



Social Sciences and Humanities  
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en  
sciences humaines du Canada



# Open Research Area (ORA) for the Social Sciences ANR-DFG-ESRC-SSHRC Sixth Call for Proposals 2019/2020

## Call Specification

Version: July 2019

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Deadline for proposals: **16:00 (UK time) on Wednesday 11 September 2019.**

# I Introduction

**The sixth round of ORA is based on an agreement between the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR; France), the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG; Germany), the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC; UK) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC; Canada).**

In order to strengthen international co-operation in the field of social sciences, wishing to fund high quality scientific research within their own countries, and aware that some of the best research can be delivered by working with the best researchers internationally, ANR, DFG, ESRC and SSHRC are launching a sixth ORA call for proposals in order to fund the best joint research projects in social sciences. The scheme will provide funding for integrated projects by researchers coming from at least three of the four subscribing countries – in any combination of three or more countries. Please note that the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO; Netherlands) will not be participating in this sixth ORA call - for further information see in [Dutch](#) and in [English](#).

Proposals may be submitted in any area of the social sciences. However, the disciplinary coverage varies according to the involvement of the national agencies. Applicants who are uncertain of whether their proposal would be eligible should contact the relevant national agencies for clarification.

There is again a special opportunity for cooperation with projects in Japan. With the aim to strengthen cooperation between researchers in Japan and ORA partners, the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) as the national funding organization of Japan renews the funding scheme to support projects which are associated with ORA. For details please see the following [website](#) for the Japanese call.

To date five rounds of ORA have been successfully completed, funding over 60 international collaborative proposals.

This call will follow a two-stage procedure consisting of an Outline proposal and a Full proposal. Applicants who are successful at outline will automatically progress to full stage. Unlike the previous round, applicants will be invited to submit Outline and Full proposals at the same time, rather than waiting for the results of the outline stage.

Funding will be distributed among the national agencies according to the place of work of the researchers, and according to the funding rules of each agency.

ESRC is the coordinating agency for this round. All proposals for this call will be submitted through the ESRC's Joint Electronic Submissions system (Je-S). For detailed guidance on how to submit proposals please refer to the [ORA sixth Call Je-S Guidance for Applicants](#).

Deadline for the submission of proposals is **16:00 (UK time) on 11 September 2019**. **Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.** Electronic acknowledgement will be sent to the Main Applicant (if self-registered) or submitting organisation (if a proposal has been submitted via the submitter pool at applicant's research organisation). If the latter, we strongly advise applicants to secure confirmation from their relevant administrator that the proposal has been successfully submitted to the Je-S team.

[Call webpage](#)

## 2 Eligibility to apply to the call

### 2.1 Applicants

- The roles of the various project participants in ORA sixth call research projects are as follows:
  - **Main Applicant (MA):** the Main Applicant is one nominated Principal Investigator. As a Main Applicant, they are in charge of the online submission of the proposal, at both outline and full stage. They will act as the main contact point with the coordinating agency (ESRC) for all matters related to the proposal as a whole. This person must be entered as the Principal Investigator for Outline and Full proposals in Je-S.
  - **Principal Investigator (PI):** there must be one PI per country involved in the proposal. The PI will fulfil the role of a PI as defined by their respective funding agency, and act as contact point with their agency for all national matters.
  - **Co-Investigators (Co-I):** for countries where funding can be distributed between several teams and work organized accordingly, a Co-I must be named, in conformity with national rules.
  - **Team Members (TM):** all other participants who will benefit from funding must be listed as team members. They are not applicants in the proposal.
  - **Cooperation Partners (CP):** these are Japanese partners (if applicable) and researchers/non-academic partners from any other of the non-subscribing countries (see section 2.2 for details). If a scientific board is set up for the project, members can be listed here.
- All of the above project participants must be listed in the [Project Participants](#) attachment.
- For the purpose of the ORA sixth call: Main Applicant, Principal Investigators, and Co-Investigators are all considered project applicants.
- The ORA sixth call will be open to proposals from eligible applicants from three or more of the subscribing countries ie Canada, France, Germany and UK. Proposals with a cooperation partner in Japan do not count against the three country minimum requirement.
- All applicants and their institutions must fulfil national eligibility rules for research proposals as set by the relevant funding agencies (please see section 11 below for additional information concerning each participating funding agency in ORA six).
- Principal Investigator(s), Co-Investigator(s), Team Member(s) can only be involved in **ONE proposal** in the current round, in any capacity. If any individual appears as project participant in two applications, both applications will **be declared ineligible and rejected** by the call Secretariat.

### 2.2 Cooperation Partners

- ORA projects have the opportunity to associate themselves with partners in Japan. JSPS, the Japanese national funding organization, will open a specific [call](#) for such collaborations. A Japanese project answering to this call will be associated with the ORA project. The Japanese proposal will be evaluated and decided upon by JSPS, in light of its association with ORA. The ORA proposal will be evaluated as a stand-alone proposal by the ORA partners and funding decisions will be made independently. If an ORA project has an associate partner from Japan, the Main Applicant will indicate this by ticking the

box provided in the [Project Participants](#) attachment. For these projects an annex of no more than one page should also be added to both the Outline and the Full proposals. The annex should be exactly the same documents for Outline and Full proposals and include the following: a) information on the Japanese participants and b) a summary of the partner project.

