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## SPECIAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS (version 1)

# Visiting academic scholars from Ukraine

The Knowledge Foundation invites Sweden's university colleges and new universities to apply for funding for visiting academic scholars (researchers and academic teachers) from higher education institutions in Ukraine.

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Yvonne Fors, Programme Manager  
[yvonne.fors@kks.se](mailto:yvonne.fors@kks.se), 073-712 81 58

This call is open for application  
until further notice.  
Applications are processed  
continuously.

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## About the Knowledge Foundation

The Knowledge Foundation finances research and competence development at Sweden's university colleges and new universities<sup>1</sup> with the purpose of strengthening Sweden's competitiveness. The foundation provides funding when scientific and education activities are conducted in collaboration between academia and business partners. The aim is to build strong and profiled knowledge environments that co-produce research and higher education with the business sector. The Foundation does not identify specific research areas, and the calls are open for all scientific and artistic fields.

## Purpose and objective

The purpose of this special call is to support academic scholars from Ukraine to find professional refuge at a Swedish university college or new university.<sup>1</sup>

The objective is that the visiting scholars can continue their academic work and contribute to the activities of the host research and education environment.

## Who may apply?

Sweden's university colleges and new universities may apply. The Knowledge Foundation welcomes applications within all subject areas. When the application concerns an artistic field of research, the concept *scientific* is replaced by *artistic* in the call.

## Programme design

The programme offers funding for visiting academic scholars (researchers/academic teachers) from Ukraine. The visiting scholar should be an already identified individual with a Ukrainian citizenship who (at the outset of 2022) was active at a Ukrainian higher education institution. The programme addresses visiting academic scholars from PhD-students and upwards the academic career.

The form of employment is to be decided by the hosting Swedish university. All types of employment options are allowed, both temporary and permanent positions. The employment must correspond to the qualifications laid out in the employment guidelines of the applying Swedish university.

The duration of the project can be from a minimum of three months up to three years in total. The maximum funding per project is 3 MSEK. The application should include a plan for the visiting scholars' activities during the stay at the host university. For instance, the visiting scholar may contribute to following activities at the university:

- **Research:** Research activities, applications and project proposals, initiate cooperation with business partners.

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<sup>1</sup> Blekinge Institute of Technology, Swedish Defence University, The Swedish School of Sport and Health Sciences GIH, Dalarna University, University of Borås, University of Gävle, University of Halmstad, Jönköping University, Kristianstad University, University of Skövde, University West, Karlstad University, Konstfack University College of Arts, Crafts and Design, Linnaeus University, Malmö University, Mid Sweden University, Mälardalen University, Royal Institute of Art, Royal College of Music, Stockholm University of the Arts, Södertörn University and Örebro University.

- **Education:** Engage in education or supervision at advanced or postgraduate level, participate in course and programme development and implementation.

### Terms of employment

Form of employment for Ukrainian visiting academic scholar	Time	Employment percentage
<i>To be decided by the host Swedish university.</i> The position must correspond to the qualifications in the Higher Education Ordinance as well as to the employment guidelines of the applicant university.	3-36 months	50% - 100%

### How should the funds be used?

Funding from the Knowledge Foundation should mainly be used to cover salary and premises costs for the visiting scholar. Not exceeding the maximum amount of funding from the Knowledge Foundation, other costs up to 100,000 SEK annually for a full-time position can also be covered by the Foundation. These other costs can be used for e.g. traveling, material, equipment or communication. If part-time employment is applied, the maximum amount for these other costs will be reduced correspondingly. As an example, the maximum amount for these other costs will be 50,000 SEK for an employment of 50 percent.

Funds from the Knowledge Foundation can only cover research and/or teaching at advanced level (second or third cycle) or research-related development including competence development initiatives at companies. Teaching activities at undergraduate level (first cycle) may be included but cannot be funded by the Knowledge Foundation.

Budgeting of funds must be in accordance with the instructions presented in the document *General Terms and Conditions*, see [www.kks.se](http://www.kks.se). The application should not include overhead costs. 20 percent overhead costs will be included in the proposed contract if the Foundation approves the application.

### Funding arrangements for employment

Form of employment for Ukrainian visiting academic scholar	Funding from KKS	Funding from business partner/s	Funding from university	Maximum funding from KKS/year (12 months) not including OH
<i>To be decided by the host Swedish university.</i>	90 %	-	10 %	1,000,000 SEK (if 12 months fulltime)

## University involvement

10 percent of the project costs must be funded by the Swedish university. The host university must provide sufficient organisational support for the scholar to be able to achieve the intended goals, as described in the application. The university should present a plan for the scholar's contribution to the development of the academic environment.

The application should state a project manager responsible for the implementation of the project, such as head of department or a research leader. The application should also state a project owner. The project owner, who should have staff and budget responsibility at a senior level (such as vice-chancellor, head of department/faculty or similar), has responsibility for ensuring proper conditions for implementing and monitoring the project.

