

Olof Palme Visiting Professorship

The Swedish Research Council visiting professor grant aims to allow universities the possibility to recruit an internationally distinguished professor for a shorter period to develop a specific research area.

The Olof Palme Visiting Professorship gives an internationally prominent foreign researcher the opportunity to spend one year at a university, higher education institute (HEI) or research institute in Sweden. The Olof Palme Visiting Professorship was established in honour of Olof Palme (1927–1986), Sweden's Prime Minister from 1969–1976 and 1982–1986.

Summary

Type of grant Area	Research environment and Research collaboration funding Humanities and Social Sciences
Focus area	The researcher who can be nominated for the Olof Palme Visiting Professorship will be a foreign prominent researcher who have international reputation and focusing on topics important to the pursuit of peace in a broad context.
Applicant	Humanities, social science, theology and law departments at Swedish universities and Higher education institutes (HEI) are welcome to nominate candidates for the visiting professorship.
Grant period	6-12 months
Grant amount	Maximum 850,000 SEK for stays of up to 6 months and maximum 1,700,000 SEK for stays between 7-12 months.
Call deadline	23.02.2016 (at 2 PM)
Publication of grant award decisions	No later than beginning of November 2016
Grant period start date	January 2017, at the earliest

[Read more about previously awarded grants](#)

Eligibility criteria for grant applications

You must fulfil the requirements set out below to be eligible to apply for the grant. We will carry out controls in order to ensure that applications that do not adhere to the eligibility criteria are rejected from further processing.

Applicant

The application – with the nominated candidate – should be submitted by the department wishing to host the professorship. The researchers being nominated for this visiting professorship must hold the title of professor or equivalent when the application is submitted. The researcher must have given his/her consent to being nominated and understand the obligations with the professorship. If the nominated candidate does not accept the professorship the department may not nominate a substitute.

The Olof Palme Visiting Professorship is awarded to an internationally prominent researcher focused on topics important to the pursuit of peace in a broad context. Such topics could include research on international policy, peace and conflict, and comparative social institutions. Other areas could include research on fundamental causes of conflict and social developments that in various ways promote peace and human security. The visiting professor is expected to participate in the seminar activities of the department, and also visit other Swedish departments within his/her area of research.

The grant will be administered by a Swedish HEI, or another public organisation in Sweden that fulfils the Swedish Research Council's [requirements for administrating organisations](#). To be able to apply the organisation must be an approved administrating organisation.

The researcher awarded the visiting professorship must be employed by the administrating organisation during the visiting period, unless the Swedish Research Council, the administrating organisation or another employer agree otherwise.

When the application is registered and signed in Prisma (see below) the authorised representative of the administrating organisation (usually the head of the department where the research will be conducted) verifies the department's responsibility to serve as the local host and make practical arrangements in conjunction with the stay in Sweden, should the professorship be awarded.

Number of applications and previous grants

A department may nominate several candidates. One candidate may however only be nominated by one department.

Costs and grant funding

Funding up to a maximum of 850,000 SEK, including indirect costs, may be applied for a visiting professor if the duration for the visit is up to 6 months. For visits between 7 and 12 months, a maximum of 1,700,000 SEK may be applied for.

The grant is intended to cover salary costs, including social fees and insurance, rent for housing, and travel to and from Sweden. The grant amount is affected by e.g. accompanying family members and local housing costs.

Grant period

The stay in Sweden must be at least six months and no more than one year in length. The visit may be divided into more than one period.

The professorship must be assumed in 2017. The grant amount will be disbursed during 2017 regardless of when the professorship is assumed. The first disbursement will be made in January 2017 at the earliest.

How do I apply?

You apply electronically through [Prisma](#), which is the application system used by the Swedish Research Council.

In order for you to be able to apply, your organisation must have become an [approved administrating organisation](#) and created an organisation account in Prisma.

The application is set up at the administrating organisation (by the person responsible for the organisation account or responsible for applications by the organisation). The person who has set up the application then invites you who have been authorised by the nominating department to be responsible for the visiting professorship as the project leader and responsible for entering the contents of the application (henceforth called responsible for contents).

Most of the required steps in the Prisma system are described in the [User Manual](#) and the [FAQ answers](#). We advise you to have a look at these documents when you write your application.

Creating a personal account in Prisma

Before you can apply, you must create a personal account in [Prisma](#), where you will store your personal data and your CV. The information only has to be entered once, and may subsequently be supplemented or amended whenever necessary. Please remember to create your personal account well in advance. The applications that you register in Prisma will be linked to your personal account.

