

**Advance
your international research career
with**

**NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE
Poland**

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Who we are

The National Science Centre (NCN) is a government executive agency set up in 2010 to fund basic research carried out at Polish research institutions.

Basic research =

- ✓ original experimental or theoretical research work
- ✓ seeks to expand knowledge of the fundamentals of phenomena and observable facts
- ✓ is not intended to have any direct commercial application or use.

NCN regularly opens
calls for proposals for

- research projects
- fellowships
- post doctoral internships

Each researcher, regardless of

- age
- nationality
- expertise
- degree and field of study

will find a funding opportunity that matches their needs among the NCN's calls.



“Fred, rumor has it you’re closing in on some profound, elemental truths about the universe, and

I’m happy to tell you that NCN funding supports just that!

Our goals

- ✓ to fund the best projects in the area of basic research
- ✓ to support early stage researchers
- ✓ to support the creation of new research teams which are able to compete internationally
- ✓ to create new job opportunities in NCN-funded projects
- ✓ to inspire international cooperation in research

Bottom-up approach

All regular NCN calls follow bottom-up approach and are open for all disciplines.

Projects compete with each other within one of the 25 panels or within a group of panels (PSE, LS, HSS), depending on the funding scheme.



ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

NCN Panel name		Disciplines
HS1	Fundamental questions of human existence and the nature of reality	philosophy, cognition, religious studies, theology
HS2	Culture and cultural production	literary theory and comparative literature, history of literature, linguistics, library science, cultural studies, arts, architecture
HS3	The study of the human past	history, archaeology, ethnology, cultural anthropology
HS4	Individuals, institutions, markets	economics, finance, management, demography, social and economic geography, urban studies
HS5	Norms and governance	law, political studies, regional and social policies
HS6	Human nature and human society	psychology, pedagogy/education studies, sociology

Bottom-up approach



LIFE SCIENCES

- NZ 1** Molecular biology, structural biology, biotechnology
- NZ 2** Genetics, genomics
- NZ 3** Cellular and developmental biology
- NZ 4** Biology of tissues, organs and organisms
- NZ 5** Human and animal noninfectious diseases
- NZ 6** Human and animal immunology and infection
- NZ 7** Diagnostic tools, therapies and public health
- NZ 8** Evolutionary and environmental biology
- NZ 9** Applied life sciences and biotechnology



PHYSICAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

- ST 1** Mathematics
- ST 2** Fundamental constituents of matter
- ST 3** Condensed matter physics
- ST 4** Physical and analytical chemical sciences
- ST 5** Materials and synthesis
- ST 6** Computer science and informatics
- ST 7** System and telecommunication engineering
- ST 8** Products and processes engineering
- ST 9** Astronomy and space research
- ST 10** Earth system sciences

