



**NORFACE Research Programme 2008:**

**Migration in Europe – Social, Economic, Cultural and Policy Dynamics**

**GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS**

**OUTLINE PROPOSAL PHASE**

Migration has become a very high level social, economic and policy concern right across Europe. Persistent rates of international migration have become an essential element of the political and economic globalization process. Questions of high societal and political relevance have been raised in connection with these developments. There is also a significant body of research in this area, within individual European countries, at the European level, and from other global regions notably, though not only, North America. But the body of research is not yet a coherent cumulative and grounded body of knowledge which allows us to understand more fully the current **economic and social dynamics of migration**, their impact and, even more importantly, their potential future impact on society, economy and polity. There is a critical need therefore to raise the level of European research to address these issues with **a major integrated, and synergetic programme at the European level.**

In Europe there is a great need to build a new synergetic body of research which will contribute strongly to our *theoretical* understanding and knowledge in the area of migration research. The proposed research topics are designed to address this need through theory-guided, comparative, multi-level and time-referenced studies especially in relatively unexplored areas, or fields with unresolved issues. The proposed programme emphasises three main themes:

**Three main themes:**

- Migration - Causes and Consequences,
- Integration,
- Cohesion and Conflict.

These areas and the issues taken up in them should not be conceived as separate phenomena but as parts of a more general social process. Different theoretical approaches and methodological procedures are necessary, making it indispensable for researchers to be aware of and compile contributions stemming from diverse social, economic and behavioural science disciplines. These include demography and geography, history, anthropology and ethnography, psychology, social psychology, language and cultural sciences, economics, political science, law, and sociology - in other words, almost the entire spectrum of the social sciences and related areas.

Within the topic of **international and internal European migration** there are various especially important questions. These relate to the amount of migration flows between certain sending and receiving countries and regions; the characteristics and motives of migrants; their (formal) status (e.g. as asylum seekers, refugees, workers, students, family members, citizens, undocumented or "illegal" migrants); the driving forces (e.g. economic, political, religious) and structures of migrations (e.g. individual, household or chain migration), and the effects on both sending and receiving countries.

***The effects of increasing international migration are obvious to all citizens of Europe, whether conceived of as highly productive and innovative, or as raising various kinds of concerns among them.*** Although evidently contributing to growth and cultural enrichment, migration also puts strains on our societies, challenging societal integration and cohesiveness, and threats of destructive conflicts between majorities and minorities or between different minorities. An indispensable prerequisite to any solution is a detached scientific approach to these processes. The problems and issues pertain directly to a comprehension of the various types and causes of migration, as well as to the conditions and mechanisms behind the individual, economic and social consequences of international migration in both the **receiving countries** and the **sending countries**.

Some of the most crucial problematic effects of migration concern the classical question of *integration* of migrants and their host societies. The term “integration” refers to two conceptually different aspects: firstly, the *social integration* of individual migrants and their families as inclusion into (vs. exclusion from) central areas of the receiving countries (over and beyond the generations), touching above all on issues of social and ethnic inequality, for instance in education, the labour market, and access to relevant networks and public institutions; and secondly, the *systems integration* of (complete) societies which refers to issues of both economic and labour market integration, and social cohesion in the wake of newly risen social and ethnic differentiations, boundaries, and perhaps even manifest conflicts due to cultural, ethnic, and religious differences. Both aspects are (more or less) interrelated and connected to the migration process itself.

**For full programme text please refer to the NORFACE Research Programme Specification.**

## **What is NORFACE ERA-NET?**

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NORFACE stands for *New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Cooperation in Europe*. NORFACE receives core funding under the European Union’s ERA-NET scheme. ERA-NET is a mechanism introduced in the EU’s Sixth Framework Programme to support collaborative working among national research agencies and programmes in furtherance of the goal of establishing a European Research Area.

NORFACE ERA-Net brings together funding agencies in 13 countries, in an effort to build a transnational collaborative framework within which national resources can be pooled to commission and deliver world-class social science on a continental scale. The work plan for NORFACE specifically includes the launching of a large-scale Transnational Research Programme in 2008.