- Researchers from other countries may be included as long as they bring the relevant funding with them, or are eligible for funding under one of the subscribing agencies' rules (please see section below for additional information concerning each agency). Proposals including other countries do not count against the three country minimum requirement for the call.

## 2.3 Content of Proposals

- Disciplinary scope: proposals may be submitted in any area of the social sciences within the remit of the relevant national agencies concerned (please see section 9 below for additional information concerning each agency).
- All projects must focus on substantive research and feature an integrated work programme demonstrating clearly the added value of transnational collaboration. The funding partners expect that each partner contributes substantially to the common project topic, including taking responsibilities for the project organization. These contributions should also be reflected in a reasonable amount of requested funds by each partner.
- Scientific infrastructure or networking activities can only be funded within projects with a substantive research focus. As stand-alone projects, infrastructure or networking projects will **not be eligible and will be rejected**.

## 2.4 Composition of the Project Team

- Each national group of applicants will name a Principal Investigator (PI) in that country, which must be clearly identified in the [Project Participants](#) template. PIs will act as national contact points with their national funding agencies and fulfil the role of a PI as defined in the rules of their agency.
- In order to keep contact throughout the whole assessment procedure (and for this purpose only), one of the Principal Investigators will act as Main Applicant and submit both Outline and Full proposals to the coordinating agency for this round (ESRC).

## 2.5 Project Duration and Budget

- Proposals may be for projects with a minimum period of **two years and a maximum of three years (24 to 36 months)**. This covers scientific and administrative duration of a project.
- All budget items must conform to the national rules relevant for each applicant.
- The budget requested from each national agency should not exceed the funding limit for that agency. The following funding limits will apply:

<b>ANR</b>	Up to €450,000 per project
<b>DFG</b>	No maximum limit per project
<b>ESRC</b>	Up to £600,000 at 100% fEC (£480,000 at 80% fEC) with a minimum of £200,000 (100% fEC) per project
<b>SSHRC</b>	Up to \$400,000 per project, with a maximum of \$135,000 per year per project

## 2.6 Templates and Guidelines

- All proposals must be written in English, with the exception of proposals including Canadian partners, which may be written in French. SSHRC eligible applicants wishing to submit in French must get in touch with the national contact at SSHRC for further details. ANR eligible applicants wishing to add a French translation of their project will be able to do so when uploading their proposal on the ANR submission system.
- Outline and Full proposals must be submitted to the ESRC through the UK Research Councils' Joint Electronic Submissions system (Je-S).
- All applicants requesting funding from DFG are required to additionally submit their Outline and Full proposals through the DFG elan system (please see section 11.2 below for further information).
- French applicants are similarly requested to additionally submit their Outline and Full proposals through ANR's own submission system: the ANR platform for French applicants (please click [here](#) in order to submit your proposal to ANR). The financial information for partners requesting support from ANR must be submitted on the ANR platform, along with an additional submission of the Outline and Full proposal. The information will need to meet all national requirements for the proposal to be eligible (please see section 11.1 below for further information, along with the document "Modalités pour les partenaires sollicitant une aide de l'ANR").
- The call will follow a two-stage procedure consisting of an Outline proposal and a Full proposal. Applicants who are successful at outline stage will automatically progress to full stage. Unlike the previous round, **applicants must submit Outline and Full proposals at the same time**, rather than waiting for the results of the outline stage.
- Applicants will need to complete online Je-S forms for the outline and full stage, and a number of attachments (some of which require the use of templates). All templates are available on [call webpage](#). **Please read the Call Specification and Je-S Guidance for Applicants documents carefully before submitting your Outline and Full proposals.**
- Completed proposal forms and documents should be a single integrated submission from all subscribing countries involved in the project.
- Applicants **must** adhere to the requested character and page limits for forms and attachments, as set out in the Je-S Guidance. If the stated maximums are exceeded or if the necessary attachments are not included, the proposal will be **disqualified and rejected** by the call Secretariat.
- Applicants must note that the national agencies retain the right to reject proposals where they fail to comply with the procedures set out in this Call Specification document and Je-S Guidance for Applicants. If a proposal is ineligible with one national agency the complete project **will be rejected by all the agencies concerned**.
- If your ORA sixth proposal is a resubmission of a previously unsuccessful ORA proposal this must be clearly stated in the [resubmission template](#). Please note differing national agency rules regarding resubmissions - **ESRC does not allow the resubmission of a previously unsuccessful proposal, however** ANR, DFG and SSHRC do allow for resubmissions. Please check the participating agencies' national rules on this, for further information. Applications that are resubmissions of previously unfunded **non-ORA projects** (i.e. applications to a non-ORA call) are also allowed by ANR, DFG and SSHRC but not the ESRC. However if an application to a non-ORA call is still awaiting a decision then resubmissions are not allowed by any of the partners.