Proposal submission and evaluation

international dimension

The Electronic Submission System interface is available in **English**

<https://osf.opi.org.pl/app/adm/start.do?changeLang=en>

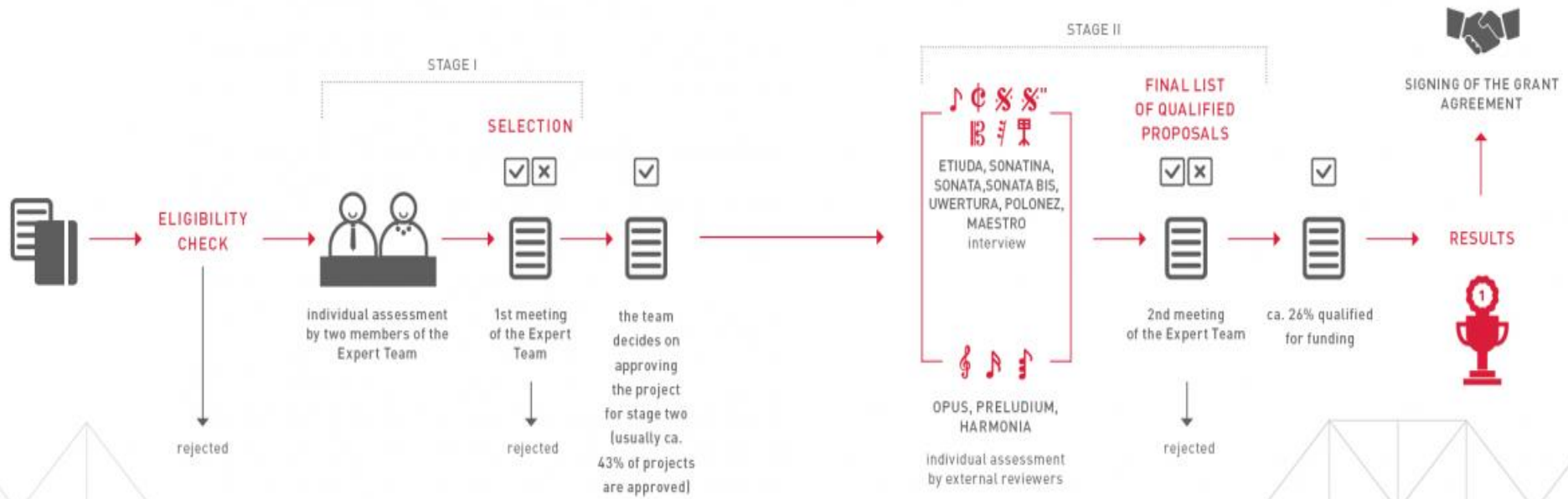
Proposals can be prepared entirely in English

The screenshot shows the ZSUN/OSF system interface. At the top, there is a header with the ZSUN/OSF logo, the text 'ZSUN/OSF', a 'Cookies Policy ZSUN/OSF' link with a Polish flag, and the 'Unia Europejska' logo with the text 'Europejski Fundusz Rozwoju Regionalnego' and the European Union flag. Below the header, the main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains the text 'The ZSUN/OSF system is an electronic proposal submission service used by:' followed by a bulleted list: 'the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education (MNiSW)', 'the National Science Centre (NCN)', and 'the National Centre for Research and Development (NCBiR)'. The right column is titled 'System access' and contains a login form with 'Login' and 'Password' labels, two input fields, a 'Get Login and Password' link, a button 'For Application Editor only: create an account', and a red 'Sign In' button. At the bottom, there is a footer with a 'Need help?' link, a 'Write to us' button, and contact information: 'Call us: ☎ +48 (22) 35 17 101 or +48 (22) 35 17 104 or +48 (22) 35 17 089'.

Since March 2018 all call texts and documents are available in English

Helpdesk answers queries in English informacja@ncn.gov.pl

Proposal evaluation (excluding MINIATURA)



Evaluation criteria:

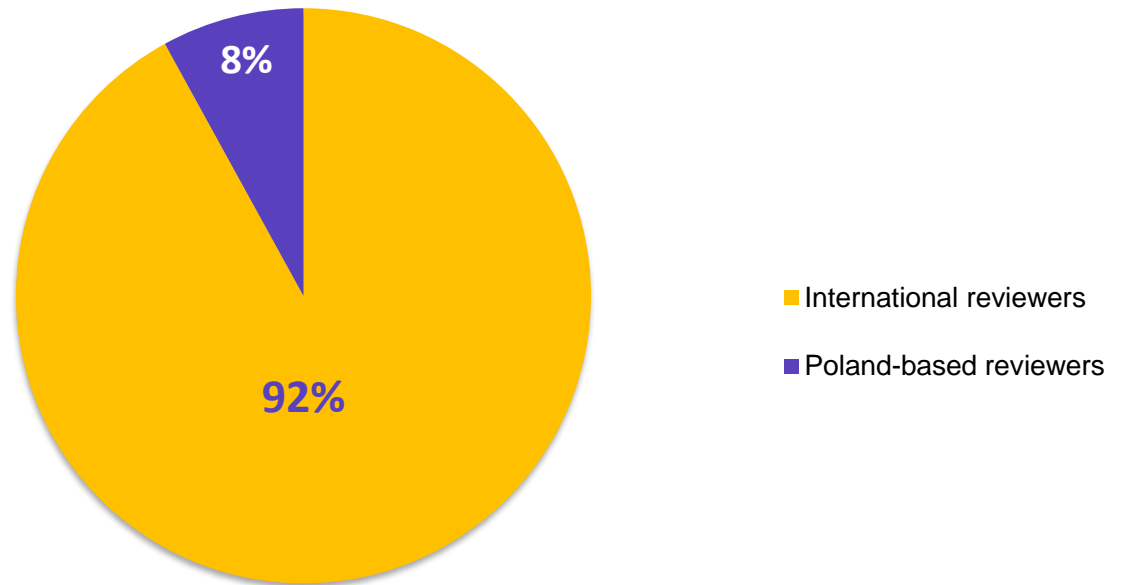
- scientific excellence, innovative nature of the project and impact on the development of the discipline
- PI track record
- feasibility