## **NORFACE Partner Agencies**

NORFACE Partner Agencies are:

- **Austria:** Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
- **Denmark:** Danish Social Science Research Council (DSSRC)
- **Estonia:** Estonian Science Foundation (EstSF)
- **Finland:** Academy of Finland (AKA)
- **Germany:** Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
- **Iceland:** Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNÍS)
- **Ireland:** Irish Research Council for the Humanities & Social Sciences (IRCHSS)
- **Netherlands:** Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)
- **Norway:** Research Council of Norway (RCN)
- **Portugal:** Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT)
- **Slovenia:** Slovenian Research Agency
- **Sweden:** Swedish Research Council (VR)
- **United Kingdom:** Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council in Canada is an associate partner of NORFACE. In addition to research teams from at least three of the above mentioned countries Canadian teams can be included in the projects. More information regarding Canadian participation and possible funding will be available soon under FAQs.

## Objectives of the Programme

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The NORFACE Research Programme has the following objectives:

- To advance globally excellent theoretical and methodological disciplinary, inter-disciplinary and comparative research on migration which builds synergetically on a pan-European basis
- To take advantage of and develop the informal laboratory of experience, knowledge and data which migration in Europe currently presents
- To motivate and support excellence and capacity building for research on migration on a cross-national basis throughout the NORFACE countries
- To develop understanding and promote research-based knowledge and insight into migration for issues of societal, practical and policy relevance, with theoretical foundations but worked on jointly with relevant users and experts.

Each project team should strive to include researchers at different stages in their careers, including post-doctoral and PhD students, as participants in the project. NORFACE strives to promote gender balance, and encourages in particular women researchers to apply.

## Eligibility criteria of the research teams

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Each project must be composed of research teams based at universities or research institutes in **three or more** different **NORFACE countries**.

### Principal Investigator's role

Principal Investigator (PI) will be a senior researcher responsible for carrying out the project. S/he will be the contact point with NORFACE on behalf of all the applicants. In addition, the Principal Investigator is responsible for leading project activities at his/her own institution. The Principal Investigator must be based in an institution situated in a NORFACE country.

The Principal Investigator can participate as a PI in one proposal only. The PI may participate as Co-Applicant in other proposals. In the second stage applicants will be asked to show how they are going to distribute their time between different projects they participate in.

### Co-applicants' role

Each Co-applicant is responsible for leading project activities at his/her own institution. Co-applicant status is not limited to researchers at any specific career stage after completing PhD. Each Co-applicant should be based in an institution situated in a NORFACE country. There may be more than one co-applicant from any one country.

Researchers can participate as Co-Applicants in several proposals. In the full proposal, applicants will be asked to show how they are going to distribute their time between different projects they participate in.

### Researchers from countries from which the migration originates

Research teams based in NORFACE countries may include researchers based in countries from which the migration originates. The costs of the researchers/research teams based in the countries from which the migration originates (such as salaries, travel costs etc.) must be covered from budget of a research team based in a NORFACE country. The applicants have to show in their application the relevance of the participation of the researchers from countries from which the migration originates. The participation of these researchers has to link to the theme of the proposal.

## Researchers from non-NORFACE countries (Co-operation partners)

Researchers from non-NORFACE countries are allowed to participate in the projects as Co-operation partners. However, no funding can be applied for them from the NORFACE programme. The applicants invited to submit a Full Proposal will be asked to indicate the sources from which the participation of the Co-operation partners will be funded.

## Funding available

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The minimum funding awarded will be 500.000 € and the maximum 4.000.000 €. NORFACE seeks to fund a balance of smaller and a limited number of large projects. Applications asking for less than 500.000 € or more than 4.000.000 € will not be accepted.

## Submission of proposal

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Applications to the NORFACE Research Programme will be processed in two stages. In the first stage, project **Outline Proposals** are invited with a deadline of **10<sup>th</sup> September 2008**.

### **Outline Proposals:**

All Outline Proposals must be completed in English. The applications must be submitted using the NORFACE Electronic Proposal Submission System at: <http://www.norface.org>. The system includes guidelines for filling in the requested information. These include:

A **project summary** of no more than 1500 characters without spaces should be uploaded and is recommended to include the following information:

- Relevance of the research topic to the Call
- Objectives / expected outcomes of the project
- Explanation on how the project would be implemented

The summary will be made public if the project is funded by NORFACE.

A **short research plan** of no more than **2000<sup>1</sup>** words in pdf document must be uploaded. The short research plan must include the following:

- Cover page
- Project acronym and title
- Principal Investigator (name, institute, country)
- List of Partners (name, institute, country)
- Project description

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<sup>1</sup> The length of the short research plan has been extended to 2000 words including a short literature list.

