

RESEARCH PLAN

The research plan is the most important part of your application. In the electronic application form, the research proposal is divided into the fields listed below. Prepare your research proposal right from the start to fit the different fields and their maximum lengths, so you won't need to start re-editing the proposal when filling in the application form.

The following fields related to the research plan are included in the electronic application form (the number in parentheses indicates the maximum number of characters per field, spaces included):

- **Preliminary title of the doctoral thesis**
- **Field of research**
- **Brief summary of the research plan (2000)**
- **Motivation for conducting doctoral research (2000)**
Describe your motivation for conducting doctoral research in general and for this topic in particular. Also explain why you have chosen the doctoral programme you are applying to.
- **Rationale for the research project (2000)**
How is the project linked to previous research? What are the most significant theoretical and methodological premises of the project?
- **Objectives of the research and scientific impact of research results (2000)**
What are the objectives of the project and their theoretical and methodological underpinnings? Shortly present the hypotheses and the research questions. Describe the expected research result and their anticipated novelty value in terms of the research field and the current scientific discussion on the research topic. You may also shortly outline the reach, potential applications and utilization value of the research beyond the scientific community.
- **Research methods (2000)**
Outline the research methods, described so as to explain how they will contribute to answering the research questions/confirming the hypotheses, or how they will support the chosen approach.
- **Research material to be used and its significance for the research project (1500)**
- **Preliminary plan on the collection, usage and storage of the research material. (1500)**
Briefly describe how you plan to collect the research material and use it. Are there any ethical, data protection or copyright issues related to data storage that need to be taken into account? Is it possible to make the data available for the use of other researchers? We do not expect you to master topics related e.g. to open access or to the legal and ethical issues related to data management (e.g. data protection, copyright issues) when you apply. It's enough that you have given the topic thought and recognised the preliminary data management questions that might arise related to your research data.
- **Ethical issues (1000)**
Are there ethical issues (e.g. ethical governance procedures, informed consent, and anonymity of subjects) that need to be taken into account when conducting the research? Does conducting the research require a research permit or a permit from the ethical board and/or the Animal Experiment Board? We do not expect you to be an expert of research ethical questions when you apply. The important thing is that you have considered the possibility of ethical issues related to your research topic and, if there are such issues, given preliminary thought on how to approach them.

- **The most important literature references for the research plan** (2500)
- **Form of the dissertation** (an article-based dissertation or a monograph)
- **Publication plan** (1000)
The preliminary outline of a monograph or, in case an article-based dissertation is planned, a preliminary publication plan for the articles.
- **Preliminary timetable and funding plan of your research** (2000)
- **Grants and/or funded doctoral candidate positions applied / received thus far.** (500)
- **Estimated year of graduation**