All other people, who will be involved in the preparation of the application must also create an individual Prisma account, and agree to their participation.

Text

Some text fields can be formatted, which means that in those fields you can change the font and size and insert certain tables, formulas and symbols. If you have written the text in advance using Microsoft Word, you will also be able to copy paste the text and keep the initial formatting. Pictures can however not be inserted into the text fields.

All text fields have limitations as to the number of characters and this will be illustrated by means of a character counter. If you use too many characters you will not be able to register the application.

Signing

All required signing of the application is done in conjunction with registration, by the representative of the administrating organisation who set up the application.

More information can be found under the tab Registering the application below.

What must the application contain?

We ask you to familiarize yourself with the application form in Prisma at the same time as you read through the instructions below.

Language

The scientific assessment of the applications is done by foreign peer reviewers. To guarantee a well-functioning procedure and a level playing field in the review process, we therefore ask you to submit your application in English.

Application subsections

The application form contains the following tabs:

- Descriptive data
- Research summary
- Nominated visiting professor
- Budget and research resources
- Administrating organisation
- Review panels
- Participants

Please note that there are two tabs in Prisma for retrieval of publications and CV data from your personal Prisma account. These are however not used in this call and can therefore be ignored. The nominated researcher's CV and publications should only be attached under the tab Nominated visiting professor.

Below you will find an outline of the information required under each tab. Mandatory information is marked with an asterisk* in the Prisma system.

Descriptive data

Under this tab, you are requested to list the project title in Swedish and English, the project period (the duration of the professorship in number of months), and to select keywords and SCB classification codes.

Abstract

The research plan abstract should contain a short description of:

- Name, university, and country of the nominee
- Time for the visit
- Brief motivation for the visit
- Planned programme

The outline may contain a maximum of 1,500 characters, including blank spaces (approximately half an A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

Research summary


Under this tab, you are requested to enclose the research plan in a PDF format and describe ethical considerations.

Ethical considerations

Present the ethical issues raised by the research, and explain how they will be addressed in the research activities. We also ask you to indicate whether the research includes animal experiments, experiments involving human subjects, or the handling of personal data. If the research does not raise any ethical issues, this should also be stated.

N.B.: As from 12 October 2015, anyone who uses genetic resources (genetic material of actual or potential value) and traditional knowledge pertaining to genetic resources, which were accessed after 12 October 2014, shall follow the EU ABS declaration and declare that the resource and the knowledge used have been obtained in line with the applicable legislation, and distribute any benefit deriving from the use thereof in a fair and reasonable way.

Exceptions apply to human genetic resources, material covered by the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, material included in the WHO's Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework and genetic material obtained from the Deep Seas.

For questions about the EU ABS declaration, please contact [the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency](#)  (information in Swedish).

Research plan

In this section you are requested to attach the research plan in a PDF format. Please observe that the appendix may only contain one file, with a maximum size of 10 MB.

The research plan should consist of a short but complete description of the nomination. The maximum length is eight A4 pages in Times New Roman, font size 12, single spacing, including references. The research plan should be given a forward-looking focus.

The following information must be included under separate headings in the research plan, and be listed in the given order:

- **The researcher and her/his research.** Present the nominated researcher and her/his research.
- **Motivation.** Motivate the visit of the visiting professor.
- **Contribution to research.** Describe how the visiting professor can advance Swedish research in the relevant field
- **Plan for department participation** Specification of how the visiting researcher's participation at the host department and at other departments in Sweden is planned.

Nominated visiting professor

Under this tab, please enter:

- Name, academic title, current position and work place for the nominee
- Which competence the visiting professor is expected to provide to the host institution
- Information about the duration of the visit and whether the visit will be divided into more than one periods
- Name of the head (s) of department (s) and where the professorship will be sited

The nominated researcher's CV and publications

Attach a brief CV in PDF format with complete address information and current professional title of the nominated researcher. Also attach a list of publications in PDF format , divided into peer-reviewed articles, other articles, and books.

Please observe that the appendices may only contain single files, with a maximum size of 4 MB each. If one appendix is made up of several documents, these must be merged in to a single file. Please note also that no CV data or publications are collected elsewhere in the application.

Budget and research resources

Under this tab, you are requested to include staffing and other costs.

Project staffing

Specify the requested salary, both as a percentage of a full-time salary and the actual annual earning (including social security contributions and insurances) for the visiting professor. Quote the amounts in SEK.

