



UACES RESEARCH NETWORKS APPLICATION PACK

ABOUT

The ethos behind our Research Networks (RNs) is to provide some initial funding to enable researchers to develop networks across a range of institutions, which may perhaps lead to bigger projects and funding from other sources in the future. The networks should be inclusive rather than insular.

UACES Research Network activities include dedicated research meetings and workshops; participation in larger conferences such as the UACES Annual Conference or other relevant events; contributing to the UACES Newsletter and to pursuing other publishing and dissemination opportunities (journals, books, podcasting, blogging).

Successful networks will receive up to 5,000 GBP spread over a three-year period. The funding period will expire on 30/06/2025.

We are also offering an additional £1000 of funding (spread over 3 years) which is specifically to support attendance at the UACES conferences 2022, 2023 and 2024. This can help to cover travel, accommodation and registration fees for members of the network who attend the UACES annual conference. It is not available for any other purpose and cannot be transferred to other parts of the network's activities. Please note, this additional funding cannot be used to pay for tickets for the UACES conference dinner.

In 2021, we invite applications for two kinds of Research Networks:

UACES Research Networks

For 2021, applications are invited for two new Research Networks to run from 2022-2025 on any topic in contemporary European Studies. See more about the assessment criteria [here](#).

UACES-JMCT Research Network on Federalism and Europe

For 2021, applications are invited for one new Research Network to run from 2022-2025 on the topic of federalism, federal governance or regionalism in Europe, in line with the objects of the [James Madison Charitable Trust \(JMCT\)](#), broadly conceived. This RN will be generously supported by the JMCT.

The assessment criteria, finances, requirements and application process is the same for both kinds of RNs, but please state in your application if you would like to be considered for the UACES-JMCT RN.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Proposals will be considered by a panel composed of members of the UACES Committee. The application process is competitive and funds are limited. Successful applications will be expected to submit an annual report and acknowledge UACES in any publications or events that arise from the activities of the Network.

Selections will be made on the basis of the following criteria:

Eligibility

The network has been proposed by an Individual or Early-Career member of UACES	Required
The proposer works at a recognised University (or Higher Education Institution) and will act as the Research Network co-ordinator in the event of a successful application	Required

Each of the network co-ordinators are proceeding with the knowledge and support of their Institutions Required

The proposal is for a 3-year project commencing in Spring/Summer 2021 Required

Aims and Relevance

There is sufficient intellectual rationale for establishing a UACES Research Network in this field Required

The aims of the network are clear, with well-defined targets Required

Accessibility and Participation

The network will be multi-national Required

The network will be interdisciplinary Required

The inclusion of other UACES members will be encouraged Required

The activities of the network will not be geographically limited Desirable

The network will encourage the participation of experienced, early-career and postgraduate researchers Desirable

The network will bring together academics and policy-makers Desirable

Financial Aspects

The proposal includes a coherent budget, with a breakdown for each year of the project Required

The budget is within the 5,000 GBP limit Required

The budget is limited to [eligible expenses](#) Required

There is institutional support for managing the financial aspects of the network and for settling individual claims and invoices Required

Outputs

The network will have an active online presence	Required
The network will contribute to the UACES Newsletter	Required
The network has a schedule of dedicated research meetings and workshops	Desirable
The network is planning to participate in the UACES annual conference	Desirable
The network is planning to participate in other large conferences	Desirable
The network has a publishing strategy	Desirable

Benefit to UACES

UACES will receive publicity at other large conferences	Desirable
UACES will benefit from increased participation at the UACES annual conference	Desirable
UACES will be acknowledged in the publications that arise from the activities of the network	Desirable
UACES will be introduced to a new audience	Desirable
Existing UACES members will have an active role in the network	Desirable

ONLINE PRESENCE

It is important that UACES Research Networks have an online presence, in order to be accessible, open and collaborative.

Research Networks are required to:

- Send UACES relevant updates for their page on the UACES website
- Create and manage their own online presence. This must be one or more of the following:
 - A website
 - A blog (e.g. hosted on [Ideas on Europe](#))

- An active social media account (eg on Twitter or Facebook)

Social Media

Create a dedicated public Twitter profile or Facebook page to post your news and engage with new audiences. A visitor should be able to find out what the network is and what it is about, what the latest and upcoming activities are, and how they can get involved (e.g. mailing list, event, publication).

