sociology, social psychology, social anthropology, demography, education, communication
SH3_1	Social structure, social mobility
SH3_2	Inequalities, discrimination, prejudice, aggression and violence, antisocial behaviour
SH3_3	Social integration, exclusion, prosocial behaviour
SH3_4	Attitudes and beliefs
SH3_5	Social influence; power and group behaviour
SH3_6	Kinship; diversity and identities, gender, interethnic relations
SH3_7	Social policies, welfare
SH3_8	Population dynamics; households, family and fertility
SH3_9	Health, ageing and society

SH3_10	Religious studies, ritual; symbolic representation
SH3_11	Social aspects of learning, curriculum studies, educational policies
SH3_12	Communication and information, networks, media
SH3_13	Digital social research
SH3_14	Science and technology studies
SH4	**The Human Mind and its complexity:** Cognitive science, psychology, linguistics, philosophy of mind
SH4_1	Cognitive basis of human development and education, developmental disorders; comparative cognition
SH4_2	Personality and social cognition; emotion
SH4_3	Clinical and health psychology
SH4_4	Neuropsychology
SH4_5	Attention, perception, action, consciousness
SH4_6	Learning, memory; cognition in ageing
SH4_7	Reasoning, decision-making; intelligence
SH4_8	Language learning and processing (first and second languages)
SH4_9	Theoretical linguistics; computational linguistics
SH4_10	Language typology; historical linguistics
SH4_11	Pragmatics, sociolinguistics, linguistic anthropology, discourse analysis
SH4_12	Philosophy of mind, philosophy of language
SH4_13	Philosophy of science, epistemology, logic
SH5	**Cultures and Cultural Production:** Literature, philology, cultural studies, study of the arts, philosophy
SH5_1	Classics, ancient literature and art
SH5_2	Theory and history of literature, comparative literature
SH5_3	Philology and palaeography
SH5_4	Visual and performing arts, film, design
SH5_5	Music and musicology; history of music
SH5_6	History of art and architecture, arts-based research
SH5_7	Museums, exhibitions, conservation and restoration
SH5_8	Cultural studies, cultural identities and memories, cultural heritage
SH5_9	Metaphysics, philosophical anthropology; aesthetics
SH5_10	Ethics; social and political philosophy
SH5_11	History of philosophy
SH5_12	Computational modelling and digitisation in the cultural sphere
SH6	**The Study of the Human Past:** Archaeology and history
SH6_1	Historiography, theory and methods in history, including the analysis of digital data
SH6_2	Classical archaeology, history of archaeology
SH6_3	General archaeology, archaeometry, landscape archaeology
SH6_4	Prehistory, palaeoanthropology, palaeodemography, protohistory
SH6_5	Ancient history
SH6_6	Medieval history
SH6_7	Early modern history
SH6_8	Modern and contemporary history
SH6_9	Colonial and post-colonial history
SH6_10	Global history, transnational history, comparative history, entangled histories
SH6_11	Social and economic history
SH6_12	Gender history; cultural history; history of collective identities and memories
SH6_13	History of ideas, intellectual history, history of economic thought
SH6_14	History of science, medicine and technologies

DOMAIN
MATHEMATICS, PHYSICAL SCIENCES, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION, ENGINEERING, UNIVERSE AND EARTH SCIENCES

PE1	**Mathematical foundations:** all areas of mathematics, pure and applied, plus mathematical foundations of computer science, mathematical physics and statistics
PE1_1	Logic and foundations
PE1_2	Algebra
PE1_3	Number theory
PE1_4	Algebraic and complex geometry
PE1_5	Lie groups, Lie algebras
PE1_6	Geometry and Global Analysis
PE1_7	Topology
PE1_8	Analysis
PE1_9	Operator algebras and functional analysis
PE1_10	ODE and dynamical systems
PE1_11	Theoretical aspects of partial differential equations
PE1_12	Mathematical physics
PE1_13	Probability
PE1_14	Statistics
PE1_15	Discrete mathematics and combinatorics
PE1_16	Mathematical aspects of computer science
PE1_17	Numerical analysis
PE1_18	Scientific computing and data processing
PE1_19	Control theory and optimisation
PE1_20	Application of mathematics in sciences
PE1_21	Application of mathematics in industry and society
PE2	**Fundamental constituents of matter:** particle, nuclear, plasma, atomic, molecular, gas, and optical physics
PE2_1	Fundamental interactions and fields
PE2_2	Particle physics
PE2_3	Nuclear physics
PE2_4	Nuclear astrophysics
PE2_5	Gas and plasma physics
PE2_6	Electromagnetism
PE2_7	Atomic, molecular physics
PE2_8	Ultra-cold atoms and molecules
PE2_9	Optics, non-linear optics and nano-optics
PE2_10	Quantum optics and quantum information
PE2_11	Lasers, ultra-short lasers and laser physics
PE2_12	Relativity
PE2_13	Thermodynamics
PE2_14	Non-linear physics
PE2_15	Metrology and measurement
PE2_16	Statistical physics (gases
PE3	**Condensed matter physics:** structure, electronic properties, fluids, nanosciences, biological physics
PE3_1	Structure of solids, material growth and characterisation
PE3_2	Mechanical and acoustical properties of condensed matter, Lattice dynamics
PE3_3	Transport properties of condensed matter
PE3_4	Electronic properties of materials, surfaces, interfaces, nanostructures, etc.

