



המכון הישראלי ללימודים מתקדמים  
Israel Institute for Advanced Studies

# **Guidelines to Composing Research Groups at the IIAS 2018 -2019**

*(Updated on May 7, 2017)*

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Israel Institute for Advanced Studies reserves the right to update the information on this booklet.  
Please reread before submitting your application.

## Paper Call for Research Group Proposals 2018/19

### About the IIAS

The Israel Institute for Advanced Studies (IIAS) is a center for intellectual inquiry that supports Collaborative Research Groups (RGs). The essence of the RGs is the curiosity-driven research in all academic fields covering mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities. RGs are selected in an effort to expand the boundaries of current knowledge by introducing new methodologies, promoting original thinking and exploring new ideas.

The IIAS was founded in 1975 as an autonomous institute, sponsored by a partnership between The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Yad Hanadiv. To date it has hosted 150 Research Groups. More than 1200 fellows have spent residency periods of 3 to 12 months at the IIAS.

In addition, the IIAS supports six Advanced Schools in the following fields: Humanities, Mathematics, Economic Theory, Theoretical Physics, Life Science and Computer Science & Engineering. The general directors and leaders of the Advanced Schools include Nobel laureates, winners of the Wolf Prize, as well as Fields and Turing Medalists.

The IIAS selects and supports research activity for the Michael Bruno Memorial Award laureates, acknowledging their leadership of academic excellence in Israel.

At the international level, the IIAS belongs to a select group of Institutes of Advanced Study (SIAS). Members of SIAS share the IIAS mission for academic excellence, underscoring the importance of academic freedom. The IIAS acts as the steering body for the network of IAS institutes throughout Europe (NetIAS) and the broader group of University-Based Institutes for Advanced Study (UBIAS) around the world.

[www.ias.huji.ac.il](http://www.ias.huji.ac.il)

### Call for Proposals for Research Groups at the IIAS

Each Collaborative Research Group (RGs) hosts a group of scholars from Israel and abroad who convene in residency at the IIAS in Jerusalem. The IIAS provides a nurturing, stimulating academic environment for reaching academic excellence in all research disciplines.

The goal of the RG selection is to bring together a diverse group of scholars who are engaged in a research question, one that is expected to benefit from integrative thinking and rich dialogue among scholars. RGs are expected to expand individual fellows' research. Interdisciplinarity and cross-fertilization, with genuine complementarity of scholarship, is considered.

The IIAS is open to RG applications from scholars in all countries and representing all disciplines. The expectation is that the RG period of residence will result in creative and original research that will be shared with the international research communities.

### Research Groups - Timeline

Members are welcome to consult with the IIAS on academic and administrative issues prior to submission of a final application.

- 1 April 2016 Accepting pre-proposals & personal meeting with IIAS Director [NEW]
- 1 Sept 2016 Deadline for letter of intent and pre-proposals [NEW]
- 23 Nov 2016 Deadline for login to the submission system
- 1 Dec 2016 Final proposals submission
- 31 Jan 2017 Select “short list” proposals for phase 2 (i.e. evaluation by external referees)
- 15 Feb 2017 Completing the “short listed” proposals – including initial consent
- 15 April 2017 Decision for RG residency 2017/18 and IIAS Board approval
- 15 May 2017 Consent by fellows, approval (terms and conditions)
- 1 June 2017 Application for EURIAS fellow mobility program (for 10 months)
- 5 Sept 2018 Residency starting time for 10-month period
- 1 Mar 2019 Residency starting time for 5-month period

### Talk to Us!

We invite organizers of Research Groups to discuss and share with us academic and administrative issues in composing a Research Group at any stage of the process.

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## General Guidelines for Research Groups Composition

### Eligibility

The Israel Institute for Advanced Studies (IIAS) encourages scholars and scientists from around the world to submit proposals for Research Groups (RGs). All scientific research topics or fields of study are eligible for application. The IIAS Director and the Academic Committees may encourage the initiation of a Research Group.

Former fellows may participate in new Research Groups after seven years have elapsed from the end of their previous term to the beginning of the academic year.

### Period of Residence

The Institute's academic year runs from September 1 to August 31.

