

NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF UKRAINE

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FUNDRAISING STRATEGY
of the
National Research Foundation of Ukraine
for 2022-2024

Kyiv – 2022

The Fundraising Strategy of the National Research Foundation of Ukraine for 2022-2024 is a document that contains **explication of the purpose, tasks and mechanisms** of raising non-budgetary funds for including, but not limited to, the renewal of grant support for research and development projects the implementation of which through armed aggression of the Russian Federation was interrupted and did not start in 2022, as well as for grant support of projects in other areas within the framework of new calls (hereinafter – the Strategy).

The Strategy is designed for **three years** and provides for preparation of an action plan for the corresponding calendar year which details the list of measures necessary to achieve the main goal of attracting non-budgetary funds (charitable aid – donations) for the renewal of grant support for projects for the implementation of scientific research and developments, as well as for grant support in other areas based on the results of new calls.

Raising non-budgetary funds **will enable** the National Research Foundation of Ukraine (hereinafter – the Foundation), first of all, to renew the financing of the most in-demand research and developments at this time, as well as, but not exclusively, to provide grant support to projects based on the results of new calls, which in its turn, will contribute to increasing efficiency of the functioning of the national economy in the war and post-war times, harmonious transition to knowledge economy, and the preservation of the research potential of Ukraine for the future.

The Foundation is a state budgetary institution established in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Scientific and Scientific-Technical Activities" with the aim of stimulating fundamental and applied research, developing the national research area and its integration into the world research area, building research infrastructure in Ukraine and its integration into the world research infrastructure, etc.

The Foundation's mission: we invest in researchers and their ideas which are valuable for Ukraine and the world.

The priority values and basic principles of the Foundation are:

- *independence* – the Foundation provides independence and objectivity of research and technical reviewing of projects submitted to calls held by the Foundation;

- *responsibility* – the Foundation is a reliable partner of researchers which always performs its tasks correctly and ethically;

- *fairness* – the Foundation's decisions are justified and collegial, the Foundation provides equal opportunities for applicants, guarantees compliance with copyright and related rights, ensures fair selection and prevention of conflicts of interest;

- *transparency* – the Foundation guarantees responsible, purposeful, efficient and transparent allocation of its funds.

Since the beginning of its functioning, the Foundation has launched 5 calls (2 in 2020 and 3 in 2021, 2 of which remain unfinished because of the war). All calls were held on the bottom-up basis. The competitive selection was aimed at identifying

the best research projects (excellent science) with an emphasis on supporting research of early-career researchers.

The Foundation has supported 216 projects (under 2 calls in 2020) with a 1–3-year implementation period. The winners of the call completed in 2021 were 57 projects with a 2-year implementation period.

Call budgets:

2020/01 – 398,627,226 UAH (for 2020-2021), 76 successful projects;

2020/02 – 975,162,500 UAH. (for 2020-2022), 140 successful projects;

2021/01 – 453,171,162 UAH. (for 2022-2024), 57 successful projects;

2021/02 - from 384.9 million UAH to 1 billion 903.9 million UAH (for 2022-2025 according to the T&C of the call), the selection procedures were interrupted by the war;

2021/03 - from UAH 333.1 million to UAH 514.4 million (for 2022-2025 according to the T&C of the call), the selection procedures were interrupted by the war.

All research and development projects that received funding from the Foundation cannot be presently implemented, the research teams that were successful in the latest calls did not even have a chance to receive funds to start their research. Currently, the Foundation **does not have** adequate funds to continue grant support – the state was forced to sequester previously allocated public funds for the primary defense of Ukraine against the military attack of the Russian Federation.

The **target audience** to which the Foundation addresses with its fundraising initiatives are partner organizations in Ukraine and abroad, foundations financing research, research centers and universities, international corporations, researchers, lecturers and tutors of higher education institutions, individuals, etc.

The Foundation will gratefully accept any charitable assistance that would allow, in the first place, at least partially to continue financing research projects that as a result of receiving a positive assessment from independent Ukrainian and foreign experts were selected to be winners of the calls, and would also enable provision of grant support for research and development projects based on the results of new calls of the Foundation.

To achieve the principal goal of this Strategy, the Foundation sets itself a **number of tasks** consisting of the following:

- formation of a pool of proposals from the Foundation in terms of research and development projects with high social demand, related to the recovery of Ukraine, solving the most acute problems in the social and humanitarian sphere, with the aim of renewing their grant support at the expense of funds raised from donors;

- expansion of partnership cooperation with organizations that are not considered potential donors, in terms of informational support of the Foundation's Strategy;

- preparation of targeted publications for foreign mass media and social networks regarding the Foundation's initiatives, broad coverage of the goal of the Strategy and possible ways of support for Ukrainian researchers;

- development of a fundraising web page on the official website of the Foundation and implementation of appropriate information and communication measures to disseminate information about the goals of the Strategy through various social networks;

- ensuring raising of non-budgetary funds (charitable donations) with the aim of achieving the goal of the Strategy;

- renewal of grant support for research and development projects with high social demand, related to the recovery of Ukraine, solving the most acute problems in the social and humanitarian sphere;

- other tasks aimed at realizing the goal of the Strategy.

Sources of funding:

- *charity* – implemented through free transfer of funds into the ownership of the Foundation in order to achieve the goal of the Strategy;

- *sponsorship* – voluntary financial, organizational and other support by individuals and legal entities of the Foundation's fundraising initiatives.

When working with benefactors **the Foundation can act as:**

- a **beneficiary** – the recipient of a charitable donation from one or more benefactors to achieve the principal goal of the Strategy;

- a **partner** – joint implementation of a partnership program and/or coordination of charitable donor support if the partner's mission and goal correspond the goal of the Foundation's activities;

- as a **special partner** – when sponsors or benefactors who intend to transfer charitable aid to strengthen implementation of projects supported by the Foundation turn to the Foundation.

Organizational forms of support for the Strategy:

- **crowdsourcing** – obtaining the necessary free services and consultations by uniting interested parties around the goals of the Strategy;

- **crowdfunding** – free transfer of funds into the ownership of the Foundation;

- **digital philanthropy** – conveying information and joining Strategy by all interested persons through mobile applications and devices.

The Foundation can independently allocate the funds raised to support projects for the implementation of research and developments, as well as for grant support in other areas based on the results of new calls, or direct them at the benefactor's wish to finance research in a specific field or to meet the needs of a specific project.

The Strategy and the Action Plan are based on the priorities defined in the Strategy of the Foundation for 2021-2023, developed and approved by the Scientific Council of the Foundation.

For a long time, the Foundation has been implementing transparent and open mechanisms for the allocation of budgetary funds for financing of research and developments. Currently, the Foundation is acquiring membership in the Association of leading research organizations Science Europe, strives to comply with ethical principles, and actively implements best practices regarding the organization of the internal control system.

Raising and allocation of charitable donations within the framework of the implementation of the Strategy is transparent and open. It provides for a monthly update of information on the amount of non-budgetary funds involved and the publication of reports on their use on the fundraising web page on the official website of the Foundation.

Sponsors and benefactors who have joined the Foundation's fundraising initiatives will be able to receive **relevant image awards** (electronic stickers and acknowledgments).