## 2.7 Proposal Submission

- Outline and Full proposals must be submitted via the ESRC's electronic proposal submission system Je-S. A detailed guidance on how to submit proposals via Je-S can be found at the [call's website](#).
- If you are not familiar with the Je-S system, please refer to the [Je-S Helptext](#) pages (providing tips and guidance on system navigation and details of the ESRC requirements for each document section); and Je-S Guidance for Applicants provided on the call's [website](#). It is strongly recommended that potential applicants **read the full Je-S Guidance for Applicants document before submitting Outline and Full proposals**.
- Outline and full proposals must be submitted through separate calls in Je-S. For 'Proposal Call' in Je-S you need to select '**ORA 6 Call 2019 Stage 1 Outline**' for Outline Proposal and '**ORA 6 Call 2019 Stage 2 Full**' for the full proposal
- We recommend applicants complete proposals sequentially, submitting the Outline proposal first and then the Full proposal. This is so that applicants can take advantage of the Je-S system's ability to copy entries from the outline stage Je-S form to the full stage Je-S form (and to aid the office in linking Outline and Full proposals). Note, it is technically possible for Outline and Full proposals to be open and worked on in Je-S at the same time, however you would not be able to take advantage of this copy facility.
- Once applicants submit their Outline proposal, an 'ES/XXXX/I' proposal reference number will be automatically generated via Je-S and sent to the research organisation (if a proposal has been submitted via the submitter pool at applicant's research organisation) or Main Applicant (for all self-registered applicants)<sup>1</sup>.
- Only if the Outline proposal has been validated and submitted correctly the Main Applicant can use the 'ES/XXXX/I' number to prepare and submit the Full proposal.
- When preparing the Full proposal, the applicants will be able to enter the 'ES/XXXX/I' number onto the 'Related Proposals' box in Je-S form and copy information from the Outline to the Full proposal in Je-S system (the Je-S Guidance provides full instructions on how to do this).
- For the Outline and Full proposals the Main Applicant (one of the Principal Investigators) must be registered with Je-S in order to be able to submit a proposal (details of all other participants are included in an attachment therefore do not require Je-S registration). For further information on registration process please refer to the Je-S Guidance for Applicants document.
- **Please allow at least five business days for processing the Je-S registration of the Main Applicant** as the registration requests are handled manually by Je-S staff.
- We **strongly advise** Outline and Full proposals are submitted in advance of the deadline, to allow for any potential issues with the above process to be resolved in a timely manner. Please find below a short summary table of all important Je-S timing issues and cut off for dates that you need to adhere to in advance of the call close:

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<sup>1</sup> You should allow sufficient time for completion of the research organisation submission process checks/authorisation. You can view all Je-S registered organisations via the Je-S login page, to ascertain whether the proposed submitting organisation is registered.

Depending on your organisation's eligibility on Je-S, if applicable your proposal will actually be sent to Je-S from the submitter pool at your research organisation. There is a further layer of administration between your submission of the proposal and the proposal being submitted to Je-S. The research organisation's submission route usually includes both an approver (ie head of department) and submitter pool (ie central finance office), and the ESRC cannot accept responsibility for any delay which may occur as a consequence. We strongly advise applicants to secure confirmation from their relevant administrator that the proposal has been successfully submitted to the Je-S team.

Application stages	ESRC recommended timeline	ESRC comments
Organisation and Main Applicant registration on Je-S	As soon as the call opens	Organisation registration should take effect immediately, Main Applicant registration can take up to five working days.
Submission of Stage 1 Outline	Strongly recommend you aim to submit 10 days prior to the call closing deadline.	Depending on your Research Organisation, there may be additional steps in place which you and your Research Office will need to consider upon submission.
Receive Outline ES/XXXX/I Number	The number is generated by the system as soon as the Outline Je-S form has been submitted. Electronic acknowledgement will be sent to the Main Applicant (if self-registered) or submitting organisation (if a proposal has been submitted via the Submitter Pool at applicant's research organisation). If the latter, we strongly advise applicants to secure confirmation from their relevant administrator that the proposal has been successfully submitted to the Je-S team.	Once the Outline Je-S form has been submitted you should receive the ES/XXXX/I number to enter in the Full proposal form. If you have submitted your outline via your research organisation this might take slightly longer.
Submission of Stage 2 Full	Strongly recommend you create as soon as the outline has been submitted. Alternatively, aim to submit both the Outline and Full proposals no later than five days prior to the deadline	Depending on your Research Organisation, there may be additional steps in place which you and your Research Office will need to consider upon submission.

### 3 Guidelines for Proposals

Unlike in previous ORA Calls, both **Outline and Full proposals must be submitted by the same deadline of 16:00 (UK time) on 11 September 2019**. Applicants who are successful at outline will automatically progress to full stage. Proposals received after the deadline **will not be eligible and will be subsequently rejected**. Only proposals that meet all the conditions set out in this call text will be included in the assessment procedure. Applicants are obliged to ensure that both proposals contain sufficient and consistent information for assessment. The national agencies will not accept supplementary information or revisions after the deadline.