Proposals should include a request for a 5-month or 10-month stay. Exceptions may be granted to RGs in the Experimental Sciences, to be in residence for a 3-month period.

- The ten-month groups begin September 1.
- The five-month groups begin September 1 or March 1.
- The three-month groups begin September 1, March 1, or June 1.

Applicants should be aware that the scheduling of RGs is limited by the number of groups chosen, the length of their residence at the Institute and the availability of faculty workspace and fellows' apartments. Efforts are made to satisfy the scheduling preferences of each group.

### Creating and Composing a Research Group

Research Groups are convened by a proposal initiator(s) who nominate at least five, and no more than a total of eight candidate fellows, including the initiator(s). These scholars (core fellows) will be in residence at the IIAS for the entire residency period of the group. The selection of candidates should strengthen the collaborative work of the Research Group.

#### Initiator

1. RG has a maximum of two initiators, preferably from different institutes, and preferably from Israel and abroad.
2. Initiators and fellows must hold a faculty position at a research university in Israel or abroad. Initiators must have completed a PhD in their field of expertise.
3. The initiator is responsible for submitting a pre-proposal and for setting a meeting with the IIAS director.
4. The initiator(s) has the responsibility to select the most appropriate scholars for composing a research group. The initiator submits the application on behalf of the RG candidates. The initiator is expected to be in continuous interaction with the IIAS

- concerning administrative and academic issues. The initiator(s) must update the IIAS on any changes in the RG fellow's composition after the submission of the proposal.
5. Following approval of the RG, the initiator is responsible for sharing information with the fellows and guests, assigning a research assistant for the group, coordinating special needs with the IIAS and building a detailed plan for the period of residency. This includes weekly seminar(s) and other weekly activities.
  6. Following approval of the RG, the initiator is responsible for compiling a mailing list of Israeli researchers, postdoctoral scholars and graduate students in the RG's field of research, and to share this list with the IIAS.

#### Core Fellows

1. A fellow must hold a faculty position at a research university in Israel or abroad.
2. A fellow must have completed a PhD degree and be active in scholarly and academic activities.
3. Postdoctoral scholars from Israel and abroad (postdoctoral fellows) may be accepted as fellows. Postdoctoral fellows must have approval for PhD submission at the time of the submission. Postdoctoral fellows are limited to three years after PhD approval at the time of the proposal submission.
4. No more than two scholars may be nominated from the same institution. Exceptions should be justified and approval by the Academic Committees is needed.
5. At least half of the RG's scholars should be from abroad.
6. A full-time appointment may not be shared between scholars. For a 10-month residency, one residency may be shared between two fellows (i.e. 5 months each).
7. Group members need not have worked together or collaborated on research in the past.

#### Core Fellows from HUJI

- Fellows must approach their Dean and Rector's office for approval to be a fellow at the IIAS for the relevant academic year.
- Scholars are relieved from all administrative duties for the period of residency.
- Teaching is limited to four credit points for a 10-month residency (usually, up to two credit points per semester).
- 

#### Core Fellows from Israeli Research University (excluding HUJI)

- Fellows must approach their Dean and Rector's office for approval to be a fellow at the IIAS for the relevant academic year.
- Scholars are relieved from all administrative duties for the period of residency.
- No teaching responsibilities are allowed during the residency.

## Long Term Visiting Scholars

In addition to the mandatory full-time appointments (core fellows), Research Groups may include short- and long-term visitors to the IIAS.

1. Visiting scholars may be international as well as local.
2. Minimum stay for a short-term scholar is three weeks (15 working days).
3. A Research Group with eight core fellows:
  - For a 10-month period, is eligible for a maximum of four cumulative months of visiting scholars from overseas, and up to three visiting scholars.
  - For a 5-month period, is eligible for a maximum of two cumulative months of visiting scholars from overseas, and up to two visiting scholars.
  - For a 3-month period, is eligible for a maximum of six weeks of visiting scholars from overseas, and no more than two visiting scholars.