PE3_5	Physical properties of semiconductors and insulators
PE3_6	Macroscopic quantum phenomena: superconductivity, superfluidity, etc.
PE3_7	Spintronics
PE3_8	Magnetism and strongly correlated systems
PE3_9	Condensed matter – beam interactions (photons, electrons, etc.)
PE3_10	Nanophysics: nanoelectronics, nanophotonics, nanomagnetism, nanoelectromechanics, etc.
PE3_11	Mesoscopic physics
PE3_12	Molecular electronics
PE3_13	Structure and dynamics of disordered systems: soft matter (gels, colloids, liquid crystals, etc.), liquids, glasses, defects, etc.
PE3_14	Fluid dynamics (physics)
PE3_15	Statistical physics: phase transitions, noise and fluctuations, models of complex systems, etc
PE3_16	Physics of biological systems
PE4	**Physical and Analytical Chemical sciences:** analytical chemistry, chemical theory, physical chemistry/chemical physics
PE4_1	Physical chemistry
PE4_2	Spectroscopic and spectrometric techniques
PE4_3	Molecular architecture and Structure
PE4_4	Surface science and nanostructures
PE4_5	Analytical chemistry
PE4_6	Chemical physics
PE4_7	Chemical instrumentation
PE4_8	Electrochemistry, electrodialysis, microfluidics, sensors
PE4_9	Method development in chemistry
PE4_10	Heterogeneous catalysis
PE4_11	Physical chemistry of biological systems
PE4_12	Chemical reactions: mechanisms, dynamics, kinetics and catalytic reactions
PE4_13	Theoretical and computational chemistry
PE4_14	Radiation and Nuclear chemistry
PE4_15	Photochemistry
PE4_16	Corrosion
PE4_17	Characterisation methods of materials
PE4_18	Environment chemistry
PE5	**Synthetic Chemistry and Materials:** Materials synthesis, structure-properties relations, functional and advanced materials, molecular architecture, organic chemistry
PE5_1	Structural properties of materials
PE5_2	Solid state materials
PE5_3	Surface modification
PE5_4	Thin films
PE5_5	Ionic liquids
PE5_6	New materials: oxides, alloys, composite, organic-inorganic hybrid, nanoparticles
PE5_7	Biomaterials, biomaterials synthesis
PE5_8	Intelligent materials – self assembled materials
PE5_9	Coordination chemistry
PE5_10	Colloid chemistry
PE5_11	Biological chemistry
PE5_12	Chemistry of condensed matter
PE5_13	Homogeneous catalysis
PE5_14	Macromolecular chemistry
PE5_15	Polymer chemistry
PE5_16	Supramolecular chemistry