All proposals must be made via the official ORA sixth call forms using the Research Councils Joint Electronic Submission (Je-S) system [Je-S login page](#). Proposals can **only** be accepted by electronic submission through the Je-S system. When selecting the 'Proposal Call' on the Je-S system applicants must ensure that they select the correct call: '**ORA 6 Call 2019 Stage 1 Outline**' and '**ORA Six Call 2019 Stage 2 Full**'.

**It is mandatory requirement for this call that a separate Outline and Full proposals must be submitted via Je-S.**

### 3.1 Outline Proposals

Outline proposals should give a concise presentation of the proposal, written in plain, non-technical language that will allow an expert panel from the broad range of social-science sub-disciplines that ORA covers, to make an assessment. Assessment at the outline stage will consider the research idea, its novelty and originality, the expected contribution to scientific knowledge, the research design, the research team and added value of the international collaboration (see section 8 below for further information).

Outline proposals should consist of:

- Completed Outline Je-S Form
- Case for Support attachment
- CVs for all named applicants attachments
- Project Participants attachment
- Total budget and a short summary of costs attachment
- List of publications/ Bibliography attachment
- Former submissions and resubmission form attachment (if applicable)
- Summary of Japanese Proposal attachment (if applicable)

Full details of what to provide in all of these sections is provided in the Je-S Guidance.

Please note, full proposals will **not** be assessed at the outline stage, however at the full stage the Outline Case for Support will be shared with peer reviewers and the commissioning panel members, who will have access to all proposal documents.

Further details on the submission of Outline proposals, including eligibility requirements, are set out in section 8 of the Je-S Guidance for Applicants.

### 3.2 Full Proposals

Full proposals are the comprehensive and detailed scientific explanation of the proposed research. They should address expert peer reviewers and commissioning panel members in the respective research field. Proposals must give as much and thorough information as necessary and address the assessment criteria outlined in this call document (see section 8 below for further information).

Full proposals should consist of:

- Completed Full Je-S Form
- Case for Support attachment
- Justification of Resources attachment
- CVs for all named applicants attachments



- Final/Interim progress reports attachment (ESRC only, if applicable)
- Data Management Plan attachment (if applicable)
- Project timetable/Workplan attachment
- Project Participants attachment
- Total budget and a short summary of costs attachment
- National Financial Form attachments (if applicable for ANR, ESRC and SSHRC)
- List of publications/ Bibliography attachment
- Letters of support attachments (if applicable)
- Summary of Japanese Proposal attachment (if applicable)

We strongly recommend applicants submit their Outline proposal first and wait to receive their 'ES/XXXX/I' proposal number before submitting their full stage proposal. This will enable them to link their full proposal to the Outline proposal, taking advantage of the facility to copy information from the outline Je-S form to the full Je-S form. We suggest the Main Applicant follow this sequential process for submitting Outline and Full proposals:

1. We recommend the Main Applicant will create and submit the Outline proposal in Je-S no later than 10 days prior to the call deadline. However, applicants must ensure that they allocate sufficient time for completion of the research organisation submission process checks/authorisation which could vary.
2. Once the proposal has been submitted in Je-S to the Council, it will update in the Je-S system and display a grant reference number. Alternatively, the automatic email generated upon submission should contain this. Depending on your local Research Organisation (RO) processes this should be generated by the Je-S system automatically and sent promptly to your respective RO following submission of your outline proposal. The 'ES/XXXX/I' number should be shared with applicants as soon as possible by their respective research teams. For self-registered applicants the 'ES/XXXX/I' number will be sent to them directly.
3. Once you have received the outline grant reference number, create and submit the full proposal. Enter the Outline proposal 'ES/XXXX/I' number into the full proposal template on the Je-S form in the 'Related Proposals' section. Take benefit of an option to select 'copy existing documents' section prior to pressing create document which will copy over the information from your Outline proposals to the full. You will be able to add more information in the sections you have already entered and you will have additional sections and attachment requirements specified in the Je-S Guidance (see sections 14 and 15 for further information).

If applicants prefer to work on Outline and Full proposals in parallel, this is possible and will simply mean that they receive two different 'ES/XXXX/I' numbers (one for the outline submission and one for the full submission) which the office will link manually.

Applicants who are informed that they were successful at the outline call and shortlisted for the full call, are not allowed to make any changes to their already submitted full proposal. Further details on the submission of Full proposals are set out in section 15 of the Je-S Guidance for Applicants.

## 4 How to Apply

The proposals in outline and full calls have two elements: an online form requesting key information; and a series of mandatory attachments which are to be completed offline and uploaded as PDF attachments in Je-S. Generic guidance on the completion of the structured boxes and sections of the form is available from the Je-S Help screens, which can be found at the top right hand corner of each Je-S screen or by selecting the blue question mark in each section.

Applicants must ensure that they have read and complied with the generic guidance set out in the [Je-S Helptext](#), as well as the call specific criteria set out in this specification document. In the event that call specific guidance differs from generic Je-S advice, the call specific guidance should always be followed. Care and attention must be given to completing both stages of the proposal correctly and complying with all technical requirements. Proposals that are not completed correctly may be **rejected** by the call's Secretariat.

