

RSA Regional Studies Association

RESEARCH FUNDING & AWARDS



The Regional Studies Association (RSA) allocates financial resources to support research projects and to provide a range of funding opportunities to suit different career stages. In offering these grant schemes, we are seeking to raise the profile of regional research. These opportunities provide members with the chance to apply for financial help to support their work, receive awards for excellence, and to present their research.

Please note that non-members are encouraged to apply for a grant and join the RSA at the same time.

Policy Expo Grant Scheme

The Association has supported a policy research initiative for teams to connect their work and wider communities to societal questions and policy needs. Policy Expos deliver a short form policy-focussed, evidenced book in *Regional Studies Policy Impact Books*; and an open access article in *Regional Studies, Regional Science*.

In 2021, applications were invited on the following themes:

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

Value: up to £15,000 (c. \$20,000; c. €17,800)

Application deadline: April 2022 (TBC)

Small Grant on Pandemics, Cities, Regions & Industry

This scheme aims to support a discrete piece of regional studies and/or regional science research on the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) on regions, cities and industry. Topics could address specific countries, regions or cities, providing that wider implications for global audiences are addressed. This award is open to single applicants or a team of researchers.

Value: up to £4,000 (c. \$5,300; c. €4,700)

Application deadline: June 2022 (TBC)

Early Career Research Grant Scheme

This award is open to single applicants in their early career (a maximum of five years between the date shown on the PhD certificate and the application deadline). Applicants must be based within an eligible higher education institution and must be a current early career member of the RSA throughout the duration of the grant.

Value: up to £10,000 (c. \$13,300; c. €11,800)

Application deadlines (Expression of Interest): 24th May 2022



Elvira Uyarra
University of Manchester, UK
FeRSA Grant

Vassilis Tselios
Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Greece
MeRSA Grant



Yehya M. Serag
Ain Shams University, Egypt
Travel Grant

Laura James
University of Aalborg, Denmark
Small Grant Scheme on Pandemics, Cities, Regions & Industry



Xiangming Chen
Trinity College, USA and Fudan University, Shanghai, China
Policy Expo Grant

Jana Kleibert
Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space, Germany
Small Grant Scheme on Pandemics, Cities, Regions & Industry



Mia Bennett
University of Hong Kong
Early Career Grant

Maxwell Hartt
Queen's University in Kingston, Canada
RSA Routledge Early Career Award



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Fellowship Research Grant Scheme (FeRSA)

This award is open to Fellows of the RSA only. RSA Fellows are members who have been continuous members for a minimum of 5 years and who have also been defined as “active members”. This means that they have contributed to the life of the Association through serving on the Board or committees, have spoken at conferences, have applied for funding etc. All applicants are required to set out their dissemination plans not only through academic networks (e.g. conferences and publishing) but also to communities of policy and practice.

Value: up to £7,500 (c. \$10,000; c. €8,900)

Application deadline (Expression of Interest): 10th May 2022

Membership Research Grant Scheme (MeRSA)

The RSA Membership Research Grant supports a discrete piece of regional studies and/or regional science research. This research funding scheme is intended primarily to provide opportunities for mid-career scholars who have already published in the field of regional studies and science, and who are Individual Members of the RSA. The award has a maximum time span of 18 months and reporting conditions apply.

Value: up to £5,000 (c. \$6,600; c. €5,900)

Application deadline (Expression of Interest): 10th May 2022

RSA Awards 2022

Nominations (both self-nominations and third-party nominations) of current members are being sought for the following awards in regional studies and related fields:

- **Nathaniel Lichfield Award** – this award is for recent Masters graduates who have graduated within the previous year.
- **Paul Benneworth PhD Student Award** – this award is for registered PhD students who have not yet received their PhD certificate.
- **RSA Routledge Early Career Award** – this award is for early career researchers (defined as being within five years of the date on their PhD certificate or equivalent).

The nominees are expected to have made an original and outstanding contribution to research concerned with the analysis of regions and regional issues. Nominations should include a fully referenced piece of work in English.

Value: The prizes for each award are: **£500** (c. \$660; c. €590) and a certificate.

Deadline: 20th April 2022



Jacopo Canello
University of Groningen,
Netherlands

I am sincerely honored to be a recipient of the prestigious RSA EC Grant. I have been a proud member of the RSA community since I was a PhD student. During the last few years, I have had the chance to attend several RSA conferences around the world, building my professional network and expanding my social circle. This grant will now help me to explore the consequences of international fragmentation of production on local economies, focusing on the strategies developed by small subcontractors in response to production relocation shocks.



Ilaria Mariotti
Politecnico di Milano, Italy

We are grateful and thankful for the support that we have received from the 'RSA Small Grant Scheme on Pandemics, Cities, Regions and Industry'. This grant will allow us to develop our research project, which concerns a novel phenomenon that will lead to long-term effects. Moreover, this opportunity will enable us to develop a pilot study, which may be replicated at the national and international scale, with a focus on peripheral/suburban areas, as well as supporting policy makers to frame tailored policy tools to face the post-pandemic area.



Simona Iammarino
London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

The FeRSA grant allowed me to develop my arguments about the urgent need to adopt a territorial view on internationalisation processes and policies, and to expand some regional case studies on the topic.

This is becoming a crucial issue in rethinking regional and cohesion policies in the European Union, and I am now collaborating with various stakeholders, including the European Commission, in a reflection on how to incorporate global capital flows and value chains into regional strategies and smart specialisation. This would have not been possible without the grant and the research assistance it provided, particularly as I was coming out from a period of intensive academic management.

In addition, the FeRSA also allowed me to confront with major experts in the field outside Europe, and new and exciting research lines which came out of those discussions. RSA takes good care of its members, at all stages of career!



Tianren Yang
University of Cambridge, UK

I feel deeply honoured to receive the RSA PhD Student Award 2020 and am particularly grateful to the Committee for this esteemed recognition. I look forward to continuing my engagement with the RSA colleagues to deliver high-quality research and influence policy debate.