



## Grants for Internationalisation Research: Responsible Internationalisation

The aim of this programme is to contribute to new knowledge on the responsible internationalisation of higher education and research by funding relevant research. Projects must also lead to greater collaboration between different actors with expertise in the area of internationalisation. Call themes are based on relevant needs identified by STINT.

For higher education and research, international collaboration is crucial in ensuring high quality. However, it is important that cooperation proceeds responsibly. Today international relations are more complex than ever before, which means that we need to be even more aware of how we build and manage them. Being responsible for instance involves taking ethical, legal, financial and security aspects into account. Often a balance must be struck between different aims, such as excellence, openness and security. Such considerations demand extensive knowledge of the international landscape, beyond the research area of the project.

Issues of responsible internationalisation arise in a variety of contexts, such as when choosing partners for collaboration, planning trips abroad, recruiting students and staff from other countries, receiving grants and donations, receiving foreign visitors, or sharing data or intellectual property. In 2020, STINT published guidelines highlighting these issues. These guidelines have since become an important foundation for the discussion of issues related to responsibility in international collaborations at institutional, national and international levels. STINT continues to promote responsible internationalisation by supporting international academic collaborations in Sweden and abroad.

Although knowledge in the area of responsible internationalisation has developed considerably and efforts are ongoing in many places to establish such an approach, there is a general need for greater knowledge on and exchange of experience in the area of responsible internationalisation. This was for example noted in *Responsible internationalisation, Interim report on a government assignment* [*Ansvarsfull internationalisering, Delrapportering av ett regeringsuppdrag*], published in March this year as 2024:1 in the Swedish Council for Higher Education's (UHR) report series. Responsible internationalisation raises many difficult questions and more research is needed in this area. In order to increase understanding of responsible internationalisation in a Swedish context, STINT offers funding to establish a research group on responsible internationalisation at a Swedish higher education institution. The group should have relevant experience as well as an international network that includes research environments and actors in this area.

### Call procedure

The call requires a complete application to be submitted in PDF format by email to [gir@stint.se](mailto:gir@stint.se) before 15:00 (CEST) on 31 May 2024. Applications must be written in English and include the following sections:

- Application form



- Project description (max. five pages; min. font size of 10 pt.), clearly describing, at a minimum:
  - How the project relates to the review criteria (see below)
  - Objectives in relation to research and higher education
  - Contribution to and from each project partner
  - Project plan
  - Available resources
  - Risk analysis
- Abbreviated CVs of applicant and partners (max. two pages per person)
- An itemised budget

If you have questions about the programme, please contact Mattias Löwhagen at +46 8 67119 96 or [mattias.lowhagen@stint.se](mailto:mattias.lowhagen@stint.se).

## Formal terms

Applications must meet the following requirements to be considered for funding:

1. The applicant holds a PhD, or equivalent, and is fully employed by a Swedish higher education institution.
2. Funds applied for may not exceed 4 million SEK for a minimum period of two years.
3. The proposed project starts no later than November 2024 and has a planned duration of at least two years.
4. The proposed project includes the formation of a research group consisting of at least three researchers with expertise in:
  - a. Responsible Internationalisation
  - b. Related areas, such as Geopolitics and Analytics.
5. The proposal should demonstrate how the project will connect to relevant international research groups and networks.
6. The proposal should outline a plan for obtaining funding from other funders after the initial two-year period.
7. The applicants agree to cooperate in accordance with the principles of academic freedom, good research practice, and responsible internationalisation. Methods, data and results will be openly accounted for. The proposed project fulfils all ethical requirements and it has been approved by relevant entities at the participating organisations.
8. For applications concerning collaboration with Belarus, Iran, North Korea or Russia, a support letter from the vice-chancellor at the Swedish higher education institution is required.

## Assessment process and criteria

Applications will be assessed by STINT, using relevant expertise as needed. The following criteria will apply in the assessment:



<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Sample questions</b>
Contribution to new knowledge and practices relating to the internationalisation of higher education and research	How does the project contribute to identified needs expressed in the call, regarding analysis and/or relevant new knowledge and new solutions/innovations respectively? What is the level of the project's scientific quality and potential? What are the previous results of the candidate's work in this field?
Collaboration and project management	How do the competences and resources of the respective parties relate to each other? How new is the proposed collaboration? To what extent does the project offer opportunities for Postdocs, PhD and/or Master students to carry out research? Is the project plan clear, specific, cost-efficient, and realistic (availability of resources)? Is the project design cost efficient with a minimised negative impact on the environment? Is the proposed project ethically sound?

In line with the review criteria, please note that the combination of partners participating in the proposed project is important. STINT especially welcomes the participation of junior researchers. It is also considered positive if the proposed project incorporates a combination of scientific fields, and/or both practitioners and more theoretically oriented resources.

## Project implementation and reports

Funds are normally paid out in the form of grants. Annual situation reports will be requested as well as a final report, which should be submitted to STINT no later than three months after the end of the project.

Requests for extensions will be viewed restrictively. However, parental leave or long-term sick leave on the part of key persons will constitute grounds for extending the period for which a STINT grant can be used.