



No. 04/2020

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of  
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference nad/jud	Date 20 January 2020
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### **UEFA Research Grant Programme – 2020/21 edition**

Dear Sir or Madam,

The UEFA Research Grant Programme has been a great success since its launch in 2009. The public attention it draws and the quality of the research it has produced increase year on year. In 2019, UEFA received 59 sound research proposals supported by 27 member associations.

For the last few years, our member associations have been associated with the success of the programme more closely than ever. 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 same format will be used for this new edition of the UEFA Research Grant Programme in order to continue encouraging 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.

The aim of the UEFA Research Grant Programme is to issue a number of grants for a period of nine months, to support the valuable work of researchers studying for or already holding a doctorate and analysing European football. Research is supported in the following fields: economics, history, law, management, medical science, political science, psychology and sociology.

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In order to be eligible for a grant, applicants must submit to UEFA a written letter of recommendation from a representative of a national association, confirming their support of the research, together with their full application dossiers (same requirements as for previous editions, 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 editions of the programme. This means that an unsuccessful application can be resubmitted for the next edition, 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, eleven of the proposals submitted were joint applications, out of which two were 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 chairman, representatives of European football and academics known internationally for their work in connection with sport and football in Europe.

In order to maintain the European dimension of this programme, the jury will, in principle, award six grants for projects supported by six 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. Please note that you can also support researchers based outside your own 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 new home for all of UEFA's education programmes and learning initiatives ([www.UEFACademy.com](http://www.UEFACademy.com)). Should you have any questions about the programme, please contact Antoine Fournier, UEFA Academy Knowledge Assistant ([Antoine.Fournier@uefa.ch](mailto:Antoine.Fournier@uefa.ch)).

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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,

**U E F A**



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