In order to use the Je-S system, the Main Applicant and his/her research organisation **need to register on the system** (further details on creating an account can be found on the [Je-S Helptext](#)). Registration of both the Main Applicant's research organisation and their own individual details must be completed before the proposals can be formally submitted to the ESRC. You can register your organisation by following: [Self-registration for organisation](#) link. **It is strongly recommended to register and create an account in Je-S as soon as possible after the call has been published and well before it closes.**

The final submission process is the responsibility of the Main Applicant and the ESRC cannot accept responsibility for any delays which may occur. It is recommended that applicants submit in good time before the call deadline, and allow sufficient time for their organisation to complete final checks of the proposal and the final submission process. We strongly advise applicants to secure confirmation from their relevant administrator that the proposal has been submitted successfully to the ESRC. If you are applying from a self-registered organisation, this will not apply.

## 5 Decision-making Process

There will be two stages to the decision making process:

### 5.1 Stage 1 Outline– Office checks and shortlisting panel

Once the call has closed the funding agencies will conduct office checks on all proposals. Proposals not deemed to be within the scope of the call or which **do not meet the core eligibility criteria will be rejected.**

Eligible Outline proposals will be reviewed by an international shortlisting panel of assessors, consisting of experts nominated by the four funding agencies. Expertise in the panel aims to widely cover the disciplinary fields targeted in the call. In the expert panel at least two assessors will be assigned for each Outline proposal. The shortlisting panel assesses the Outline proposals comparatively, using the defined criteria (see section below), and subsequently prioritises the proposals according to likelihood of funding, without making use of external referees. The panel will recommend a short list of proposals to the funding agencies, which will then move automatically to the second stage (as full proposals will already have been submitted).

All Main Applicants will receive notification of the results of the assessment and will be notified whether or not their proposal was successful in moving to full proposal. Unsuccessful proposals will be rejected.

Notification of the shortlisting decisions will be communicated to all applicants by approximately **January 2020** or later, depending on participating partners' approval procedures.

## **5.2 Stage 2 Full – Written peer review and commissioning panel**

Shortlisted proposal will automatically be processed by the call Secretariat to the Full proposal stage. Full Proposals (along with the respective outline Case for Support) are sent for assessment to external, independent referees for peer review. Each full proposal will be evaluated by a minimum of two external referees (according to the size and the disciplinary breadth of the projects, additional reviews may be commissioned). Based on those reviews proposals will be discussed by a joint commissioning panel. In the expert commissioning panel at least two panel members will be assigned to each full proposal. The assessments received from the external referees, and the pre-assessment from the two panel members will form the starting point for a joint review carried out by the commissioning panel. There will be some overlap in membership between the shortlisting panel from the Outline proposal stage and the commissioning panel from the full proposal stage. After discussion, the panel agrees on a rating and a funding recommendation to the funding agencies, taking into account the available national research agency budgets. The funding recommendations of the commissioning panel will be subject to approval by the national agencies. In making final decisions, the guiding principle will be scholarly merit (research excellence).

At the Full Stage following written peer review, but prior to the meeting of the commissioning panel, Main Applicants will be invited to submit (on behalf of all project participants) a response to comments received on their proposal. A template and further guidance on a format of this response will be provided by the call's Secretariat. This will allow applicants to correct any factual errors, conceptual misunderstandings, or to respond to any questions highlighted in the comments from assessors on proposals. This is **not** an opportunity for the Main Applicant to change or re-constitute the proposal in light of the comments received. Applicants are not obliged to submit a response, but are encouraged to do so as responses from applicants will be considered by the commissioning panel in making its decision on the final grading and ranking of proposals. If a response is not received from the Main Applicant within the requested deadline (see section 9 for further information), then the application will proceed to the commissioning panel without it.

**NOTE:** ESRC and other participating partners will not enter into correspondence or discussion concerning external assessors or panel members' comments prior and after the commissioning panel meeting. Further feedback and panel comments, if available, will be shared with applicants after the commissioning panel meeting.

Funding recommendations will be announced after the commissioning panel meeting. Applicants will receive the reviews of the external referees and a consensus report of the expert panel as feedback. Based on the recommendations by the panel, and taking into account the available (individual agency) budgets, the participating funding agencies will make final funding decisions, depending on the national rules.

The earliest starting date for successful proposals will be October 2020 and the latest starting date will be 31 March 2021. Subprojects from each country should start on the same date.

## **6 Reporting Requirements**

All successful applicants in the ORA six call will be required to complete a joint final report on their project after the grant ends. Further details on the format and deadlines for submission of the final report will be communicated to all successful applicants at contracting stage.

## **7 Data Protection Notice**

The ESRC as part of UK Research and Innovation, act as the co-ordinator for applications submitted to the ORA six call, and as such all personal data provided will be processed in accordance with current UK data protection legislation and the EU General Data Protection Regulation where applicable.

Your application will be shared, in confidence, with the funding partners in order to support the decision making process. The details relating to any successful applications will be made publicly available by the funding partners.

Further information on how we use personal data can be found in the UK Research and Innovation [Privacy Notice](#). If you have any specific questions about how your personal data will be handled in connection to the ORA six call please contact [oraqueries@esrc.ukri.org](mailto:oraqueries@esrc.ukri.org).

