



No. 02/2022

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference

Your correspondence of

Our reference
NASP/JUD

Date
10 January 2022

UEFA Research Grant Programme 2022/23

Dear Sir or Madam,

The UEFA Research Grant Programme (UEFA RGP) has been a great success since its launch in 2009. This prestigious source of funding is designed for academics working in partnership with national associations to deliver research that improves strategic decision-making in European football. For the previous cycle (2021/22), UEFA received 71 sound research proposals supported by 26 member associations.

Our member associations are closely associated with the success of the programme. All research proposals must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation issued by a UEFA member association, in order to ensure that all research projects are designed in close cooperation with UEFA's members and focus on topics they are interested in. This maximises the practical value of the research conducted. The UEFA RGP encourages collaboration between national football associations and the academic community. UEFA would therefore once again like to give you the opportunity to involve the academic community in your projects and activities, so that the results of the studies conducted can contribute to continuous improvements and success.

In issuing a number of grants for a nine-month period, the aim of the UEFA RGP is to support the valuable work of researchers who are studying for, or already hold, a doctorate and are analysing European football. Research is notably supported in the fields of economics, history, law, management, medical science, political science, psychology and sociology, but others can be considered.

As previously mentioned, in order to be eligible for a grant, applicants must submit a written letter of recommendation from a representative of a national association, confirming their support for the research, together with their full application (same requirements as for previous cycles, as per the UEFA Research Grant Programme Regulations). In order to increase applicants' chances of success and reduce the administrative work for national associations, please note that letters of recommendation are valid for two successive cycles of the programme. This means that an unsuccessful application can be resubmitted for the next cycle, provided that it has been modified significantly and is accompanied by the same letter of recommendation.

In an effort to foster international cooperation and cross-border studies, UEFA also accepts joint applications. Up to three researchers based in the territories of three different member associations will be able to apply jointly for a grant. Last year, 16 of the proposals submitted were joint applications, out of which one was finally selected by the jury.

Applications that meet the requirements of the UEFA Research Grant Programme Regulations will be examined by the UEFA Research Grant Jury. This jury comprises a chairperson, representatives of European football and academics known internationally for their work in connection with sport and football.

In order to maintain the European dimension of this programme, the jury will, in principle, award up to five grants for projects supported by different national associations, each for a maximum of €15,000 (or €20,000 for joint applications).

UEFA is counting on you to share the enclosed documentation with any universities and academic researchers with whom you are involved or who might be interested in this programme. We also ask you to welcome discussion and to consider supporting researchers who may contact you if their projects are aligned with your objectives or you consider them to be of importance to the future of European football. Please note that you can also support researchers based outside your country and, as part of our efforts to foster diversity in the programme and European football in general, we would especially welcome proposals from female researchers.

The UEFA Research Grant Programme is coordinated by the UEFA Academy, the home of all UEFA's education programmes and learning initiatives. The UEFA Academy website (www.UEFACademy.com) has a page on the UEFA RGP containing the final reports of all the research projects that have been awarded grants to date.

Should you have any questions about the programme, please contact the UEFA Academy directly: academy@uefa.ch.

We sincerely hope to receive proposals supported by all our member associations and that the research conducted will continue to benefit the development of European football.

Yours faithfully,

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Theodore Theodoridis
General Secretary

Enclosure

- UEFA Research Grant Programme brochure

cc (with enclosure)

- UEFA Executive Committee
- UEFA HatTrick Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- FIFA, Zurich