Operating costs

Describe the rental and property charges or travel costs. Quote the amounts in SEK.

Total project cost

The application system will automatically add up the budget items that you enter in a table. The total amount requested shall also include indirect costs. You will have to add the indirect costs yourself. In this section, you are requested to add other additional project costs (for which you do not request funding within the framework of this call).

For questions as to what qualifies as a direct or indirect cost, please contact your HEI.

Explanation of the proposed budget

Write a brief justification statement for each item in the proposed budget. The outline may contain a maximum of 4,000 characters including blank spaces (equivalent to approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, font size 12, single line spacing).

Administrating organisation

Under this tab, you are requested to list the administrating organisation and the project site. The administrating organisation is the university or HEI where the visiting professor will be employed and is automatically filled in when the application is created. As project site please choose the department or corresponding organisational unit where visiting professor will be employed during the visit.

Please contact your administrating organisation if your project site does not appear on the list. You have to provide the project site information to be able to finalize the registration of the application.

Review panels

Enter the review panel HS-Gast for the scientific assessment of your application.

[Review panel](#) 

Participants

In this section, you may invite participating administrators to join the application. A participating administrator is a person, who does not take part in the project itself but can help you register and edit information in the application. Please note that you cannot include participating researchers in this application.

You may invite participating administrators, who do not yet hold a Prisma account. Each one of them must however open a personal Prisma account to be able to contribute to your application.

All participants must accept the invitation before you can finalize the application registration. Remember to make sure that you use the right email addresses when you send invitations to participants, and that each address is linked to invited person's Prisma account.

Registering the application

When you open the Registering the application tab, the system will perform a check to verify if any mandatory information is missing and inform you of any need for supplements. The application will not be registered unless you click the Register button.

Remember to use the preview function in order to double-check your application before submitting it!

N.B.: Please note that all invited participants must accept your invitation before you can proceed to register the application. Invitations that have not been accepted have to be removed.

The registered application can then be viewed in your personal Prisma account, under Applications and Applications and grants in the menu. If necessary, a registered application may be de-registered, edited and re-registered up to the call deadline.

You are responsible for ensuring that the application is complete, that is to say that the application form is filled out correctly, the required appendices are submitted, and that the requested information is provided

in accordance with the instructions. We ask you to only submit specifically requested information. After the closing date, application addenda will only be accepted in cases where we have asked for supplements.

Signing the application

Applications with an organisation as applicant is automatically signed when the application is registered.

- The information contained in the application is correct and in line with the instructions from the Swedish Research Council.
- Any side-line occupation and/or commercial ties have been reported to the administrating organisation, and that no conflict with the principles of good research practice has been established. The necessary permits and approvals are in place at the start of the project, e.g. concerning the ethical review.
- The organisation will accommodate the research and the equipment, and employ the applicant during the time period and to the extent presented in the application.
- The organisation approves the cost estimate presented in the application.
- The project will be conducted in accordance with Swedish law.

What happens next?

When the call closes (at 2 PM on the final day for submission of applications), the registered application will automatically become final and given a registration number.

You will find information about the status of the application, the registration number and the application signature under the tab Applications and grants in your account.

Scientific evaluation

The scientific assessment of the application will be made by active researchers. These peer reviewers evaluate each application (in competition with the other applications) on the basis of the assessment criteria established by the Swedish Research Council.

The following aspects will be assessed:

- The research qualifications and international status of the visiting professor
- The importance of the visiting professor's visit to the host department and to Swedish research in general in the relevant field.

If an application does not comply with the instructions, this will be taken into account in the application review.

[The review process](#) 

[The Swedish Research Council's conflict of interest policy](#) 

[The Swedish Research Council's gender equality strategy](#) 

Decisions

Shortly after the grant funding decisions have been taken, information on the awarded grants will be published on the web page of the Swedish Research Council. Under the tab Applications and grants, a notification of decisions will also be published in the personal Prisma account belonging to the person responsible for the contents.

Contact

For questions relating to the application content

For questions relating to the application content, please contact:

Paola Norlin, e-mail: paola.norlin@vr.se, telephone: +46 (0) 8 546 44 311

Technical questions

We kindly ask you to first consult the help menu in the Prisma system, where you will find instructions and [FAQs](#) as well as a detailed [user manual](#), which describe most of the required steps in Prisma.

If you cannot find the answer to your technical question in the above-mentioned information material, please contact [our technical support team](#). Please note that depending on the workload, it may take up to 1-2 working days before you get a reply.