## **8 Assessment Criteria**

Assessors will be asked to comment on the following criteria when assessing proposals, and therefore applicants are advised to consider all the relevant criteria when preparing their proposals. Please see the table below for assessment criteria at outline and full stages.

Assessment Criteria - Outline Stage 1	Assessment Criteria - Full Stage 2
<b>The originality and potential contribution to new scientific knowledge (theory, methodology, or practice)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the proposed research likely to make an original and significant contribution to scientific knowledge? Is there an expected advancement in its own field and/or across different fields?</li> <li>• Is the relevant state of the art literature in the field considered adequately, or is there similar/related work not mentioned in the proposal of which the applicant(s) should be aware?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the proposed research likely to make an original and significant contribution to scientific knowledge? Is there an expected advancement in its own field and/or across different fields?</li> <li>• Is the relevant state of the art literature in the field considered adequately, or is there similar/related work not mentioned in the proposal of which the applicant(s) should be aware?</li> </ul>
<b>Research design</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent does the outline research design give confidence that the project is feasible and innovative?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent is the proposed research design and work plan appropriate to achieve the project's objectives?</li> <li>• Does the proposal have clear and sound conceptual and theoretical foundations?</li> <li>• Are the research methods and framework for analysis suitable to the aims and objectives; are they clearly defined, rigorous and feasible?</li> <li>• How innovative is the conceptual approach, or the research methodology?</li> <li>• Is there a convincing research management and sensible work plan? Is the timescale and scheduling of the work appropriate and realistic?</li> <li>• Is the research feasible? The research should be clearly demonstrated as logistically feasible in terms of both reasonable access being assured to any necessary data, research materials and infrastructure, and the resource plan and funding request, including the staffing requirements proposed, should be reasonable to facilitate the research.</li> </ul>
<b>The appropriateness of the research team and collaboration plans</b>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the qualifications and expertise of the participating researchers to conduct the research clear and appropriate to the research?</li> <li>• Have the applicants shown relevant and sound preliminary work and related previous publications of high quality? Have there already been joint projects?</li> <li>• Is the planned collaboration described well? Have the applicants clearly demonstrated the scientific added value of the international collaboration? How does the research profit considerably from combining expertise, methodologies, data etc.?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the qualifications and expertise of the participating researchers to conduct the research clear and appropriate to the research?</li> <li>• Have the applicants shown relevant and sound preliminary work and related previous publications of high quality? Have there already been joint projects?</li> <li>• Is the planned collaboration described well? Have the applicants clearly demonstrated the scientific added value of the international collaboration? How does the research profit considerably from combining expertise, methodologies, data etc.?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>The costings and value for money of the research</b></p>
	<p><i>Overall Value for Money</i>  Is the research proposed overall good value-for-money for the total cost involved? The key issue here is whether the core potential of the research, and the likely contribution to the advancement of knowledge, understanding and/or methodology which it will make, either narrowly within its particular focus or more broadly across its particular discipline or the sciences more generally, is likely to be sufficient to justify the costs involved.</p>
<p><b>Not assessed at Outline Stage 1</b></p>	<p><i>Individual Aspects of Resourcing the Proposal</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the specific funding requests in the following areas essential/sufficient for the proper conduct of the research proposed?</li> <li>• The overall length of time for the project; the amount of time to be devoted to it by the proposed principal and co-investigators, and their level of commitment.</li> <li>• The amount of time for research, technical and support staff and the level of appointment for such staff</li> <li>• The equipment, consumables and other directly incurred costs such as travel and subsistence</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs of collecting, establishing, providing or organizing the necessary data and research materials</li> <li>• The costs of research dissemination</li> <li>• Access to institutional research facilities.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Ethical issues</b></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the ethical issues raised by the proposed research, if any, addressed appropriately and comprehensively by the research proposal and the project design?</li> <li>• Have applicants made appropriate plans for data storage and providing access to data for other researchers?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Communication plans and likely impact of the work</b></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the planned scientific output of the research appropriate; have the applicants made adequate plans to publish and disseminate the results of the research?</li> <li>• Where relevant, have appropriate arrangements been made for engaging potential users of the research at relevant stages of the project?</li> <li>• Is the research likely to have significant impact beyond the academic community?</li> </ul>



## 9 Indicative Timetable

- Call for proposals open on Je-S - 14 May 2019
- Deadline for submitting Outline and Full proposals - 16.00 (UK time) on 11 September 2019
- Outline panel meeting - December 2019
- Shortlisting decisions to applicants - January 2020
- Commissioning panel meeting - June 2020
- Final decisions to applicants - September 2020
- Grants commence - from 1 October 2020