The project description should explain in clear language:

1. What research question does this proposal seek to answer?
2. Why is this research question significant? How will it contribute to the theme of this Call?
3. By what methods and work plans will the research question be tackled? In what ways is the project innovative?
4. What added value will be gained by undertaking this research as a collaborative project with the proposed partners? What is the transnational added value of the project?
5. What are the expected outcomes and impacts of the research project? How will findings be shared with interested parties?

**Eligible costs:**

For outline proposal, estimated costs should be used. Estimated costs can be updated in the Full Proposal. Each applicant can ask funding for personnel costs, consumables, travel costs, equipment and subcontracting in accordance with the relevant national research funding rules. **However, the calculation of overheads in the project does not follow the national funding rules. A 20% overhead cost is required to be added to all project costs in the application, except subcontracting.** Costs per each calendar year have to be specified. In case of doubt, applicants should consult the NORFACE Coordination Office or their respective partner agencies who can advise on funding rules.

The Outline Proposal form seeks only **estimated costs**, but these should still be as realistic as possible.

The closing date for Outline Proposals is

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

## Evaluation of the Proposals

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Eligible Outline Proposals will be reviewed by an International Evaluation Panel, comprising experts nominated by the NORFACE partners. The Panel will recommend to the NORFACE Network Board a shortlist of applicants to be invited to submit Full Proposals.

The International Panel will evaluate **Outline Proposals** according to the following criteria:

### ***Scientific Quality***

- originality and contribution to knowledge
- appropriateness of conceptual approach
- feasibility of aims and objectives of project
- suitability of research design and methodology

### ***Organization***

- feasibility and appropriateness of timescale
- appropriateness of costings

### ***Project team***

- range and complementarity of expertise of project team
- scientific track record of team members
- added value of the collaboration

### ***Relevance to Programme***

- fit to objectives, key areas and priorities of programme

### ***Potential impact of research***

- extent to which research is likely to influence user communities or contribute to scientific development

The scientific quality is the most important criterion.

All applicants will receive a decision by the end of **November 2008**. Short-listed applicants will be invited to submit a Full Proposal by 30 January 2009. All applicants will receive feedback on their proposal from the Panel.

## Funding decisions

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The Network Board will make funding decisions in June 2009. For each funded project, one single award will be made to the Administering Institution of the Principal Investigator. The Administering Institution will be responsible for distributing funds to all partner institutions.

## Project duration

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The maximum project duration is **48 months**. Projects must be 24 - 48 months in the period between August 2009 and September 2013. They should terminate no later than 30<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

## Programme Coordination

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The scientific coordination of the programme is seen as very important for creating added value to the researchers involved in the programme. The programme will be supervised and directed by an academic Programme Director appointed specifically for the purpose. The Programme Director will be responsible for ensuring the integration of the various funded projects into a whole which is more than the sum of its parts, for ensuring good cross-communication and synergy between projects, and appropriate engagement with the wider non-academic community involved in migration issues.

A Programme Director is expected to be appointed in June 2008. The core duties of the Programme Director will include:

- Working with the various project teams to ensure that they optimise the quality of their research and develop it as expected within the programme
- Bringing the various teams together to work synergetically, and take advantage of the programme collaborators in developing their own work
- Ensuring good communications from the various research teams both within academia and with related professional organisations in government, business and the voluntary sector.
- Ensuring the highest quality of publications from the research

In preparatory phase the Programme Director will:

- work with the national funding agencies to identify key research groups who might be encouraged to apply for programme funds, and to advise and assist such groups, plus any who might approach the Programme Director, on how best to structure appropriate applications
- advise the scientific evaluation panel to select the best projects to comprise the programme.

The contract between NORFACE and the Principal Investigator will state that the Principal Investigator of each funded project will co-operate with the Programme Director.

## Timetable

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<b>10<sup>th</sup> September 2008</b>	Submission deadline for the Project Outline Proposals
<b>Late November 2008</b>	Notification of the projects selected to submit a Full Proposal
<b>30<sup>th</sup> January 2009</b>	Submission deadline for Full Proposals
<b>March 2009</b>	Applicants receive external reviews for comments
<b>June 2009</b>	Final funding decisions and feedback on the Full Proposals to all applicants
<b>July-September 2009</b>	Negotiations between the Principal Investigators and the NORFACE Coordination Office regarding the funding, reporting, etc.
<b>August-September 2009</b>	The NORFACE Research Programme and the Projects begin

## Further information

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If you need additional information please contact the **NORFACE Coordination Office at the Academy of Finland**:

