

GSSR International Scholarship Award

Supported by NAWA STER

(BPI/STE/2021/1/00030/U/00001)

Call for Applications: PhD Scholarships

The Graduate School for Social Research, GSSR, invites GSSR PhD students in good academic standing and accepted to the School under the 2018 Law of Higher Education in any of its four disciplines – Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology – to apply for the GSSR International Scholarship Award (GISA). Thanks to NAWA STER funding for scholarships that award the best doctoral students at GSSR, for this Call we can award up to six stipends.

GISA scholarship duration depends on the student's year of study: GSSR PhD students in Years 1 and 2 are eligible for up to 21 months of NAWA STER funding; GSSR PhD students in Year 3 are eligible for up to 12 months. Receiving the NAWA best PhD student scholarship for the full duration is contingent upon awardees maintaining their good academic standing at GSSR.

Each awarded student will receive 5226 PLN net per month. This amount replaces – for the duration of the GISA scholarship period – other monthly doctoral stipends (i.e. the legally-mandated PhD stipend, or the Preludium Bis scholarship). The GISA scholarship can be combined with Research Assistant salary earned when students are employed within a given research project.

Eligibility Requirements

Within the framework of NAWA STER best PhD student scholarships, only GSSR doctoral students in good academic standing are eligible to apply for the GSSR GISA Award. Eligible PhD students must have been accepted to the School under the 2018 Law of Higher Education. GISA gives preference to PhD students conducting doctoral projects with international faculty involvement (e.g. foreign co-supervisor) and who consider pursuing their PhD under a Cotutelle or dual PhD degree arrangement.

Receiving the NAWA STER award is contingent upon proof that you meet eligibility guidelines (see Application Form below). Failure to provide proof of eligibility to GSSR will result in GSSR withholding the stipend.

Obligations for GISA winners

Doctoral students who are granted and accept the NAWA scholarship are obligated to do the following within one year of the end of their GISA stipend:

- (1) Fully participate (i.e. take for credit) in GSSR's (a) upcoming Article Finishing Course either in the Humanities or the Social Sciences, and (b) the course, Specialization in Bridging Academic and NGO Research (optional for PhD students in Philosophy);
- (2) Submit a report (min 350 – max. 400 words), in English and with NAWA STER grant number, on how the grant has furthered the international aspect of the student's academic career. The report will be posted on GSSR's website.

Winners of the NAWA STER best doctoral student scholarship must have their Individual Research Plan approved by their supervisor(s) prior to payments of the stipend. Except for short stays abroad, GISA winners must be in Poland for the duration of the NAWA STER scholarship.

Application

The application must be in English. Fill out the information in the **Application Form** below, and provide the following mandatory documents:

1. **Statement of Purpose** (500 words). Please indicate (i) Your current involvement in international projects, including existing links with faculty at Higher Education Institutions (HEI) abroad; (ii) How the NAWA scholarship will lead to, or strengthen, your participation in international projects; and (iii) How GISA will benefit your PhD dissertation research and academic career.
2. **Statement of Dissertation Research** (min 800 words, max. 1000 words). Please describe your PhD dissertation, focusing on the innovations of the research and the main contributions to the dissertation's field and discipline. Please discuss any interdisciplinary and/or international aspects of your research.
3. **PhD Supervisor's Opinion** on (a) how the student progresses toward the dissertation, (b) the feasibility of foreign faculty involvement (e.g. sustained feedback, co-supervision) in the student's PhD work, and (c) prospects for a dual PhD degree/cotutelle arrangement with a HEI abroad.
4. **Curriculum Vitae** (CV), which, among standard categories, should include: Publications; Conference or workshop presentations in international venues or, if online or hybrid, via international organizations or organizations outside of Poland; involvement in international research projects; involvement in Polish research projects, participation in foreign or national grants (paid or unpaid).

The following documents are **optional**, but would benefit the grading of the application:

- (i) Letter of recommendation from a PhD (faculty, researcher, etc.) from abroad;
- (ii) Letter stating that the student is currently, or has been in the last six months, a participant in a Polish or international research project. The letter is to be written by a PhD holder in a leadership position in that project;
- (iii) One article or book chapter in which you are first author or have documented significant (e.g., indicated as a percentage of contribution to the paper, confirmed by the lead author) role (ca. 8000 words). This must be a paper that you submitted for publication, or that is close-to-submission; it cannot be a rough draft of a paper.

The deadline for Applications is **May 23, 2022**. Please send your Application package via email to Dr. John Fells (jfells@gssr.edu.pl). **Please indicate "NAWA STER GSSR International Scholarship Application" in your email's subject.**

Evaluation

GSSR will form a Committee to evaluate the applications and submit a recommendation to the Director of GSSR. The Committee will evaluate based on applicants' academic merits and the feasibility of doing a doctoral project in international cooperation and aiming to obtain dual PhD degrees. Final decisions are made by the Director of GSSR. Please note that the Director can ask for additional information or documents, including and beyond what the Committee recommends.

You will receive information about the outcome of your application within **21 working days** from the date you submitted the Application package.

APPLICATION FORM: GSSR International Scholarship Application (GISA)

Applicant:

First Name:

Last name:

Year of studies:

Academic discipline:

Title of PhD thesis:

PhD supervision:

Name and institutional affiliation of PhD supervisor(s):

Name, institutional affiliation and email address of international faculty involved with your doctoral research:

(if foreign faculty involvement is to be established, indicate the name and institutional affiliation of faculty from abroad whom you contacted about their involvement in your research)

Appendix A – Acknowledging NAWA support

Below is the template text that you must add to your final report.

Acknowledgements

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