PE5_17	Organic chemistry
PE5_18	Medicinal chemistry
PE6	**Computer science and informatics:** informatics and information systems, computer science, scientific computing, intelligent systems
PE6_1	Computer architecture, pervasive computing, ubiquitous computing
PE6_2	Computer systems, parallel/distributed systems, sensor networks, embedded systems, cyber-physical systems
PE6_3	Software engineering, operating systems, computer languages
PE6_4	Theoretical computer science, formal methods, and quantum computing
PE6_5	Cryptology, security, privacy, quantum cryptography
PE6_6	Algorithms, distributed, parallel and network algorithms, algorithmic game theory
PE6_7	Artificial intelligence, intelligent systems, multi agent systems
PE6_8	Computer graphics, computer vision, multi media, computer games
PE6_9	Human computer interaction and interface, visualisation and natural language processing
PE6_10	Web and information systems, database systems, information retrieval and digital libraries, data fusion
PE6_11	Machine learning, statistical data processing and applications using signal processing (e.g. speech, image, video)
PE6_12	Scientific computing, simulation and modelling tools
PE6_13	Bioinformatics, biocomputing, and DNA and molecular computation
PE7	**Systems and communication engineering:** electronic, communication, optical and systems engineering
PE7_1	Control engineering
PE7_2	Electrical engineering: power components and/or systems
PE7_3	Simulation engineering and modelling
PE7_4	(Micro- and nano-) systems engineering
PE7_5	(Micro- and nano-) electronic, optoelectronic and photonic components
PE7_6	Communication technology, high-frequency technology
PE7_7	Signal processing
PE7_8	Networks (communication networks, sensor networks, networks of robots, etc.)
PE7_9	Man-machine interfaces
PE7_10	Robotics
PE7_11	Components and systems for applications (in e.g. medicine, biology, environment)
PE7_12	Electrical energy production, distribution, application
PE8	**Products and process engineering:** Product design, process design and control, construction methods, civil engineering, energy processes, material engineering
PE8_1	Aerospace engineering
PE8_2	Chemical engineering, technical chemistry
PE8_3	Civil engineering, maritime/hydraulic engineering, geotechnics, waste treatment
PE8_4	Computational engineering
PE8_5	Fluid mechanics, hydraulic-, turbo-, and piston engines
PE8_6	Energy processes engineering
PE8_7	Mechanical and manufacturing engineering (shaping, mounting, joining, separation)
PE8_8	Materials engineering (biomaterials, metals, ceramics, polymers, composites, etc.)
PE8_9	Production technology, process engineering
PE8_10	Industrial design (product design, ergonomics, man-machine interfaces, etc.)
PE8_11	Sustainable design (for recycling, for environment, eco-design)
PE8_12	Lightweight construction, textile technology
PE8_13	Industrial bioengineering
PE9	**Universe sciences:** astro-physics/chemistry/biology; solar system; stellar, galactic and extragalactic astronomy, planetary systems, cosmology; space science, instrumentation
PE9_1	Solar and interplanetary physics
PE9_2	Planetary systems sciences

PE9_3	Interstellar medium
PE9_4	Formation of stars and planets
PE9_5	Astrobiology
PE9_6	Stars and stellar systems
PE9_7	The Galaxy
PE9_8	Formation and evolution of galaxies
PE9_9	Clusters of galaxies and large scale structures
PE9_10	High energy and particles astronomy – X-rays, cosmic rays, gamma rays, neutrinos
PE9_11	Relativistic astrophysics
PE9_12	Dark matter, dark energy
PE9_13	Gravitational astronomy
PE9_14	Cosmology
PE9_15	Space Sciences
PE9_16	Very large data bases: archiving, handling and analysis
PE9_17	Instrumentation - telescopes, detectors and techniques
PE10	**Earth system science:** Physical geography, geology, geophysics, atmospheric sciences, oceanography, climatology, cryology, ecology, global environmental change, biogeochemical cycles, natural resources management
PE10_1	Atmospheric chemistry, atmospheric composition, air pollution
PE10_2	Meteorology, atmospheric physics and dynamics
PE10_3	Climatology and climate change
PE10_4	Terrestrial ecology, land cover change,
PE10_5	Geology, tectonics, volcanology,
PE10_6	Paleoclimatology, paleoecology
PE10_7	Physics of earth's interior, seismology, volcanology
PE10_8	Oceanography (physical, chemical, biological)
PE10_9	Biogeochemistry, biogeochemical cycles, environmental chemistry
PE10_10	Mineralogy, petrology, igneous petrology, metamorphic petrology
PE10_11	Geochemistry, crystal chemistry, isotope geochemistry, thermodynamics,
PE10_12	Sedimentology, soil science, palaeontology, earth evolution
PE10_13	Physical geography
PE10_14	Earth observations from space/remote sensing
PE10_15	Geomagnetism, paleomagnetism
PE10_16	Ozone, upper atmosphere, ionosphere
PE10_17	Hydrology, water and soil pollution
PE10_18	Cryosphere, dynamics of snow and ice cover, sea ice, permafrosts and ice sheets