- Ms. Eili Ervelä-Myrreen, Programme Manager, NORFACE Network Coordinator  
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- Ms. Satu Huuha-Cissokho, Science Adviser, NORFACE Network Secretary  
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## National Contact Points

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The following contact persons from the participating national research councils and agencies are available for introductory questions to the Research Programme:

- **The Austrian Science Fund** – Christoph Bärenreuter [christoph.baerenreuter@fwf.ac.at](mailto:christoph.baerenreuter@fwf.ac.at) Tel. +43 1 505 67 40 8702
- **The Danish Social Science Research Council** – Lars Christensen  
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- **The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)** – Stephen Struthers  
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- **The Estonian Science Foundation** – Kati Kio  
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- **The Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNÍS)** – Eiríkur Smári Sigurðarson  
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- **The Swedish Research Council** – Lucas Pettersson  
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Contact details can also be found on the NORFACE website at [www.norface.org](http://www.norface.org) .

## CHECKLIST

Before submitting your final application to the NORFACE Research Programme please check the following details:

- Your project includes research teams in a minimum of three NORFACE partner countries. The NORFACE countries are: Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden and United Kingdom.
- In case your project includes partners from outside NORFACE, you have registered them as Co-operation Partners and you have not asked funding for them.
- You have registered the researchers based in countries from where migration originates as part of the Principal Investigator's or Co-Applicants' research groups.
- The total budget of your project is not below 500.000 € and does not exceed 4.000.000 €.
- You have included in your budget only eligible costs, i.e. personnel costs, consumables, travel costs, equipment and sub-contracting.
- You have specified a budget for each year.
- You submit your proposal before the deadline **10<sup>th</sup> September 2008**.

## Information about the second stage: Full Proposals

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Applicants invited to the second stage will receive a notification and feedback on their proposal by the end of November 2008 inviting them to submit a Full Proposal.

In the second stage applicants will be asked to submit a full research plan of no more than 15 pages. The full research plan should explain in clear language:

- What research question does this proposal seek to answer?
- Why is this research question significant? How will it contribute to the theme of this Call?
- What are the impacts of the project on theoretical and methodological approaches in the field? By what methods and work plans will the research question be tackled? In what ways is the project innovative?
- What added value will be gained by undertaking this research as a collaborative project with the proposed Participants? What are the advantages of a transnational project?
- What are the expected outcomes and impacts of the research project? How will findings be shared with interested parties?
- What is the role of the national research projects?
- How will the project Participants contribute to and manage the project? What activities does the project involve?
- What are the plans of the project for including early-career researchers / emerging researchers in the project activities?
- How is the gender balance taken into account in the project team?
- What are the linkages of the project to current national and / or international projects?
- What research expertise of the applicants is relevant to the project proposal?

The deadline for submitting Full Proposals will be **30<sup>th</sup> January 2009**.

## Evaluation

The evaluation criteria for Full Proposals are:

### *Scientific Quality*

- originality and contribution to knowledge
- feasibility and appropriateness of conceptual approach
- feasibility of aims and objectives of project
- feasibility and suitability of research design and methodology

### *Organisation of research*

- feasibility and appropriateness of proposed timescale
- appropriateness of costings
- is the research proposed overall good value for money for the total amount involved?
- appropriateness of approach to potential ethical issues

*Project team and management*

- suitability of expertise, balance of substantial contributions of members to project team
- appropriateness of management arrangements for project
- scientific track record of team members
- composition of team (gender, stage in career, discipline)

*Potential impact of research*

- extent to which research is likely to be of value user communities
- suitability of proposed arrangements for disseminating and communicating outcomes of research

In the second stage each applicant will be invited to suggest names of two independent referees for his/her proposal. We shall normally expect to use one of these. Each Full Proposal will be evaluated by a minimum of two referees. The reviews by the referees will be sent to the Principal Investigator for comments before the Evaluation Panel handles the applications.

In addition, three individual evaluation panel members will make an initial assessment of each Full Proposal. The assessments received from the external referees and from the panel members and the comments received from the applicant will form the starting point for a joint review carried out by an International Evaluation Panel. The Panel will prepare a consensus evaluation report on each Full Proposal based on the applications, the external reviews, the panel member evaluations and the comments by the Principal Investigator.

The applicant will receive the consensus report of the Evaluation Panel as feedback after the final funding decisions. Funding decisions are expected by 30 June 2009.