

## Policy Expo FAQ

This initiative is worth up to £15,000 (c.\$19,000; c. €16,800) to successful teams aiming to connect their work and wider communities to societal questions and policy needs. (Note that £2,000 is retained by the RSA to manage the Expo's Policy Launch).

The RSA seeks to support 3 Policy Expos:

- 1. Pandemics: Regional Resilience and Regional Policy Responses**
- 2. Social Innovation, Foundational Sectors and the Regional Economy**
- 3. The Future of Work, the Gig Economy, and Inclusive Growth**

[As the lead applicant, can I also designate myself as the Chair?](#)

Yes, the Chair can be the same person who applied for the grant. The Chair is the Principal Investigator (PI) and will receive the award letter to sign.

[What is the role of the Chair?](#)

The Chair is the main point of contact between the team and the RSA and is mostly an administrative role.

[If I am the representative Early Career Researcher, can I also be the Chair of the Policy Expo?](#)

Yes, you can be both Chair and the EC member of the team.

[Does a member of the team need to be an early career researcher?](#)

Yes, each team must include an early career researcher, defined as someone less than 5 years from the date on their PhD certificate.

[Can a PhD student act as an early career researcher?](#)

No, as Early Career is defined as five years from the date on their PhD award, this means they must have been awarded their PhD certificate to be considered as an ECR.

[I am a PhD student. Am I eligible to be part of the Policy Expo team?](#)

Yes, although the Policy Expo would also need to include someone who is specifically EC, but you could also be part of the Policy Expo team as a PhD student if there is also an EC researcher in the team.

[Do I count as Early Career Researcher for the RSA? I am in my last year of my PhD but do not have my doctoral degree yet.](#)

No. You count as an EC researcher for five years following the award of your doctoral degree, so before this time, you are not considered EC.

[Does the team whole need to be registered members?](#)

Yes, all members of your team need to be individual (not institutional or corporate) RSA members from the point at which you submit your application.

[Can I be a corporate or institutional member?](#)

No, all members of your team need to be individual RSA members.

### If I join as an individual, can I include non-member co-authors on the final project?

The main team of five all need to be RSA members for the duration of the project, however there can be input from external committees/stakeholders, who might include non-RSA members.

### What does international team mean - does it mean international in terms of people's nationalities/ their institutions or their areas of research?

To fulfil the international obligations, there must be at least two people who are affiliated to institutions in different countries. Hypothetically everyone could be the same nationality as long as they worked in HEIs from different countries.

### What is exactly meant by the call for evidence?

This is a written call inviting RSA members to submit relevant research/publications/references to the Policy Expo team for consideration, giving the team an almost unsurpassed reach across geography, discipline, gender, ethnicity and career stage.

### The guidelines state that you cannot apply if you are a post-doctoral researcher supported by a senior investigator's funding? Am I eligible if I co-author my application with a colleague who isn't my supervisor or funder?

Yes, if you are not already receiving funding from a senior investigator to do the proposed research, you are eligible to apply. We like to maximise opportunities for research by funding applications from researchers who do not already have a funding grant.

### Does the £2000 pounds that RSA holds for production include the book publication costs?

The total amount for the Policy Expo is £15000, with £2000 retained to publish and launch the book. This would leave you £13000 for your project.

### Should the topic be on the EU or Europe in general? Could it be about any country?

The Policy Expo is not limited to Europe and we actively encourage applications to be 'global in scope and outlook.'

### Are any restrictions about the beginning and the end of the project?

In terms of start dates, there is no set start date, although the expos should be completed within 18 months. If you were to apply for the March deadline, the application would be reviewed during the June Board meeting. In theory, this would mean approval by July. On receipt of the certificate of approval, the project then has 18 months for completion.

### Is the Policy expo an annual grant process?

Yes, the Policy Expo is normally an annual grant with similar deadlines (between March and June), with one call per year across three topics.

### Would I be eligible to apply for the Policy Expo Grant when I am currently part of a Research Network team?

No, members are not permitted to hold more than one consecutive RSA research award at a time. So, if you hold a Research Network award or an individual RSA grant (Early Career, MeRSA or FeRSA), you cannot apply for the Policy Expo until the existing reward has expired and all reporting requirements have been delivered and accepted by the Association.