## 10 Contact Details

<u>Canada, SSHRC:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paula Popovici Telephone: +1 613 992 0498 Email: <a href="mailto:paula.popovici@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca">paula.popovici@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca</a></li><li>• Mika Oehling Telephone: +1 613 943 6001 Email: <a href="mailto:mika.oehling@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca">mika.oehling@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca</a></li></ul>	<u>United Kingdom, ESRC</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Marzena Bien Telephone +44 1793 413 150 Email: <a href="mailto:oraqueries@esrc.ukri.org">oraqueries@esrc.ukri.org</a></li><li>• Lauren Quinn Telephone: +44 1793 413 128 Email: <a href="mailto:oraqueries@esrc.ukri.org">oraqueries@esrc.ukri.org</a></li></ul>
<u>Germany, DFG:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Christiane Joerk Telephone: +49 228 885 2451 Email: <a href="mailto:christiane.joerk@dfg.de">christiane.joerk@dfg.de</a></li><li>• Sigrid Claßen Telephone: +49 228 885 2209 Email: <a href="mailto:sigrid.classen@dfg.de">sigrid.classen@dfg.de</a></li></ul>	<u>France, ANR:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sylvie Contrefois Telephone: +33 01 78 09 80 78 Email: <a href="mailto:sylvie.contrefois@agencerecherche.fr">sylvie.contrefois@agencerecherche.fr</a></li><li>• Marie Fleck Telephone: +33 01 78 09 80 06 Email: <a href="mailto:marie.fleck@agencerecherche.fr">marie.fleck@agencerecherche.fr</a></li></ul>

If you have any queries relating to the Je-S the Je-S Helpdesk can be contacted by e-mail: [jeshelp@je-s.ukri.org](mailto:jeshelp@je-s.ukri.org) or telephone +44 01793 44 4164; the Helpdesk is staffed Monday to Thursday 08.30 - 17.00, Friday 8:30 to 16:30 (UK time).

All other queries relating to this call should be directed to the call Secretariat:

Email: [oraqueries@esrc.ukri.org](mailto:oraqueries@esrc.ukri.org)  
Telephone: +44 (0) 1793 413 128/150

## 11 Country-Specific Additional Information

### 11.1 Additional information for ANR applicants

For complete eligibility criteria and additional guidance for French applicants, please check the “Modalités de participation pour les partenaires sollicitant une aide de l’ANR” on the [ANR website](#).

## Who can apply?

Please check the “Modalités de participation pour les partenaires sollicitant une aide de l’ANR” on the [ANR website](#).

## What are the eligible costs for researchers in your country?

Standard national rules apply, including for overheads. Staff costs, travel costs, outsourcing, investment costs and other costs are eligible under the provisions of the [ANR’s Règlement financier](#).

In addition to the submission of the Outline and Full proposal on Je-S, partners requesting support from ANR must submit the ANR administrative and financial information in the ANR submission system, along with the Outline and Full proposals already submitted in the Je-S system. Please refer to the document “Modalités de participation pour les partenaires sollicitant une aide de l’ANR” on the ANR website (<https://anr.fr/ORA-6-2019>) for information details and eligibility criteria.

## Other information

Applicants will be required to state the ‘ES/X000000/I’ number from Je-S Outline proposal when submitting to ANR system. The funding agencies need this information to link the different submissions.

For submissions via ANR’s system applicants are required to provide an acronym for the proposal with French participants. This is to meet ANR’s specific reporting and contracting requirements.

Applicants will have one additional week (up until 18 September 2019 at 17:00 CEST) to complete their submission of the full proposal on the [ANR website](#).

## Additional information for DFG applicants

Please consult the Guidelines and Proposal Preparation Instructions for research grants for further information on eligibility.

[Merkblatt Programm Sachbeihilfe, German and English](#)

DFG’s regulation concerning *First Time Applicants* will not be taken into account for this call.

All applicants requesting funding from DFG are required to additionally submit their ORA proposals through the DFG’s elan system (<https://elan.dfg.de>). Proposals with German applicants that are not entered into elan will be rejected. Please note the following instructions for submission:

- Deadline for elan submission: 18 September 2019
- Funding scheme: Individual Grants Programme/Research Grant (Sachbeihilfe)
- Only one submission in elan, not two
- Outline proposal (Case for Support) is just an attachment and not to be entered in a separate scheme!
- Call to select: ORA VI 2019

- Acronym: Please do NOT fill in an acronym, use it to state the 'ES/X000000/I' number from your Outline proposal submission to Je-S. The funding agencies need this information to link the different submissions.
- Title and Summary: You do not have to translate either from English into German. Just copy/paste your English title and summary into the boxes that call for the information in German.
- Note: There are different character limits for the summary in Je-S (4,000 characters) and elan (3,000 characters).
- PIs from the other participating countries are to be added as "Participating Individuals" in the role of "Cooperation Partner".
- All documents submitted to Je-S are to be uploaded to elan as well.
- DFG-specific documents (e.g. statement from the potential employer for Temporary Positions for PI or the statement by the university for the Replacement Module) need only be submitted to elan, not to Je-S.

## 1.2 Additional information for ESRC applicants

**Notice:** The total budget requested for the UK project is a minimum of £200,000 at 100% fEC and a maximum of £600,000 at 100 per cent fEC (£480,000 at 80 per cent fEC), per project. All resources requested must be fully justified in the 'Justification of Resources' attachment. No UK project linked Associated Studentships are eligible under this scheme.

Standard ESRC research funding terms and conditions apply as set out in the [ESRC Research Funding Guide](#).