DOMAIN
LIFE SCIENCES

LS1	**Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Structural Biology and Molecular Biophysics:** Molecular synthesis, modification, mechanisms and interactions, biochemistry, structural biology, molecular biophysics signalling pathways
LS1_1	Macromolecular complexes including interactions involving nucleic acids, proteins, lipids and carbohydrates
LS1_2	Biochemistry
LS1_3	DNA synthesis, modification, repair, recombination, degradation
LS1_4	RNA synthesis, processing, modification, degradation
LS1_5	Protein synthesis, modification, turnover
LS1_6	Lipid biology
LS1_7	Glycobiology
LS1_8	Molecular biophysics (e.g. single-molecule approaches, bioenergetics, fluorescence)
LS1_9	Structural biology and its methodologies (e.g. crystallography, cryo-EM, NMR and new technologies)
LS1_10	Molecular mechanisms of signalling pathways
LS1_11	Fundamental aspects of synthetic biology and chemical biology
LS2	**Genetics, 'Omics', Bioinformatics and Systems Biology:** Molecular genetics, quantitative genetics, genetic epidemiology, epigenetics, genomics, metagenomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, glycomics, bioinformatics, computational biology, biostatistics, systems biology
LS2_1	Molecular genetics, reverse genetics, forward genetics, genome editing
LS2_2	Non-coding RNAs
LS2_3	Quantitative genetics
LS2_4	Genetic epidemiology
LS2_5	Epigenetics and gene regulation
LS2_6	Genomics (e.g. comparative genomics, functional genomics)
LS2_7	Metagenomics
LS2_8	Transcriptomics
LS2_9	Proteomics
LS2_10	Metabolomics
LS2_11	Glycomics/Lipidomics
LS2_12	Bioinformatics
LS2_13	Computational biology
LS2_14	Biostatistics
LS2_15	Systems biology
LS3	**Cellular and Developmental Biology:** Cell biology, cell physiology, signal transduction, organogenesis, developmental genetics, pattern formation and stem cell biology, in plants and animals, or, where appropriate, in microorganisms
LS3_1	Morphology and functional imaging of cells and tissues
LS3_2	Cytoskeleton and cell behaviour (e.g. control of cell shape, cell migration and cellular mechanosensing)
LS3_3	Organelle biology and trafficking
LS3_4	Cell junctions, cell adhesion, cell communication and the extracellular matrix
LS3_5	Cell signalling and signal transduction
LS3_6	Cell cycle, division and growth
LS3_7	Cell death (including senescence) and autophagy
LS3_8	Cell differentiation, physiology and dynamics
LS3_9	Developmental genetics in animals and plants
LS3_10	Embryology and pattern formation in animals and plants
LS3_11	Tissue organisation and morphogenesis in animals and plants (including biophysical approaches)
LS3_12	Stem cell biology in development, tissue regeneration and ageing, and fundamental aspects of stem cell-based

	therapies
LS4	**Physiology, Pathophysiology and Endocrinology:** Organ physiology, pathophysiology, endocrinology, metabolism, ageing, tumorigenesis, cardiovascular diseases, metabolic syndromes
LS4_1	Organ physiology and pathophysiology
LS4_2	Comparative physiology and pathophysiology
LS4_3	Molecular aspects of endocrinology
LS4_4	Fundamental mechanisms underlying ageing
LS4_5	Metabolism, biological basis of metabolism-related disorders
LS4_6	Fundamental mechanisms underlying cancer
LS4_7	Fundamental mechanisms underlying cardiovascular diseases
LS4_8	Non-communicable diseases (except for neural/psychiatric and immunity-related diseases)
LS5	**Neurosciences and neural disorders:** Neural cell function and signalling, systems neuroscience, neural bases of cognitive and behavioural processes, neurological and psychiatric disorders
LS5_1	Neural cell function, communication and signalling, neurotransmission in neuronal and/or glial cells
LS5_2	Systems neuroscience and computational neuroscience (e.g. neural networks, neural modelling)
LS5_3	Neuronal development, plasticity and regeneration
LS5_4	Sensation and perception (e.g. sensory systems, sensory processing, pain)
LS5_5	Neural bases of cognitive processes (e.g. memory, learning, attention)
LS5_6	Neural bases of behaviour (e.g. sleep, consciousness, addiction)
LS5_7	Neurological disorders (e.g. neurodegenerative diseases, seizures)
LS5_8	Psychiatric disorders (e.g. affective and anxiety disorders, autism, psychotic disorders)
LS5_9	Neurotrauma and neurovascular conditions (including injury, blood-brain barrier, stroke, neurorehabilitation)
LS6	**Immunity and infection:** The immune system and related disorders, biology of infectious agents and infection, biological basis of prevention and treatment of infectious diseases
LS6_1	Innate immunity in animals and plants
LS6_2	Adaptive immunity
LS6_3	Regulation and effector functions of the immune response (e.g. cytokines, interferons and chemokines, inflammation, immune signalling, helper T cells, immunological memory, immunological tolerance, cell-mediated cytotoxicity, complement)
LS6_4	Immunological mechanisms in disease (e.g. autoimmunity, allergy, transplantation immunology, tumour immunology)
LS6_5	Biology of pathogens (e.g. bacteria, viruses, parasites, fungi)
LS6_6	Mechanisms of infection (e.g. transmission, virulence factors, host defences, immunity to pathogens, molecular pathogenesis)
LS6_7	Biological basis of prevention and treatment of infection (e.g. infection natural cycle, reservoirs, vectors, vaccines, antimicrobials)
LS6_8	Infectious diseases in animals and plants
LS7	**Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies and Public Health**: Development of tools for diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of diseases, pharmacology, clinical medicine, regenerative medicine, epidemiology and public health
LS7_1	Imaging for medical diagnosis
LS7_2	Genetic tools for medical diagnosis
LS7_3	Other medical technologies for diagnosis and monitoring of diseases
LS7_4	Pharmacology and pharmacogenomics (including drug discovery and design, drug delivery and therapy, toxicology)
LS7_5	Applied gene and cell therapies, regenerative medicine
LS7_6	Radiation therapy
LS7_7	Analgesia and surgery
LS7_8	Epidemiology and public health
LS7_9	Environmental health, occupational medicine
LS7_10	Health services, health care research, medical ethics
LS8	**Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology**: Population, community and ecosystem ecology, evolutionary biology, behavioural ecology, microbial ecology

