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TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference	Date
		JUD/AFO	11 January 2023

UEFA Research Grant Programme 2023/24

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 research that improves strategic decision-making in European football. For the previous cycle (2022/23), UEFA received 44 sound research proposals supported by 21 member associations.

All research proposals must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation, to ensure that all 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.

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 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 in particular supported in the fields of economics, history, law, management, political science, psychology and sociology, but others may be considered.

Please note that as of this year, research projects on medical topics are no longer accepted for the UEFA Research Grant Programme. A new grant, tailor-made to medical topics, will be announced in 2023 under the lead of UEFA's Medical unit. This will enable us to accommodate the specificities and constraints of medical research (longer research, needs for greater funding, etc.).

As previously mentioned, applicants must submit a written letter of recommendation from the national association's president, general secretary or CEO, confirming their support for the research, together with their full application (same requirements as for previous cycles, under the UEFA Research Grant Programme Regulations).

To increase applicants' chances of success and reduce the administrative burden on national associations, letters of recommendation are valid for two successive programme cycles. This means that an unsuccessful application can be resubmitted, provided that it has been modified significantly and is accompanied by the same letter of recommendation. Complete applications must reach UEFA by 15 March 2023.

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 for a joint grant. Last year, eight joint applications were received, one of which 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, which comprises a chairperson, representatives of European football and academics known internationally for their work in sport and football.

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 may also support researchers based outside your country. 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 awarded grants to date.

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

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