### **Eligibility**

The ESRC is the UK's leading research and training funding agency addressing economic and social concerns. The ESRC will fund the UK partner(s) of successful proposals that fall within its remit. A full list of acceptable ESRC research areas is available on the [ESRC website](#).

Applicants will need to ensure that their research falls within ESRC's remit prior to submission. The ESRC strongly encourages inter/multidisciplinary working both within and beyond the social sciences, as long as at least 50% of the proposed programme of research is within ESRC remit. Please refer to the list of research areas that fall within [ESRC remit](#) for further information.

All UK applicants (whether Principal or Co-Investigators) requesting funding from the ESRC must be associated with an eligible Research Organisation. Applicants are encouraged to consult the [ESRC Research Funding Guide](#) for eligibility information.

The ESRC will fund and support high quality basic, strategic and applied research in the social sciences which meet the needs of users and beneficiaries. Our mission places emphasis on ensuring researchers engage fully with the users of research outcomes. These may be other academics, government departments, public bodies, business, voluntary organisations or other interested partners.

Applicants requesting ESRC funds may therefore also include costs associated with knowledge exchange, co-production and collaboration between researchers and the private, public and civil society sectors. This may include costs for activities such as:

- academic placements with a civil society, business or public organisation
- policy or evidence seminars

- the development of tools that emerge from research that can maximise the use of research outputs in practitioner communities, and
- collaborative research, where researchers are engaging directly with users in shaping the research agenda in applying social science to current issues relating to policy, strategy or practice.

In such cases, the ESRC expects to see research and knowledge exchange activities developed in collaboration with non-academic stakeholders, and welcomes co-funding (case or in-kind) as a demonstration of support for such activities. When requesting expenditure for involvement including non-academic Co-Investigators, please refer to [Inclusion of UK business, third sector or government body co-investigators on ESRC proposals](#).

**NOTE:** If a UK applicant is **successful** they will be required to submit their full proposal with UK costings via Je-S as a condition of access to UK ESRC funding. At this point, all UK applicants including Co-Investigators will need to be Je-S registered.

### ***UK Co-Investigators in business, civil society or government bodies***

Please note that any researcher from an established business, civil society or government body based in the UK will be eligible to be listed as a Co-Investigator(s). For further information please refer to the Inclusion of UK business, third sector or government body co-investigators on ESRC proposals document available on [ESRC website](#).

### ***International Co-Investigators (from non-ORA Call participating countries)***

Please note that any academic researcher (PhD or equivalent) from an established international research organisation of comparable standing to an ESRC-eligible UK research organisation will be eligible to be listed as an international Co-Investigator under this scheme. Please note that international costs must not exceed 30% of the full 100% fEC cost of the grant. Please note that the total of these costs and the costs for UK co-investigators in business, civil society or government bodies must not exceed 30% of the full 100% fEC cost of the grant.

It is recommended that potential overseas-based Co-Investigators should contact the Je-S Helpdesk ([jeshelp@je-s.ukri.org](mailto:jeshelp@je-s.ukri.org)) if their organisation is not selectable as part of the Je-S person account registration process. These organisations will then be added to the Je-S database which will allow relevant selection as part of the required person account registration process (that co-applicants are obliged to initiate, via the login page). Please ensure you initiate such discussions as soon as possible before the call closing date.

Please consult the [guidance](#) on international co-investigators on proposals for further information.

### ***Associated Studentships***

Associated Studentships are not allowed for the UK component of ORA.

### ***ESRC successful applicants***

As a condition of access to UK ESRC funding, all successful UK applicants will be required to complete an additional submission via Je-S for administrative purposes. The additional call for submissions will be open only to UK applicants who were successful in the ORA sixth call. Further details and a timetable for this activity will be communicated to successful UK applicants following final funding decisions.

### **ESRC Resubmissions Policy**

ESRC does not allow the resubmission of any previously unsuccessful proposal.

This explicitly means that no previously unsuccessful ORA proposal with a UK applicant can be resubmitted to an ORA call or another ESRC scheme. Similarly, an unsuccessful ESRC proposal from another scheme cannot be submitted to the ORA. Proposals previously considered by another UK Research Council may not be resubmitted to this call unless they were rejected on remit grounds.

### **UK ESRC expenditure**

For the Full Stage 2 applicants from the UK are requested to complete the UK ESRC Specific [Financial Form](#).

UK applicants are requested to provide a detailed breakdown of costings with clear justification. Costings within the ESRC expenditure spreadsheet must be provided in pounds sterling (£).

Requests for funds from ESRC must adhere to ESRC funding guidelines as found in our [Research Funding Guide](#).

Please also make clear any additional Project Partner details and contribution (outside of the participating country applicants).

## **1.3 Additional information for SSHRC applicants**

Canadian researchers are invited to submit proposals in any discipline or subject area eligible for SSHRC funding. Please see [Subject Matter Eligibility](#) for more information.

For specific eligibility criteria, terms and conditions of participation, and additional specific guidance for Canadian applicants, please check the “SSHRC National Addendum ORA 6” and “SSHRC Terms-and-Conditions-for-Applying ORA 6” on SSHRC’s website (link to be provided soon).