LS8_1	Ecosystem and community ecology, macroecology
LS8_2	Biodiversity, conservation biology, conservation genetics
LS8_3	Population biology, population dynamics, population genetics
LS8_4	Evolutionary ecology
LS8_5	Evolutionary genetics
LS8_6	Phylogenetics, systematics, comparative biology
LS8_7	Macroevolution, paleobiology
LS8_8	Coevolution, biological mechanisms and ecology of species interactions (e.g. symbiosis, parasitism, mutualism, food-webs)
LS8_9	Behavioural ecology and evolution
LS8_10	Microbial ecology and evolution
LS8_11	Marine biology and ecology
LS9	**Applied Life Sciences, Biotechnology, and Molecular and Biosystems Engineering**: Applied plant and animal sciences, forestry, food sciences, applied biotechnology, environmental, and marine biotechnology, applied bioengineering, biomass and biofuels, biohazards
LS9_1	Applied biotechnology (including transgenic organisms, applied genetics and genomics, biosensors, bioreactors, microbiology, bioactive compounds)
LS9_2	Applied bioengineering, synthetic biology, chemical biology, nanobiotechnology, metabolic engineering, protein and glyco-engineering, tissue engineering, biocatalysis, biomimetics
LS9_3	Applied animal sciences (including animal breeding, veterinary sciences, animal husbandry, animal welfare, aquaculture, fisheries, insect gene drive)
LS9_4	Applied plant sciences (including crop production, plant breeding, agroecology, forestry, soil biology)
LS9_5	Food sciences (including food technology, food safety, nutrition)
LS9_6	Biomass production and utilisation, biofuels
LS9_7	Environmental biotechnology (including bioindicators, bioremediation, biodegradation)
LS9_8	Biohazards (including biological containment, biosafety, biosecurity)
LS9_9	Marine biotechnology (including marine bioproducts, feed resources, genome mining)

The Romanian-specific research domains are Romanian language and literature and Romanian law.

The Commissions of Humanities and Social Sciences of CNCS will examine the applications submitted in Romanian and will decide on the justification for its use.