Time to grant from submission deadline – **5-6 months**

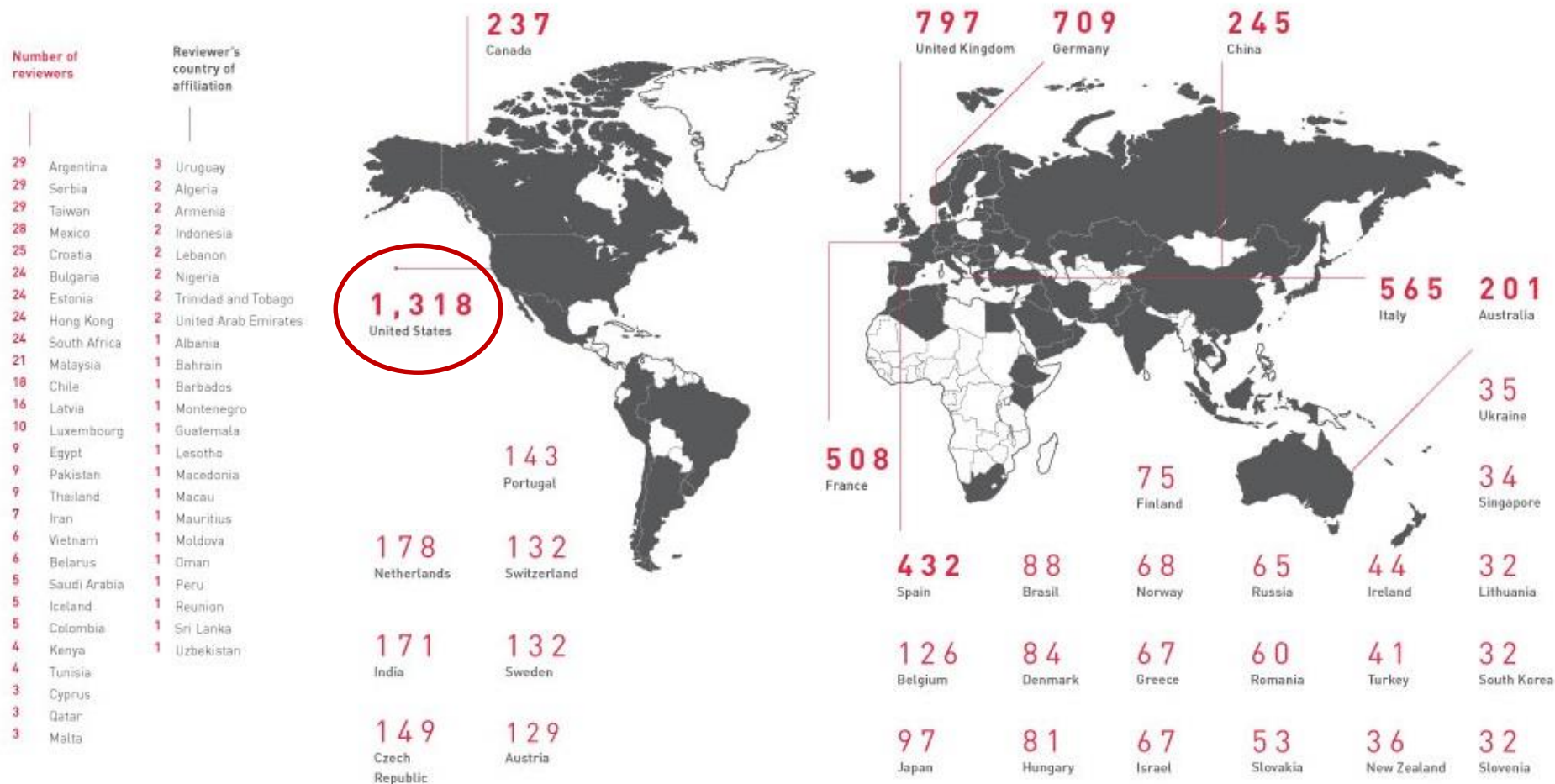
Proposal evaluation

External experts in 2017

- 8 350 External Experts were engaged in peer-reviewing process in 2017
 - ✓ of which 92% were international reviewers
- in total 10 770 reviews were performed
 - ✓ of 9 930 (92% of all the evaluations performed in 2017) were supplied by international reviewers



International reviewers in NCN 2017 calls



NCN – international programmes

110

incoming international PIs under MSCA Cofund
POLONEZ programme

12

multilateral programmes (ERA-Net Cofund programmes
and transnational Joint Programming Initiatives)

10

Centres of Scientific Excellence to be established under
Dioscuri programme launched by the National Science Centre
together with the Max Planck Society (MPG)

6 + 3

bilateral call initiatives
3 new TBA under EEA and Norway Grants

NCN – selected 2017 statistics

€ 267 M

total budget

(incl. ca. 257.7 M EUR of grant for funding research projects)

10 503

proposals received

(under 12 regular and 10 international calls)

3 036

grants awarded

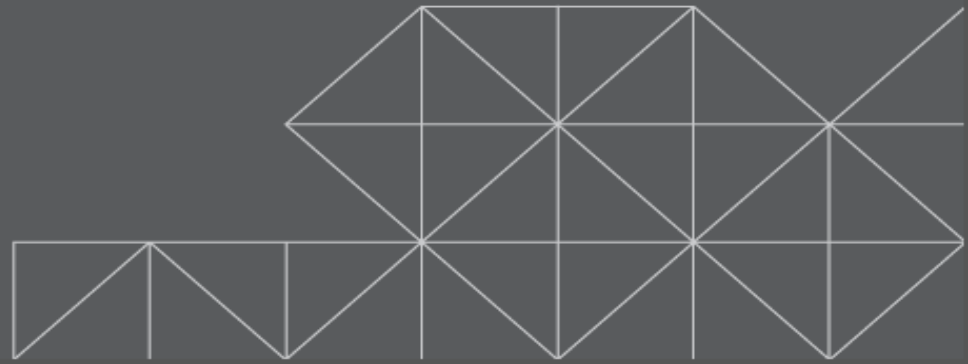
(under regular and international calls)

29%

overall success rate

(regular calls)

OUR FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Regular calls

PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS

 **PRELUDIUM**

 **ETIUDA** - PhD scholarships

POST-DOC RESEARCHERS

 **SONATINA**

researchers with a PhD obtained within **3 years** prior to submitting the proposal

 **SONATA**

researchers with a PhD obtained within **2-7 years** prior to submitting the proposal

 **SONATA BIS**

researchers with a PhD obtained between **5-12 years** prior to submitting the proposal

ADVANCED RESEARCHERS

 **MAESTRO**

advanced researchers conducting **pioneering** research

 **TANGO**

researchers wanting to apply the results of basic research

 **UWERTURA**

fellowships in the running ERC projects

OPEN TO ALL RESEARCHERS

 **OPUS**

a wide range of researchers at every stage of their research career

 **MINIATURA**

„capacity building” (up to 11 600 €) for researchers with no previous NCN grant experience



- **Applicants:**

early stage researchers who have obtained doctoral degree within 3 years prior to the submission of the proposal, or will have a doctoral degree by the 30th of June of the year indicated in call text

