

go!digital 3.0

– The Digital Humanities Funding Programme of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW) –

Preamble

Through *go!digital 3.0* the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW) is continuing its successful programme of funding research projects in the area of digital humanities. *Go!digital 3.0* funds quality-assured excellent basic research in digital humanities and pursues the objective of sustainably maintaining research data and making the same available to science and, in a further step, to society. The call is financed by the *Österreich-Fonds*.

Objectives of the programme

The objective of the programme is to further strengthen humanities and, in particular, digital humanities in Austria both with regard to the research landscape and its role in society, through:

- a) support of **young scientists**;
- b) promotion of **interdisciplinary cooperation between research and memory institutions** (a special challenge in the implementation of digital research projects due to the diversity in terms of materials and interests, and a significant desideratum); and
- c) **warranting the sustainability and availability** of data and tools as a condition for lasting participation opportunities of society in digital research.

The funded projects must deal with clear issues of humanities, social or cultural sciences and explain where the significance and added value of the digital humanities methods applied for that purpose may lie. Relevant funding criteria therefore include: innovation, impact, sustainability, risk awareness from an academic and social perspective.

Irrespective of whether the projects draw on available digitalised materials or whether they create new materials, contemporary paradigms such as open innovation and the broad portfolio of digital humanities methods, standards and technologies must be significantly applied in them.

The following methods, standards and technologies are deemed relevant:

- automation (machine learning, natural language processing (NLP), computer-assisted reconstruction, etc.);
- automated processing (distant reading, text mining, etc.);

- semantic web technologies (controlled vocabularies, taxonomies, ontologies, semantic technologies, web-based information systems, sentiment analysis, text, image and music annotation, etc.);
- data structuring and digital research (data modelling, digital editions, linked open data, virtual research environments, etc.);
- visualisation (geospatial visualisation, digital representation of humanities knowledge, etc.); and
- methods of public involvement (crowdsourcing, gamification, etc.).

The programme puts a special focus on the sustainability of data. Digital research infrastructures for humanities, social and cultural sciences have been being developed as part of large projects (ARCHE, Phaedra, GAMS, CENDARI, ARIADNE, DASISH, PARTHENOS, SSHOC, etc.) and the European research infrastructure consortiums CLARIN and DARIAH for some years. In order to sustainably strengthen digital sciences and the role of humanities, social and cultural studies in Austria the projects should be specifically based on these infrastructures and the data obtained should be available in a suitable and compatible form in open access repositories for it to be used in other projects, in particular in international collaborations as well. In line with pan-European policies such as EOSC (European Open Science Cloud) *go!digital 3.0* is also intended to strengthen awareness of the significance of digital data, open paradigms, FAIR principles and digital infrastructures and in this way drive digital transformation in humanities, social and cultural sciences.

Target group

The call should address academics and scientists in humanities, social and cultural sciences until up to five (5) years after their final academic degree who wish to carry out interdisciplinary digital humanities projects in the area of basic research. The research project must be carried out at an Austrian research institution (i.e. universities, non-university research institutions, archives, libraries, museums, etc). Applications must be submitted by at least two (2) partners from different research institutions; interdisciplinary cooperation between research and memory institutions is expressly desired here.

Application requirements

- Submission as a group of at least two (2) academic professionals until up to five (5) years after their final academic degree (calculated from the date the certificate was issued up to 1 September 2021; copies of the certificates of all applicants must be enclosed with the application).
(An appropriate gender balance should be ensured in the composition of the submitting group).
- The applicants shall be the project management (principal investigators). One of the applicants must assume the role of application (project) coordinator.
- No applicant may take part in more than one application.
(The above-stated requirements do not apply to other persons collaborating in the project who are not acting as applicants).
- The project must be carried out at an Austrian research institution. Upon submission of the application applicants must present approval from the research institution in

which the project is intended to be carried out (declaration of consent). In the case research institution is changed during the proceedings approval from the new research institution must be evidenced by presentation of a declaration of consent.

- A research institution may support multiple applications.
- The data obtained and tools created will be made available in a suitable and compatible form in open access/source repositories and represent a part of the Austrian contributions to CLARIN and DARIAH.