List of domains within which projects are ranked

Sub-domain title	**Cod subdomeniu**
Mathematics	PE1_1; PE1_2; PE1_3; PE1_4; PE1_5; PE1_6; PE1_7; PE1_8; PE1_9; PE1_10; PE1_11; PE1_12; PE1_13; PE1_14; PE1_15; PE1_16; PE1_17; PE1_18; PE1_19; PE1_20; PE1_21.
Informatics	PE6_1; PE6_2; PE6_3; PE6_4; PE6_5; PE6_6; PE6_7; PE6_8; PE6_9; PE6_10; PE6_11; PE6_12; PE6_13
Chemistry	PE4_1; PE4_2; PE4_3; PE4_5; PE4_6; PE4_7; PE4_8; PE4_9; PE4_11; PE4_12; PE4_13;PE4_14; PE4_15; PE4_18 PE5_9; PE5_11; PE5_13; PE5_16; PE5_17; PE5_18
Physics	PE2_1; PE2_2; PE2_3; PE2_4; PE2_5; PE2_6; PE2_7; PE2_8; PE2_9; PE2_10; PE2_11; PE2_12; PE2_13; PE2_14; PE2_15; PE2_16 PE3_1; PE3_2; PE3_3; PE3_4; PE3_5; PE3_6; PE3_7; PE3_8; PE3_9; PE3_10; PE3_11; PE3_12; PE3_13; PE3_14; PE3_15; PE3_16 PE9_1; PE9_2; PE9_3; PE9_4; PE9_5; PE9_6; PE9_7; PE9_8; PE9_9; PE9_10; PE9_11; PE9_12; PE9_13; PE9_14; PE9_15; PE9_16; PE9_17
Engineering Sciences	PE7_1; PE7_2; PE7_3; PE7_4; PE7_5; PE7_6; PE7_7; PE7_8; PE7_9; PE7_10; PE7_11; PE7_12 PE8_1; PE8_2; PE8_3; PE8_4; PE8_5; PE8_6; PE8_7; PE8_9; PE8_10; PE8_11; PE8_12; PE8_13
Material sciences	PE4_4; PE4_10; PE4_16; PE4_17; PE5_1; PE5_2; PE5_3; PE5_4; PE5_5; PE5_6; PE5_7; PE5_8; PE5_10; PE5_12; PE5_14; PE5_15; PE8_8
Earth and atmospheric sciences	PE10_1; PE10_2; PE10_3; PE10_4; PE10_5; PE10_6; PE10_7; PE10_8; PE10_9; PE10_10; PE10_11; PE10_12; PE10_13; PE10_14; PE10_15; PE10_16; PE10 _17; PE10_18
Biology and Ecology	LS1_1; LS1_2; LS1_3; LS1_4; LS1_5; LS1_6; LS1_7; LS1_8; LS1_9; LS1_10; LS1_11 LS2_1; LS2_2; LS2_3; LS2_4; LS2_5; LS2_6; LS2_7; LS2_8; LS2_9; LS2_10; LS2_11; LS2_12; LS2_13; LS2_14; LS2_15. LS3_1; LS3_2; LS3_3; LS3_4; LS3_5; LS3_6; LS3_7; LS3_8; LS3_9; LS3_10; LS3_11; LS3_12. LS4_1; LS4_2; LS4_3; LS4_4; LS4_5; LS4_6; LS4_7; LS4_8. LS5_1; LS5_2; LS5_3; LS5_4; LS5_5; LS5_6; LS5_7; LS5_8; LS5_9 LS8_1; LS8_2; LS8_3; LS8_4; LS8_5; LS8_6; LS8_7; LS8_8; LS8_9; LS8_10; LS8_11.
Health	LS6_1; LS6_2; LS6_3; LS6_4; LS6_5; LS6_6; LS6_7; LS6_8 LS7_1; LS7_2; LS7_3; LS7_4; LS7_5; LS7_6; LS7_7; LS7_8; LS7_9; LS7_10
Applied Life Sciences and	LS9_1; LS9_2; LS9_3; LS9_4; LS9_5; LS9_6; LS9_7; LS9_8;

Biotechnologies	LS9_9
Social and economic sciences	SH1_1, SH1_2, SH1_3, SH1_4, SH1_5, SH1_6, SH1_7, SH1_8, SH1_9, SH1_10, SH1_11, SH1_12, SH1_13, SH1_14, SH1_15, SH2_1, SH2_2, SH2_3, SH2_4, SH2_5, SH2_6, SH2_7, SH2_8, SH2_9, SH2_10, SH2_11, SH2_12, SH3_1, SH3_2, SH3_3, SH3_4, SH3_5, SH3_6, SH3_7, SH3_8, SH3_9, SH3_11, SH3_12, SH3_13, SH3_14, SH4_1, SH4_2, SH4_3, SH4_4, SH4_5, SH4_6, SH4_7
Humanities	SH3_10, SH4_8, SH4_9, SH4_10, SH4_11, SH4_12, SH4_13, SH5_1, SH5_2, SH5_3, SH5_4, SH5_5, SH5_6, SH5_7, SH5_8, SH5_9, SH5_10, SH5_11, SH5_12, SH6_1, SH6_2, SH6_3, SH6_4, SH6_5, SH6_6, SH6_7, SH6_8, SH6_9, SH6_10, SH6_11, SH6_12, SH6_13, SH6_14

Correspondence table between the application domain and the rating domain of the journal/publishing house by CNCS

Architecture and urbanism	SH5_6
Visual arts	SH5_4, SH5_6, SH5_7, SH5_12
Cinematography	SH5_4
Philology	SH4_8, SH4_9, SH4_10 SH4_11, SH5_1, SH5_2, SH5_3, SH5_6
Philosophy	SH4_12, SH4_13, SH5_3, SH5_9, SH5_10, SH5_11
History and cultural studies	SH5_1, SH5_3, SH5_4, SH5_8, SH6_1, SH6_2, SH6_3, SH6_4, SH6_5, SH6_6, SH6_7, SH6_8, SH6_9, SH6_10, SH6_11, SH6_12, SH6_13, SH6_14
Music	SH5_5
Theatre and show arts	SH5_4
Theology	SH3_10

