M U N I F A C U L T Y O F S O C I A L S T U D I E S

## FSS GRANT STRATEGY 2025

FSS ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL IN GRANT COMPETITIONS

## 1.BACKGROUND

- / We implement meaningful research projects that expand knowledge and bring benefits to society.
- / We create conditions that support the submission of grant applications and the successful implementation of grant projects.
- / We help motivate employees to submit grant applications and implement research projects in preferred grant schemes.
- / We make maximum use of the financial possibilities provided by grant rules and handle the obtained funds economically.
- / We consider funding from external sources for research activities as an important part of our budget.
- / The priority international grant scheme is Horizont Evropa and its sub-programmes.
- / Priority domestic grant schemes are GAČR and TAČR.

## 2.0BJECTIVES

## FSS ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL IN GRANT COMPETITIONS

The long-term objective of the FSS in the field of research grants is that

- the method of distributing institutional support toward the long-term conceptual development of a
  research organization (LCDRO)<sup>1</sup> bolsters the acquisition of grant funds, i.e. that units recognize success in
  grant competitions in their budgets and that the acquisition of grant funds means an increase in salary for
  each member of an investigator team<sup>2</sup>;
- 2. every academic staff member with full-time employment at the FSS is involved in, or seeks to be involved in, grant projects supported by sources outside MUNI;
- 3. there exist researchers and research teams at all FSS departments who seek to be/are investigators of international grants in partner roles;
- 4. there exist researchers and research teams at the FSS who seek to be/are investigators of international grants in coordinator roles;
- 5. work is conducted with talented people who are at the beginning of their academic careers;
- 6. international cooperation is functional, and that the employment of foreign collaborators is more affordable within the framework of grant projects;
- 7. all FSS support office actively provide services of high quality and expertise so that academic staff can focus on professional activities .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> LCDRO: financial support from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports for the long-term conceptual development of a research organization; put simply, this is money that we obtain for research performance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All of the following salary measures apply to academic staff. The degree to which such measure is valid for non-academic employees is decided by the head of the unit where the grant project is investigated.

M U N I F A C U L T Y O F S O C I A L S T U D I E S

## 3 . FINANCING

THE ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL MUST FEEL THE DIFFERENCE IN THE BUDGET AND SALARY

## DEPARTMENTS

- 1. The awarded overhead funds <sup>3</sup> will be returned to each department where a research grant project is investigated<sup>4</sup>.
- 2. The rules for reimbursing overhead costs will be adjusted annually as part of the budgetary rules.
- 3. For the year 2021, the return of overhead costs is set as

follows:

60%: Horizont Evropa, ERC, GAČR - EXPRO, Junior Star

50%: GAČR, department ministerial

projects

30%: TAČR, other projects

## APPLICANTS

1. The team of applicants will receive a bonus of at least 5,000–10,000 CZK<sup>5</sup> for a submitted proposal or a successful proposal.

#### INVESTIGATOR TEAM

- 1. Each member of the investigator team<sup>6</sup> will have an increased personal evaluation for the duration of the project by at least 40% of the funds from the awarded tariff component of the salary without coparticipation.
- 2. The increase is applied starting on 1 April of the calendar year, i.e. from the date of determining the personal evaluation.

## HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT

1. Success in grant competitions will form 20% of the annual financial evaluation awarded by the Dean for the heads of departments and 40% for the heads of research departments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Overhead funds are not returned for projects of special research or the projects of operational programmes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Awarded overhead funds are the overhead costs actually incurred to cover the common operating costs of the FSS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The specific amount according to the possibilities of the unit is determined by the head of the unit at which the project proposal was submitted. The amount is distributed among the team members by the applicant. The head ensures the remuneration is paid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> All of the salary measures apply to academic staff. The degree to which such measure is valid for non-academic employees is decided by the head of the unit where the grant project is investigated.

M U N I F A C U L T Y O F S O C I A L S T U D I E S

## 4. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

WE ACTIVELY SUPPORT OUR RESEARCHERS TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS

#### BACKGROUND

- / Support offices provide researchers with a high quality service and actively assist researchers in obtaining grants and in their successful implementation.
- / Within the rules set by the provider, support office staff actively search out the solutions that researchers need.
- / The support provided makes the work of researchers easier, is easily accessible, and highly professional .

## PROJECT PROPOSAL

- 1. Standard support: well-known (GAČR, TAČR), simple (Horizont Evropa partner) or low priority calls, the applicants themselves manage the creation of the project proposal
- 2. Support plus: calls we are very interested in (Horizon Europe coordinator), calls difficult to coordinate; preparation of the project proposal is managed by an employee of the Office for Research and Project Support, the applicant supplies documents according to the administrator's instructions
- 3. External support: the project proposal is managed and written by an external company, the applicant primarily communicates with an employee of the Office for Research and Project Support, the applicant supplies documents according to the administrator's instructions

## PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

- Support is provided by the Office for Research and Project Support, Finance Office, Personnel Office, CICT, Central Library of the FSS, Internal and External Communication Office, and the Office for International Relations.
- 2. The researcher knows what about and whom they can ask for help if necessary. The activities provided by individual support office are described and contact persons at individual support offices are assigned.
- 3. The primary contact person is an employee of the Office for Research and Project Support.

## SUPPORTING TOOLS

- 1. Project proposals, interim and final reports of FSS researchers are available to people from the Office for Research and Project Support who can use them as examples of good practice for other researchers.
- 2. Workshops and trainings organized by support offices.
- 3. Document stating the responsibilities of support offices and contact persons.

M U N I F A C U L T Y O F S O C I A L S T II D I F S

# 5.WORKING WITH TALENTED PEOPLE AND SUPPORTING EXCELLENCE

TALENTED PEOPLE ARE OUR FUTURE

#### BACKGROUND

- / Our future is affected by how we work with talented people who are at the beginning of their academic career.
- / There are people who have greater potential for research than others. These people should receive from us support that will allow them to develop their potential as rapidly as possible and make the most of it.
- / Being able to identify talented people in time will allow us to take better care of their potential and develop them faster.

#### SEARCHING FOR TALENTS

- 1. We will search out junior employees with the potential to achieve prestigious grants (e.g. ERC Starting, GAČR Junior Star) and to achieve excellent research results.
- 2. We will prepare a system for identifying junior employees with the potential to achieve excellent research results.

## TALENT DEVELOPMENT AND THE SUPPORT OF EXCELLENCE

- 1. We will support the development of talented people who are at the beginning of their academic careers, both materially and personally.
- 2. The Office for Research and Project Support will help plan the grant "career" of talented juniors and help them find suitable grant calls.
- 3. The faculty will provide financial support for the development of talented people (for education, internships and study periods abroad, preparation of grant applications, publishing, etc.).
- 4. The faculty will provide financial assistance and support to excellent researchers in identifying suitable grant calls.