Web Hosting

To create your own website, we strongly recommend that you use something like <http://sites.google.com> to construct and host your website. Apart from being free, it allows collaboration with multiple web editors and it gives you independence from any Institution. Being an online tool, it also allows you to edit your website from any computer with an internet connection without any special software being required. Alternatively, you could build a site with <http://wordpress.com>.

Domain Name

A domain name can be obtained for less than 10 euros/year from providers such as www.joker.com. UACES will also create a short URL which can be used to direct people to the network website.

Blogging

As well as traditional publishing in journals and presenting papers at conferences, you can also disseminate research results, generate discussion and get feedback by blogging on sites such as www.ideason europe.eu.

In addition to the required online presence above, you may also like to consider:

Online Publishing

The [Journal of Contemporary European Research](#) is an online peer-reviewed journal and there are many others.

Email List

Consider using services like [jiscmail](#) to set up an email list for your network, to allow your network members to communicate with each other effectively. Use your website to advertise the email list, so that new members can join easily.

FINANCES

Successful networks will receive up to 5,000 GBP over a three-year period.

We are also offering an additional 1,000 GBP of funding (spread over three years) which is specifically to support attendance at the UACES conferences in 2022, 2023 and 2024. This can help to cover travel, accommodation and registration fees for members of the network who attend the UACES annual conference. It is not available for any other purpose and cannot be transferred to other parts of the network's activities. Please note, this additional funding cannot be used to pay for tickets for the UACES conference dinner.

Eligible expenses which UACES will contribute to include:

- Travel expenses for participants
- Accommodation for participants
- Room and/or audio-visual equipment hire
- Catering
- Website hosting and domain registration

UACES will NOT contribute to administrative overheads, such as:

- Staff costs
- Photocopying

- Phones
- Postage

Our funding is for the network, rather than any particular institution, and the burden of responsibility for meeting any obligations falls upon the network co-ordinators. This also means that the funding is transferable; if the co-ordinator changes institution, the funding moves as well. We would also expect that any individuals working on these kinds of activities should be doing so with the support and knowledge of their institutions.

Our funding is a reimbursement of expenses, which we refund against receipts or an invoice (with copies of the original receipts). It is our expectation that UACES will be refunding an Institution; with the Institution responsible for settling individual claims.

Funding for years 2 and 3 is subject to successful completion of the previous year. Successful completion is based on the objectives set out in your original proposal and a progress report submitted to, and approved by UACES.

Funding for 'inactive' networks will be re-allocated to new networks. Funding will not be rolled over beyond 3 years.

The aim is for networks to become self-funding by the end of the three-year UACES funding period. It is not the intention of UACES to fund a Research Network for more than one three-year term.

Other Funding Bodies

The funding available from UACES is relatively modest - we see it as 'seed' money which should allow researchers to establish coherent networks which should help when trying to obtain funding from larger funding bodies in the future.

- [The Economic and Social Research Council \(ESRC\)](#)
- [European Science Foundation](#)
- [Jean Monnet Networks \(Erasmus+\)](#)
- [The Leverhulme Trust](#)
- [British Academy](#)
- [The German Marshall Fund of the United States](#)
- [The Volkswagen Foundation](#)
- [Arts and Humanities Research Council \(AHRC\)](#)
- [Foundation German-American Academic Relations](#)

APPLY

To apply, send a proposal to: admin@uaces.org.

Proposals

Proposals must set out a clear plan for the intended three-year funding period, commencing in Spring 2022.

Proposals must include the following information:

- A title for the network;
- Name, position and email address of intended network co-ordinator(s);
- An indication of how the Research Network will be managed and what roles will be delegated;
- Area of research activity, including the intellectual rationale for establishing a Research Network in this field (300-500 words);
- List of intended members and target groups of the network, with a clear indication as to who has already agreed to participate;

- A statement of the Research Network's intended activities and outputs, together with targets for each year;
- A statement as to how the Research Network will encourage access and participation;
- A commitment towards establishing an online presence for the network in the first year;
- A budget for the three year funding period, including an annual budget for each year of activity;
- A commitment from the intended co-ordinator of the Research Network or suitable Higher Education Institution (HEI) officer to administer the financial aspects of the network.

Please make sure that you have read and understood the Assessment Criteria and the information about Finances before submitting your proposal.

Deadline

The deadline for the next round of applications is **Friday 29 October 2021**.

We will acknowledge receipt of your application by return email.