Funding term

- Maximum of 2 years

Amount of grant

The budget for each of the projects is between a minimum of EUR 150,000 and a maximum of EUR 220,000. A minimum of 10 projects are envisaged. The grant shall cover overheads in the amount of 10% of the direct project costs. The following project-specific direct costs which are required for carrying out the project and achieving the research objective may be applied for:

- staff costs (if applied for, including those for the principal investigators). The Collective Bargaining Agreement applicable to the research institution shall be used for calculating the staff cost rates. If no Collective Bargaining Agreement exists, the cost rates of the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) shall be used.
- Costs for consumables
- Travel expenses
- Other expenses (e.g. costs of research infrastructure or equipment, software, commissioning of external services; costs for making accessible and long-term archiving of research data and open access publications)

Procedure

The call for proposals is open to all topics and is published in all of Austria.

It is a two-step application procedure: step 1 of the application procedure (short proposal) is open to all applicants who fulfil the application requirements (see above); step 2 of the application procedure (full proposal) may only be entered into upon invitation.

The selection procedure is international; the application, assessment and hearing will be done in English.

Call begins: **30 September 2021**

Application step 1:

- The coordinator must submit the following to the Department of Research Funding - National and International Programmes by email to programmmanagement@oeaw.ac.at by **30 November 2021**:
 - o "Short Proposal" application form, completed in full (for a template please see the application documents);
 - o Documents of the applicants consisting of an informative CV, list of publications, evidence of (an) academic degree(s), signed declaration of consent from the

research institution (for a template please see the application documents, = 1 file for each applicant;

- All submissions which meet the necessary formal requirements for application (see application requirements) will be presented to an independent international jury. For the purposes of the objectives of the programme and based on scientific excellence and originality of the research project the jury will invite selected principal investigators to submit full applications **by mid-January 2022**. No expert opinions will be obtained in that stage. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified of the rejection immediately.

Application step 2 (only upon invitation):

- The expected deadline for submission of the full proposal is **28 February 2022**.
- The full proposal must primarily consist of detailed specifications of the project in terms of contents, methodology, technology and project organisation (work and budget planning). The full proposal must comply with the short proposal. The Department of Research Funding - National and International Programmes must be notified of changes, if any. Changes concerning the applicants or research institutions must fulfil the requirements for submission of an application.
- External expert opinions will be obtained for all full proposals.
- A **hearing** before the jury during which the projects will be presented and discussed with the jury will be held in **May 2022**. All project teams who have submitted a full proposal may be invited to the hearing.
- The award decision of the independent international jury is expected to be announced in the **end of May 2022**. The applicants will be informed of the outcome.

Data protection and the rules of good scientific practice

By taking part in this call for proposals the applicants acknowledge that the related data and documents will be forwarded to the members of the jury and to experts. The data and documents will be forwarded for the purpose of evaluation of the application and decision-making with regard to the award of grants (see also the [Data Protection Information of ÖAW](#)).

ÖAW abides by the [Guidelines of Good Scientific Practice](#) of the Austrian Agency for Research Integrity (ÖAWI). **All applications will be checked for plagiarism by means of the software Similarity (Turnitin)**. Violations of the rules of good scientific practice will result in immediate exclusion of the application.

Funding modalities (excerpt)

- The selected projects must start not later than 6 months after transmission of the grant letter and will have a maximum project term of 24 months. A funding agreement will be concluded with the principal investigators. Provided that no extra costs arise, the project term may be extended by up to 6 months if well-founded reasons are given.
- The project progress and the use of funds must be reported once a year. The programme management must immediately be informed of any changes to the project plan. Changes which have not been reported will result in discontinuation of the project. The

programme management will decide at their discretion whether to accept changes or to have them evaluated externally or, in the worst case, to reject them.

- After completion of the project a comprehensive final project report must be presented, which will then undergo evaluation. The project shall be deemed completed only after successful evaluation of the project results.

Application documents

Call for proposals

Short proposal form

Signature form

Contact

Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW)

Department of Research Funding - National and International Programmes

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