We allow a RG's long term visiting scholars to visit more than once during the residency period. Travel expenses are limited for visits that are longer than three weeks. Maximum payment for individual scholars is limited to two visits (for a 10 month RG) and one visit (for a 5-month RG)

4. A Research Group with a smaller number of core fellows (5-7) will have more flexibility in inviting additional scholars, including long-term visiting scholars.

An RG of 10 months:

<b>Number of core fellows</b>	<b>Total number of visitor's months</b>
8 Fellowships	4 months - up to 3 scholars
7 Fellowships	8 months - up to 4 scholars
6 Fellowships	10 months - up to 5 scholars
5 Fellowships	12 months - up to 5 scholars

An RG of 5 months:

<b>Number of core fellows</b>	<b>Total number of visitor's months</b>
8 Fellowships	2 months - up to 2 scholars
7 Fellowships	4 months - up to 3 scholars
6 Fellowships	5 months - up to 3 scholars
5 Fellowships	6 months - up to 3 scholars

An RG of 3 months:

<b>Number of core fellows</b>	<b>Total number of visitor's months</b>
8 Fellowships	6 weeks - up to 2 scholars
7 Fellowships	9 weeks - up to 3 scholars
6 Fellowships	12 weeks - up to 3 scholars
5 Fellowships	16 weeks - up to 4 scholars

## Residency Terms and Conditions

### **All fellows receive:**

- An office space and computer facilities
- Daily lunch Sunday – Thursday (at a subsidized fee of NIS 400 per month)
- Membership at the Cosell Sports Center is at the reduced rate offered to HU employees (upon request)

### **Core Fellows from abroad receive:**

- Flight coverage for fellows (roundtrip economy class, as per Hebrew University regulations)
- For a spouse/partner joining the fellow for a long-term period (that is >60% of the residency period) his/her flight expenses are covered as well (economy class). The same criteria apply for fellows' children under the age of 18.
- Taxi service from the airport to Jerusalem and back (at the start and end of the fellow's residency at the IIAS)
- Reimbursement of up to \$500 for fellows arriving from North America/ Australia/ Japan and up to \$300 for fellows arriving from Europe (for partial coverage of shipping their belongings). This amount may be divided into shipments to and from Jerusalem.
- A monthly stipend of \$6,000 for each month of full residency.
- Postdocs who are RG fellows receive a stipend of \$3,000. Payment covers the actual period of stay at the IIAS.
- An apartment for the duration of their residency, rent-free. Fellows do pay utilities (approximately \$400 per month). This also includes cable and Internet service. Fellows who would like to arrange their own accommodations (e.g. rental swap) should first consult with the IIAS staff.
- Temporary faculty card
- Assistance with visa extension if necessary

### **Fellows from Israel receive (excluding HUJI):**

- Scholars must approach their Dean and Rector's office for approval to be a fellow at the IIAS during the relevant academic year. Each University may define details of the exchange agreement with the IIAS according to its guidelines.
- Scholars are relieved of all teaching and administrative duties for the period of residency. No exceptions will be made for full-term fellows.

- The outline of the agreement is based on a fellow using his sabbatical (or FATMA according to home university agreement) fund for the duration of the residency at the IIAS. (details will be provided by the IIAS and Rectors' office).
- The IIAS will supplement each core fellow this with a generous personal grant money to be used during residency for academic purposes.
- The IIAS will supplement each initiator (and to no more than 2) with a higher generous personal grant money to be used during residency for academic purposes.
- Young faculty (up to six years from appointment) will be exempt from using sabbatical funds.
- Retired fellows receive no remuneration. The IIAS will reimburse costs of travel in Israel by receipts.
- If available, accommodation for Israeli fellows who live far away (e.g. Haifa). An apartment for the duration of their residency, rent-free. The fellows do pay utilities in the amount of approximately \$400 per month. We encourage Israeli fellows to share apartments.

