



ECTR GRANTS SELECTION PROCEDURE





Goals of the Research Grants Project on Secure Tolerance

ECTR Research Grants will be awarded for original thinking and research on how the theory and practice of tolerance should be re-imagined to meet the new challenges of a globalized world and the highly diverse and sometimes fragmented societies it contains.

Secure Tolerance is currently not a widespread nor widely understood concept. It may appear to be a contradiction, as the word “secure” contains a subtext of control, which many believe to be implicitly inimical to tolerance. However, this concept has to be understood as a paradox—a truth framed in the form of an apparent contradiction— that is intended to encourage researchers and practitioners to think freshly and creatively on issues that convention perspectives have been unable to resolve.

All research proposals should provide a conceptual framework or practical solutions showing how to make tolerance – understood as a balance of rights and obligations – more secure and sustainable. Applications for Grants will be assessed not only by reference to standards of high intellectual rigour but also with regard to how they reframe the idea of toleration in a time when its practice is increasingly threatened.

Areas of concern include challenges like anti-Semitism and Islamism, the rise of political extremism on the Right and Left, increasing immigration pressure and persistent social, cultural & economic inequalities and divisions, problems of social integration and the growth of sub-cultures that have not internalized or actively reject the value of toleration. The overall aim of the Grant programme is to foster new thinking on these and related issues by developing and applying the concept of a more secure form of tolerance.

Eligibility

New thinking on secure tolerance needs to be developed in a variety of contexts and disciplines. Philosophy and theology, history and law, sociology and political science together with literature and the arts can contribute to re-imagining tolerance so that it can meet these new challenges.

The ECTR seeks applications from practitioners of all these disciplines and others. The recommended research priorities may vary and will be announced separately, and made available at the ECTR web page.

Eligible to apply are representatives (Principal Applicants) of universities, other research institutes and registered non-governmental organizations which have own research capacity. Individuals not associated with the above mentioned institutions may also apply, on condition that they can provide to the review committee a significant professional or research track record.

The scheme is open to institutions, organisations and individuals in the European Union, North America, Middle East and Eastern Europe (former Soviet Union countries).

The applicant must take responsibility for directing the grant, and where applicable his/her employing institution must also agree to administer the grant.



Value and duration

Research Project Grants may be held for up to 1 year. The maximum grant value is 50,000 Euro. The funds requested should be appropriate for the grant duration and the resources required to achieve the research objectives. The Grant may be extended for another year.

Application procedure

ECTR Research Grants are reviewed via a two-stage process:

1. Deadlines for Initial Applications are announced by the ECTR at least two times a year. Their assessment is normally completed within three months.
2. Complete proposals. An invitation to progress to the second stage – preparation of a Detailed Application – will be sent to those whose Initial Application has been approved.
3. The Detailed Application should be a more detailed elaboration of the Initial Application. Significant changes in the stated goals or objectives of the research are not permitted, unless suggested by the ECTR review committee. The same rule concerns the total budget and personnel requested in the Detailed Application.

Initial Applications

Initial applications submitted to the ECTR shall include:

1. PRINCIPAL APPLICANT DETAILS

Please provide details about your research or practical achievements, current employment, relation to an academic or other institution.

Please provide similar details of any co-applicants that shall be involved in the research.

Please provide the information how your professional post or activity is currently funded.

2. RESEARCH PROPOSAL DETAILS

a) Field of study

Please state in 1–2 sentences what is the field of study that most closely reflect the area of the research you would like to undertake.

b) Abstract

Please provide an abstract (up to 100 words) of the proposed research project.



c) Detailed description.

Please provide a more detailed description (up to 2000 words), which includes objectives, hypothesis, potential significance, methods to be used, and details about the potential applicability of the results. Please demonstrate your knowledge of other research and papers published in your proposed research area. Give examples of current work being carried out and in which way your research proposal will be an innovative contribution to conceptualizing “secure tolerance”.

d) Your contribution and that of your co-applicants.

Please describe the role and research contribution of principal applicant and the co-applicants.

e) Total time spent on the project by the Principal Applicant.

Please provide an estimate of the time spent on the project (in hours per week), taking into account other obligations (professional, academic, other research etc.). Where necessary, please consult with your institution whether the project will not collide with your duties and obligations.

f) Staff resources.

Please provide information on the staff resources requested (if any), including reasons for the number and fields of responsibilities.

g) Salaries and budget

At least 75% of the resources requested must be used to provide funding for research staff (Principal Applicant and co-applicants (if any)).

Up to 25% can be made up by associated research costs. These costs must be directly related to the research activity. Examples of such eligible associated costs include travel and accommodation (conference, data gathering, interviews and on-field research), technical or computing costs or services.

Initial proposals review and assessment.

In assessing applications for Research Grants, the ECTR uses established prioritisation criteria, such as:

- Originality—the research achieves more than the incremental development of a single discipline;
 - Importance—the work will enable further research or practical implementation;
 - Significance—the proposed research has relevance outside a single field;
 - Merit—the quality of the research design and methodology.
 - Practicality of results – research has to be output oriented and conclude with of concrete legislation or policy initiatives (or equivalent practical applicability suggestion).
 - How far the proposal might advance the goal of making tolerance more secure
- Before taking the final decision, the review team may ask for additional information and/or explanation regarding the research proposals.



Complete Research Proposals (Second Stage)

After approval of the initial proposals and invitation to the second stage of the selection process, the Principal Applicant will be asked to provide a detailed Complete Research Proposal.

The Complete Research Proposal will be reviewed by the ECTR Academic Advisory Council.

The delivery of the Complete Proposal is one of the conditions for signing the Grant Agreement.

Due to procedural and capacity constraints, it will be impossible to justify the refusal to participate in the second stage of the Grant procedure.