APPENDIX 6 - Definitions

The main author/authors of a publication are considered to be:

a) **First author**, if the order of the authors of a publication reflects their contribution to the publication;
b) **Correspondent author** (named *reprint author* or to be found in *reprint address* in Web of Science), if this is mentioned. If for an article, in the Web of Science, several authors are indicated as reprint author or there are several authors at reprint address, then, only for the calculation of the cumulative relative influence score, the relative influence score of the journal in which the publication appeared will be divided into the total number of corresponding authors.
c) **Other authors whose contribution is explicitly mentioned** within the publication to be equal to the contribution of the first author or correspondent author. In this case, only for the calculation of the cumulative relative influence score, the relative influence score of the journal in which the publication appeared is divided by the number of authors (first or correspondents) who have an equal contribution.
d) **Last author in the case of bio-medical sciences (in addition to those mentioned in a), b) and c),** his contribution being considered equal to that of the corresponding author. In this case, only for the calculation of the cumulative relative influence score, the relative influence score of the journal in which the publication appeared is divided equally between the corresponding author and the last author. These publications must appear in journals indexed by *Journal Citation Reports in the following categories*: *Allergy; Anatomy & Morphology; Andrology; Anesthesiology; Behavioral Sciences; Biochemical Research Methods;Biochemistry& Molecular Biology; Biology; Biophysics; Cardiac & cardiovascular Systems; Cell Biology; Clinical Neurology; Critical Care Medicine; Dentistry, Oral Surgery & Medicine; Dermatology; Developmental Biology; Emergency Medicine; Endocrinology & Metabolism; Entomology; Evolutionary Biology; Gastroenterology & Hepatology; Genetics & Heredity; Geriatrics & Gerontology; Hematology; Immunology; Infectious Diseases; Integrative & Complementary Medicine; Marine & Freshwater Biology; Medical Ethics; Medical Informatics; Medical Laboratory Technology; Medicine, General & Internal; Medicine, Legal; Medicine, Research & Experimental; Microbiology; Neuroimaging; Neurosciences; Nutrition & Dietetics; Obstetrics & Gynecology; Oncology; Ophthalmology; Orthopedics; Otorhinolaryngology; Parasitology; Pathology; Pediatrics; Peripheral Vascular Disease; Pharmacology &Pharmacy; Physiology; Plant Sciences; Primary Health Care; Psychiatry; Public, Environmental & Occupational Health; Radiology, Nuclear Medicine & Medical Imaging; Rehabilitation; Reproductive Biology; Respiratory System; Rheumatology; Surgery; Toxicology; Transplantation; Tropical Medicine; Urology & Nephrology; Veterinary Sciences; Virology; Zoology.*

e) **all the authors of a publication**, in the case where, due to the accepted practice in the field, the order of the authors of a publication does not reflect their contribution to it (in cases where the authors of a publication are ordered alphabetically or are indicated in the form of a collaboration without explicitly mentioning their names), **only publications from the following domains will be taken into account**: **mathematics, mathematical physics, nuclear physics, high energy physics, informatics and economics.** These publications

must appear in journals indexed in the Journal Citation Reports in the following categories: *Mathematics*; *Physics, mathematical*, *Physics, nuclear*; *Physics, particles and fields*; *Physics, Multidisciplinary*; *Computer Science (all sub-domains; Economics; Business, finance; Management; Operation research and Management Science; Multidisciplinary sciences*. In these cases, only for the purpose of calculating the cumulated relative influence score, the relative influence score of the journal in which the article has appeared must be divided to:

- if $2 \leq n \leq 5$, to $n/2$,
- if $6 \leq n \leq 80$, to $(n + 3)/3$,
- if $n \geq 81$, to 28.

When n is the number of the publication authors.

Notes:

1. The project leader must indicate, on the online submission platform for the reseach projects, the publications that are in the exceptional cases provided at points c), d) and e).
2. In case that the project leader does not indicate the publications that are in the exceptional cases provided at points c), d) and e), these will be evaluated according to the instructions from the points a) and b).
3. For the publications that are in the exceptional case c), the project leader is compelled to upload the .pdf document corresponding to those publications to the online submission platform of the projects.

Indexed ISI Journal is a journal indexed in the Science Citation Index Expanded, Social Sciences Citation Index or Arts & Humanities Citation Index, databases administered by Clarivate.

ISI Listed Journal is a journal for which Clarivate calculates and publishes the impact factor in Journal Citation Reports.