#### **The Research Group receives:**

- Research Assistant: Research Groups may hire an assistant (for a maximum of eleven weekly hours, paid according to the university PhD fellowship rate). Assistants are graduate students (MSc/PhD) in fields of study closely related to the group's area of research.
- Conference/workshop/ limited funding: The group is requested to hold a conference. The IIAS funds the conference in an amount of up to \$10,000. We encourage the RG organizers to seek additional sources of funding (e.g. ISF).
- Reunion workshop / limited funding: The group is requested to hold a reunion meeting within three years of the end of residency. The IIAS funds the event in an amount of up to \$7000. We encourage the RG organizers to seek additional sources of funding.
- Each group is eligible for up to \$10,000 in support of a joint publication. The publication should be a joint project of the fellows within the group. This fund is reserved for 3 years from the beginning of the group residency.
- Group dinner: At a restaurant in Jerusalem. Spouses/partners are invited at their own expense.
- Group tour: The tour may be relevant to the topic of the group research or not. We assist with ideas and logistics (bus, food, guide, etc.)
- Ten guest coupons for lunch at the IIAS per semester: for the organizers to use for one-time guests of the RGs
- Inter-library books/articles loan according to the fellows need.

### **The Research Group fellows & long term visiting scholars are required to:**

- be at the IIAS five days a week
- hold a conference/workshop during the residency
- conduct a weekly seminar(s)
- submit a midterm report and a final report
- give a lunch talk for staff members (in Hebrew)
- give an outreach talk by a fellow/long term visiting scholar (in English)
- participate in IIAS special events
- communicate with PhD students / postdocs and scholars from Israel in the RG's field of expertise, preferably an open seminar, once a month.
- Update the IIAS on any publications/presentations/awards that the IIAS has contributed to (i.e. an authored or edited book, keynote talks, journal articles). This applies to the period during and following the end of the residency.
- Acknowledgement in the book / publication that it originated/ initiated / was supported by the IIAS during the author's period of residency or after and provide a hard copy of the book/publication to the IIAS.

### **Long term visiting scholars of the group receive:**

- Flight coverage according to HUJI regulations (economy class)
- Taxi from the airport to Jerusalem and back
- Per diem of \$40 for the duration of their stay
- An office space and computer facilities, if available. They may have to share an office.
- An apartment for the duration of their residency, rent-free. They do pay utilities (of approximately NIS 400 per week).
- Daily lunch (at a subsidized fee) Sunday – Thursday
- Temporary faculty card
- Utility payments will be shared by visitors when two or more visitors share an apartment.

### **Attendance and Absences**

Fellows are required to spend their working day at the Institute to facilitate group meetings and seminars. They are expected to be present at the IIAS five days a week for a full working day (8 hours per day).

Fellows are entitled to leaves of absence of up to twenty working days for fellows in ten-month groups, ten working days for fellows in five-month groups and six days for fellows in three-month groups. This includes absences for personal and medical reasons as well as absences in order to fulfill academic/professional obligations (e.g. participation in international conferences).

All expenses for these outside academic/professional obligations will not be reimbursed by the IIAS.

Any absence must be reported as soon as possible. Approval for this absence will be done on an individual basis. Absences beyond the permitted allowance will be deducted from the monthly stipend.

## EURIAS Fellowship Program\*

The IIAS is a member of The European Institutes for Advanced Study (EURIAS) Fellowship Program and is eligible to receive six fellowships each year.

The fellowship is an international researcher mobility program, offering a 10-month residency. It is mainly offered in the fields of the humanities and social science but may also be granted to scholars in life and exact sciences, provided that their proposed research project does not require laboratory facilities and that it interfaces with the humanities and social sciences.

The Program welcomes applications from promising young scholars (postdoctoral fellows, at least 2 years post PhD approval) as well as from leading senior researchers. The EURIAS selection process has proven to be highly competitive.

Prospective IIAS fellows from abroad are encouraged to submit research proposals that reflect individual scientific merit and demonstrate commitment to the topic, as well as their quality publications in high-impact venues to demonstrate academic excellence in their field of study.

Applications are submitted online via <http://www.2017-2018.eurias-fp.eu/call-applications>. Successful applications will be announced mid-January 2018.

IIAS fellows who are a part of the EURIAS fellowship program during their residency at the IIAS will benefit from a research budget for participation in the EURIAS annual meeting (travel, registration and accommodation).

The IIAS will secure a budget for the EURIAS fellows for any joint activity of the group (up to \$2.5k per fellow). This budget must be used within three years from the end of the residency.

\*relevant only to a 10-month residency