## Business sector involvement

As in all calls from the Knowledge Foundation, the business relevance of the project is important. However, in this call co-financing from business partners is not required. By *business sector*, the Knowledge Foundation refers primarily to the private sector. Business sector can in this programme also refer to company-related foundations, industry associations. The application should describe how and to what extent the project is designed to meet requirements of knowledge development within the business sector. Also describe if the project is expected to promote closer co-production between the research and education environment and the business sector.

## Formal requirements

The application must meet the following requirements before the Knowledge Foundation will consider it for evaluation. If the application does not meet the following requirements, it will be rejected without further evaluation.

- The project must be in line with the objectives and purpose of the call.
- The applications shall include parts and appendices according to the call instructions.
- The visiting scholar is an already identified academic scholar with a Ukrainian citizenship, who (at the outset of 2022) was active at a Ukrainian higher education institution.
- Funding from the Knowledge Foundation, the university and/or business partners should mainly cover salary and premises costs for the recruited person. Other costs can be maximum SEK 100,000 and year (12 months) when full-time employed.
- Time funded by the Knowledge Foundation must be devoted to research and/or teaching at second cycle or higher level at the university.
- The positions must be addressed in the employment guidelines of the applicant university.

- Any financial or personal links between the recruited person and involved persons at the university must be disclosed in the application form.
- Budgeting of funds must be in accordance with the instructions presented in the document *General Terms and Conditions*, see [www.kks.se](http://www.kks.se).
- The application must be signed by the vice-chancellor, the project owner, and the project manager.

## Evaluation

The secretariat of the Knowledge Foundation will review submitted applications according to the evaluation criteria below.

The ambition is that the secretariat will review an application and render a decision within 14 days from the submission of the proposal.

### Evaluation criteria

#### Strong research and education environments

- To what extent is there a clear description of the host research and education environment's current position?
- To what extent is there an added value of the project for the short-term and long-term development of the research and education environment?

#### Scientific quality

- To what extent is there a clear description of how the scholar's academic qualifications is adequate and may contribute to the research and education environment?

#### Relevance to the business sector

- To what extent is there a clear description of the project's relevance to the business sector?

#### Implementation:

- To what extent has the university created practical and organizational possibilities for the visiting scholar to actively contribute and be a part of the research and education environment?

## Application

Applications are submitted via the Knowledge Foundation's website, [www.kks.se](http://www.kks.se) by the project manager. This is important as the applicant's account is connected to the project and reporting of the project.

Signatures from the project manager, the project owner and the vice chancellor are required. The project manager's signature implies responsibility for the described implementation. The project owner and the vice-chancellor assure through their signatures that the university approves the project and will be involved according to the project description.

Applications may be written in Swedish or English.

The project budget is filled out directly in the application form. Note that the application should not include overhead costs.

### **Appendices to the application**

The following appendices (as pdf-files) should be attached to the application and in the same order as below. The structure of the appendices must follow the headings specified for each appendix.

#### **Appendix 1. Description of host research and education environment in which the project will be hosted (may not exceed 2 pages)** *To be uploaded under 'Description of host research and education environment and project contribution'.*

Describe the host research and education environment in terms of:

##### **a) Current position**

Area of activity, research groups, research focus, education focus, staff composition, funding, collaborative and business partners, etc., and results for the last five years (scientific output, development of courses, funding, etc.).

##### **b) Added value of the project for the research and education environment**

Describe how the proposed project adds short and long-term value for the research and education environment. Indicate how the project will help to strengthen and/or develop research and/or education, and how the project relates to business relevant research and/or education.

#### **Appendix 2. Project plan (may not exceed 3 pages)**

*To be uploaded under "Project plan".*

The project plan should include the following and have the headings below:

##### **a) Plan for the employment**

Present how the employment is to be realized with reference to the guidelines of the applicant university. Also state the planned time period for the stay of the visiting scholar at the host university.

##### **b) Activity plan**

Describe the planned activities for the scholar within research, teaching and other academic activities. This description should outline both the possibilities for the visiting scholar to continue his/her academic work and how he/she may contribute to the activities of the host research and education environment. Also describe how and to what extent the activities are relevant to the business sector.

##### **c) Organization**

Describe the practical and organizational possibilities for enabling the proposed scholar to be integrated in the organisation. Additional resources allocated to the recruitment may also be described here.

**Appendix 3. Curriculum Vitae of the scholar to be employed (may not exceed 2 pages)** *To be uploaded under “Attachments in accordance with the call and in the same order as stated in the call.”*

**Appendix 4. Signatures from the university (appendix form)** *To be uploaded under “Attachments in accordance with the call and in the same order as stated in the call.”*

The application must be signed by the project manager, the project owner and the vice-chancellor. Download the appendix template from the Foundation’s website, The signature appendix should either be signed manually or electronically signed by for example eduSign, GetAccept, ebox or similar systems. Applications without correct signatures will not be considered.

### **Timetable and decisions**

- This call is open for submission of applications until further notice.
- The secretariat will review the applications continuously and the CEO of the Knowledge Foundation will render the decision.
- The ambition is that the secretariat will review an application and render a decision within 14 days from the submission of the proposal.
- Granted projects may commence immediately after agreement signing.