- **Duration:** 24 or 36 months

- **Funding:**

- ✓ cost of Principal Investigator's full-time salary in a Polish research institution (c.a. €24 K per annum)
- ✓ travel and subsistence during a fellowship at a research centre outside of Poland for a period of 3 to 6 months (c.a. €2300 per month)
- ✗ no funding for research equipment
- ✗ no funding for full-time post-doc co-investigators

- **Evaluation criteria:**

- scientific excellence, PI's track record, feasibility
- appropriate choice and quality of the host institution outside of Poland
- interview at the second stage of the evaluation



- **Applicants:**
researchers with a doctoral degree obtained within 2-7 years prior to the submission of the proposal
- **Duration:** 12, 24 or 36 months
- **Funding:**
 - ✓ cost of Principal Investigator's full-time salary in a Polish research institution (c.a. €33 K per annum)
 - ✓ funding for full-time post-doc co-investigators (c.a. €28,5 K per annum)
 - ✓ funding for research equipment
 - ✗ only one collaborator may hold a habilitation or the title of professor as long as they are not employed by the PI's host institution
- **Evaluation criteria:**
 - scientific excellence, PI's track record, feasibility
 - interview at the second stage of the evaluation

Programme objective:

to support applicants on their way to become **independent researchers**
by establishing **new research teams**

- **Applicant:**

researchers with a doctoral degree obtained within 5-12 years prior to the submission of the proposal

- **Duration:** 36, 48 or 60 months

- **Funding:**

- ✓ cost of Principal Investigator's full-time salary in a Polish research institution (c.a. €38 K per annum)
- ✓ funding for full-time post-doc co-investigators (c.a. €28,5 K per annum)
- ✓ project team must include PhD student(s) receiving scholarship from the project budget
- ✓ funding for research equipment

- **Evaluation criteria:**

- scientific excellence, PI's track record, feasibility
- evaluation of the rationale for the establishment of a new research team
- interview at the second stage of the evaluation



- **Applicants:** all researchers, regardless of their research experience or academic degree
- **Duration:** 12, 24 or 36 months
- **Funding:**
 - ✓ cost of Principal Investigator's full-time salary in a Polish research institution (c.a. €36 K per annum)
 - ✓ funding for full-time post-doc co-investigators (c.a. €28,5 K per annum)
 - ✓ project team may include PhD student(s) receiving scholarship from the project budget
 - ✓ funding for research equipment
- **Evaluation criteria:**
 - scientific excellence, PI's track record, feasibility

Call timeline 2018/2019

FUNDING SCHEME	CALL ANNOUNCEMENT	CALL DEADLINE	YEAR
SONATA	16 September 2019	16 December 2019	2019
SONATINA	14 December 2018	15 March 2019	2019
	16 December 2019	16 March 2020	2020
SONATA BIS	17 June 2019	17 September 2019	2019
OPUS	15 March 2019	17 June 2019	2019
	16 September 2019	16 December 2019	

Time to grant from submission deadline – **5-6 months**

[Call timeline online](#)

International calls 2018/2019

Humanities and social sciences

FUNDING SCHEME	CALL ANNOUNCEMENT	CALL DEADLINE	DISCIPLINES COVERED
POLS 1 (incoming foreign researchers)	16 Dec. 2019 (TBC)	16 March 2020	arts, humanities and social sciences, physical sciences and engineering, life sciences
<p>For all bilateral and multilateral funding opportunities listed below, the applicants must hold a doctoral degree and be employees of the Polish research institution at the time of proposal submission</p>			
BEETHOVEN CLASSIC 3 Polish-German	14 Sept. 2018	17 Dec. 2018	humanities, social sciences, chemistry, physics, mathematics and material sciences
NORFACE (multilateral)	December 2018	February 2019	social sciences
MOZART Polish-Austrian	15 March 2019	<i>continuous submission</i>	arts, humanities and social sciences, physical sciences and engineering, life sciences
DAINA 2 Polish-Lithuanian	16 Sept. 2019	16 Dec. 2019	arts, humanities and social sciences, physical sciences and engineering, life sciences

More information available at:

www.ncn.gov.pl

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Grazie!