Critical edition of sources with special editing difficulty

Critical edition of sources with special difficulty of editing means the publication of a volume containing relevant documentary sources for at least one discipline in the humanities, whose origins have no time restriction if they come from manuscripts, and the editing involved in the following activities: 1. (re)establishing the original text; 2. editing the text by using special paleographic/epigraphic/linguistic knowledge; 3. elaboration of an introductory contextualizing study and ample explanatory notes.

KVK represents the catalogue Karlsruher Virtueller Katalog (also including World Cat). This is available at the following link:
https://kvk.bibliothek.kit.edu/index.html?lang=en&digitalOnly=0&embedFulltitle=0&newTab=0

CNCS (categories A and B) represents journals, publishing houses, collections from Romania and the Republic of Moldavia acknowledged by CNCS, according to the clasification available at the following links:
http://www.cncs-nrc.ro/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/categorii.Reviste.CNCS_.2020.2.pdf
http://www.cncs-nrc.ro/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/categorii.Edituri.Site_.CNCS_.2020.pdf

The influence score is a measure which reflects, for a given scientific journal, the average influence of an article in that journal in a 5-year interval after publication, by taking into account the number of times the articles of the journal ar cited, weighed with the influence of the citing journals. The influence score (“article influence score”) is calculated by Clarivate în Journal

Citation Reports. The journals for which Clarivate does not indicate the article influence score have an influence score equal to zero.

The median influence score of a scientific domain is equal to the median of the influence scores of the journals from that domain, which have non-zero influence scores, according to the journals grouping by domain used by Clarivate.

The reference influence score of a scientific domain is the median influence score of that domain, with the exception of the domain "Multidisciplinary sciences", for which the reference influence score is the arithmetic average of the median influence scores for the other domains covered by Journal Citation Reports. **The reference influence score coresponding to a scientific journal** indexed in Science Citation Index Expanded or Social Sciences Citation Index is the minimum of the reference influence scores of the domains in which the journal falls, according to the journals grouping by domain used by Clarivate.

The relative influence score of a scientific journal is equal to the ratio of the article influence score of that journal and the reference influence score of the journal. **The relative article influence score** is the relative influence score of the scientific journal where the article has been published. For articles published before 2012, the journal relative influence score from 2012 will be taken into account. For articles published in 2020-2021, the journal relative article influence score where the article has been published and calculated in 2019 will be taken into account.

The cumulated relative influence score of a set of scientific articles is the sum of the relative article influence scores for each article in that set.

The impact factor of a scientific journal is a measure that reflects the average number of citations received by articles from that journal, published during a year, in a two-year period after that year. The impact factor is calculated by Clarivate in Journal Citation Reports. The journals for which Clarivate does not indicate the impact factor have an impact factor equal to zero.

The aggregate impact factor of a scientific domain is a measure which reflects the average number of citations received by the articles of the journals from a certain domain, published during a year, in a two-year period after that year. "The aggregate impact" factor is calculated by Clarivate in Journal Citation Reports.

The reference impact factor of a scientific domain is the aggregate impact factor of that domain, with the exception of the domain "Multidisciplinary sciences", for which the reference impact factor is the arithmetic average of the aggregate impact factor of other domains covered by Journal Citation Reports.
The reference impact factor of a scientific journal indexed in Science Citation Index Expanded or Social Sciences Citation Index is the minimum of the reference impact factors of the domains in which the journal falls, according to the journals grouping by domain used by Clarivate.

The relative impact factor of a scientific journal is equal to the ratio between the impact factor of the journal and the reference impact factor corresponding to that journal. **The relative impact factor of a scientific article** is the relative impact factor of the journal where the article has been published. The relative impact factor and the relative influence score, for each ISI ranked journal, respectively, and the reference impact factor for each scientific domain are calculated by the UEFISCDI, according to the most recent edition of the Journal Citation Reports, and are published on the UEFISCDI website: https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/scientometrie-baze-de-date.

The number of citations of a publication is considered to be the one indicated by the Web of Science, using the "*Cited Reference Search*" functionality. A citation of an author (project leader/ /expert evaluator) is considered to be a self-citation if the author is one of the authors of the citing article.

The normalized number of citations at a domain of a scientific article published in a journal indexed in the Science Citation Index Expanded or Social Sciences Citation Index is calculated by relating the number of citations of the article to the reference impact factor of the journal. In the case of other publications in the domains covered by the Science Citation Index Expanded or Social Sciences Citation Index, the number of citations normalized to the domain is calculated by making the ratio between the number of citations of the publication and the reference impact factor of the domain in which the publication fits best.