

Position Announcement N.º 1/2018_LiSP_Appendix 2

LISP Research Program: Application guidelines

1. Nature of the research project

When conceptualizing the research project and describing it in the application template provided, applicants should bear in mind that LiSP is a Doctoral Program in Social Psychology. Thus, research projects submitted for evaluation should clearly describe how the research plan proposed contributes to the theoretical and/or methodological framework of this scientific field. According to the European Association of Social Psychology, “Social psychology is a scientific discipline that is aimed at understanding how individuals’ behavior, motivations, thoughts, and feelings are influenced by other people, real or imagined. What is special about social psychology as compared to other (social) sciences is its strong focus on the study of the underlying, psychological mechanisms that intervene in social phenomena. Based on scientific research, social psychologists have advised policymakers in numerous projects at national, regional and organizational levels, addressing a large array of problems in the domain, for example, of health, politics, work and organizational behaviors, law, education and the environment.” (<http://www.easp.eu/about/social-psychology/>?)

Relevance for Social Psychology will be one of the criteria for evaluation of applicant’s research projects. Research projects that could easily be publishable in the European Journal of Social Psychology, in the Journal of Applied Social Psychology, or in the Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology, in terms of thematic fit even if not necessarily in terms of merit, will be better evaluated than those who would lack such a fit.

2. Structure of the template

2.1 Title of the research program. The title should be concise and, comprehensible to a reader with general scientific training, and suitable for public disclosure.

- 2.2 Summary (maximum 150 words). This section consists of a brief description of the candidate's research project. The summary should identify the overall aims of the planned research and the ideas to be tested, supported by reference to relevant published work. It should also specify the methodological approach, identify important designs or paradigms to be used and it should state how the proposed project advances past social psychological research, in terms of its theoretical, methodological, and/or applied implications.
- 2.3 Main Goals (maximum 300 words). What is meant to be known/achieved with the research project.
- 2.4 State of the art (maximum 500 words). In this section, the candidate should indicate the state of the art and the originality of the project. The state of the art consists of a description of what is currently known (i.e., published work) about the research line or idea to be tested. That is, it refers to the highest level of scientific development to date of the core research concepts, ideas, and/or methodologies of the proposed research project. The state of the art should be complemented by an identification of gaps in the literature and/or suggested revisions to published research, and by a clear explanation of how the research project proposes to fill in these gaps and expand on past work.
- 2.5 Detailed description (maximum 1000 words). In this section, the candidate must present the research project in detail. That is, this section should outline how the planned research will develop and progress by describing the planned studies and what is examined in each of the studies, an explanation of how each study will contribute to answer the overall research question, a description of the methodologies to be used in each study, and the expected findings. Overall, it should be clear how each study will advance on the previous one. This description should provide the fundamental elements to allow for an assessment of both the scientific merit in Social Psychology and the feasibility within the given time frame of the research project.
- 2.6 Social Psychology Relevance (maximum 500 words). In this section, the candidate should present the proposed research question and explain the relevance of the research project to Social Psychology's theoretical approaches and/or published findings.

2.7 References (maximum 20). In this section all references cited in previous sections should be listed according to the APA guidelines.