



Project funding

Funding Initiative Interdisciplinary Research at TU Darmstadt

Interdisciplinary research is considered as part of the university culture at TU Darmstadt and recognises arising synergies from different professional disciplines as very precious.

In accordance with its guiding principles, the university supports interdisciplinary cooperation in research and teaching. Included in this are contributions from a natural science and engineering peace research in the context of IANUS.

As part of the funding initiative for interdisciplinary research (FiF), TU Darmstadt regularly offers project funding for interdisciplinary research projects. To stimulate new ideas and form research cores, preference is given to projects that generate new research networks and projects. The funding initiative is primarily intended as start-up funding for joint interdisciplinary research projects in order to create a basis for following successful third-party funding applications.

In total, there are two funding lines: for FiF projects and for IANUS projects. The latter differ from the former only in their focus on topics of scientific-technical peace and conflict research. This year, for the first time, the IANUS funding line will be extended by the so-called IANUS incubation projects.

Attention:

As only state funds can be applied for, the relevant rules for their expenditure are relevant.

Call for applications 2022 for FiF & IANUS Projects

Please also consider our notes and checklist on the FiF web pages!

Application

Applications may be submitted by staff members from all departments of the university who have completed at least one doctorate. External researchers and visiting professors at TU Darmstadt are not entitled to submit applications. However, they can be cooperation partners of the project. The application itself has to be submitted in any case by at least two TU-internal researchers from different disciplines. No funds can be granted to external institutions or cooperation partners.

Submission of project outline or incubation project

Please use the [template](#) provided on the FiF pages, mark the affiliation in the header and send the outline to fif@fif.tu-darmstadt.de within the deadline. Applications that are received after the submission deadline cannot be considered. Please find guidelines on structure, content, font size, etc. in the above-mentioned template.

Deadline

The deadline for submitting project outlines is **April 1, 2022**.

In case you are invited to the hearing in writing, this will take place on **June 8, 2022** between 9:00 am and 3:00 p.m., probably in presence.



Applications are possible for two funding lines:

1. Funding line: FiF projects

Duration of the funding

Projects can be funded for a limited period of up to 12 months. A cost-neutral extension is possible by submitting a written statement of reasons prior to the expiry of the granted funding period.

Funding for research projects

According to the DFG guidelines ("Hinweise zur Bezahlung von Promovierenden" (DFG form 55.02-05/20)), funding of up to 100,000 euros can be claimed. The funding is based on the possibility of financing two PhD students with a 65% position for one year or one PostDoc working in both (or more participating) research groups with a 100% position for one year. In any case, it is essential to illustrate the interdisciplinary communication between the disciplines during the work process. The cost centre (project number) is automatically closed at the end of the funding period and remaining funds are collected.

Funding criteria for FiF research projects

- Scientific quality, originality and innovation
- Participation of different disciplines appropriate to the research subject and proper consideration of the relevant professional discourse
- Importance for the priority setting at TU Darmstadt, in particular also visibility within and outside the university
- Necessity of funding and adequacy of need as well as prospects for subsequent funding through third-party funds
- Presentation of the content-related qualification goals
- Feedback and connection to teaching



2. Funding line: IANUS projects

2.1. IANUS projects

IANUS projects can be applied for in the same way as FiF projects. In principle, the same funding criteria for FiF projects also apply to IANUS projects. A precondition, however, is a reference to scientific-technical peace and conflict research.

Exemplary topics for IANUS projects and incubation projects (see under 2.2) are:

- Dual use aspects/goods (e.g. from sensitive electronics, computer science, physics and chemistry)
- Addressing causes of conflict (e.g. cyber war)
- Aspects of nuclear, biological and chemical disarmament/armament industry
- Civil-military ambivalences of science and technology
- Sustainable security research (e.g. critical infrastructures, responsible energy supply, cyber security)
- Accountability of technologies (among others autonomous systems)
- Digital sovereignty
- Trust issues in relation to (new) technologies
- Research on climatic changes and the conflict potential arising from them

Duration of the funding

Projects can be funded for a limited period of up to 12 months. A cost-neutral extension is possible by submitting a written statement of reasons prior to the expiry of the granted funding period.

Funding for research projects

According to the DFG guidelines ("Hinweise zur Bezahlung von Promovierenden" (DFG form 55.02-05/20)), funding of up to 100,000 euros can be claimed. The funding is based on the possibility of financing two PhD students with a 65% position for one year or one PostDoc working in both (or more participating) research groups with a 100% position for one year. In any case, it is essential to illustrate the interdisciplinary communication between the disciplines during the work process. The cost centre (project number) is automatically closed at the end of the funding period and remaining funds are collected.

Funding criteria for IANUS research projects

- Scientific quality, originality and innovative approach
- Participation of different disciplines appropriate to the research subject and proper consideration of the relevant professional discourse
- Importance for the priority setting at TU Darmstadt, in particular also visibility within and outside the university
- Necessity of funding and adequacy of need as well as prospects for subsequent funding through third-party funds
- Presentation of the content-related qualification goals
- Feedback and connection to teaching
- Contribution to the reduction of social or global conflicts, to the promotion or securing of peaceful coexistence



2.2. IANUS incubation projects

IANUS incubation projects are intended to build up a consortium and provide an opportunity to discuss topics of scientific and technical peace and conflict research. They can be requested for a period of 6 months. Sample topics for both IANUS formats, additional funding criteria for incubation projects and contacts for your project idea can also be found on the websites.

Funding for IANUS incubation projects

The funds available (up to 30.000 euros) are state funds and must be used strictly according to the rules for their expenditure. If there are any remaining funds after 6 months, they will be collected. The cost centre (project number) is automatically closed at the end of the granted period.

Duration of the funding

Projects can be funded for a limited period of up to 6 months. A cost-neutral extension is not possible for incubation projects.

The final report will ideally form the basis of an application for a project in the IANUS funding line, which will be submitted to the FiF Commission for evaluation in the next call for applications.

Funding criteria for incubation projects

- Identification of an interdisciplinary topic that is linked with peace policy research (e.g. technology assessment).
- Participation of different disciplines (from at least two working groups) appropriate to the research topic.
- Brief analysis of needs and description of possible results (for example interdisciplinary publication, literature review, research activities, establishment of a database, etc.).
- Short description how the collaborative work is organised and who bears which responsibility.



Procedure of the application

The chronological process of the application procedure can be found in the diagram below:



For further questions regarding the call for applications, please contact FiF office (fif@fif.tudarmstadt.de) or the members of the FiF Commission. For any questions regarding IANUS funding, please contact Alfred Nordmann, Markus Lederer or Christian Reuter.

We are looking forward to your questions, suggestions and project applications!