

EXAMPLE OF AN APPLICATION FORM:

PHD FELLOWSHIP FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

LOGIN TO E-LOKET

Applicants first have to register in order to receive a login name and password, which gives access to the web-based FWO e-portal for preparing and submitting a proposal. Go to the FWO home page (<http://www.fwo.be/en/>) and click on E-loket.

steun het fwo kennismakers hoek 38 wetenschapsagenda

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E-loket

Om u aan te melden .Klik [hier](#)

Nog niet geregistreerd? Schrijf je [hier](#) in

Komende deadlines

15/01	ERA4HEALTH NutriBrain
30/01	ERA4HEALTH 'NANOTECMEC'
01/03	Aspirant Fundamenteel Onderzoek
01/03	Aspirant Strategisch Basisonderzoek

Aftelkalender: Ontdek de 20 leukste foto's van 23



NL

EN

Login

Log in to access FWO's E-loket.

 LOG IN WITH ORCID

or

Email / username

Password

Remember Me

[Forgot password?](#)

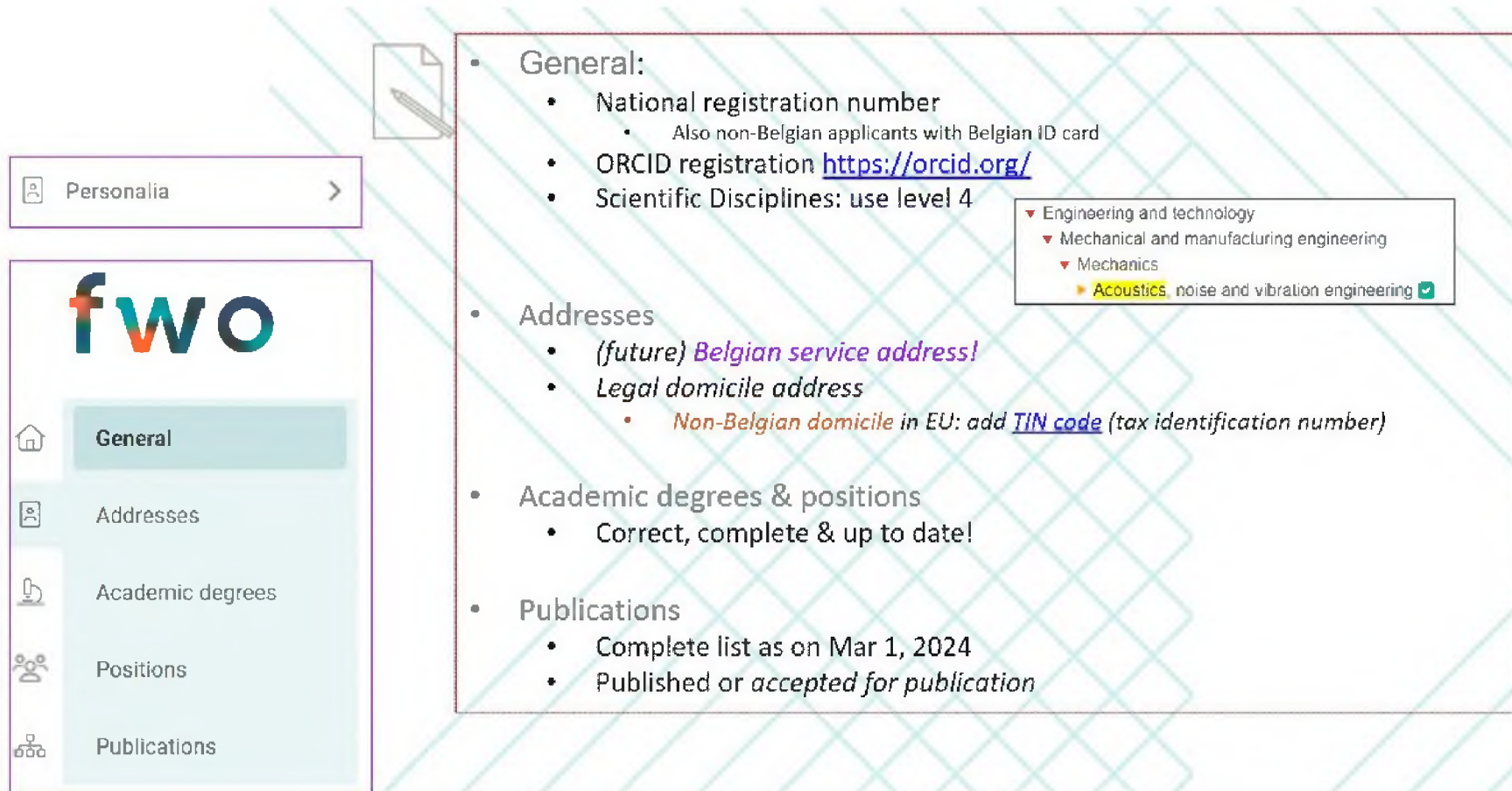
LOG IN

No account yet? [Create an account](#)

E-LOKET PERSONALIA

Please make sure to update your personal data with each future application, especially the publications section.

Some further hints to complete your personal details:

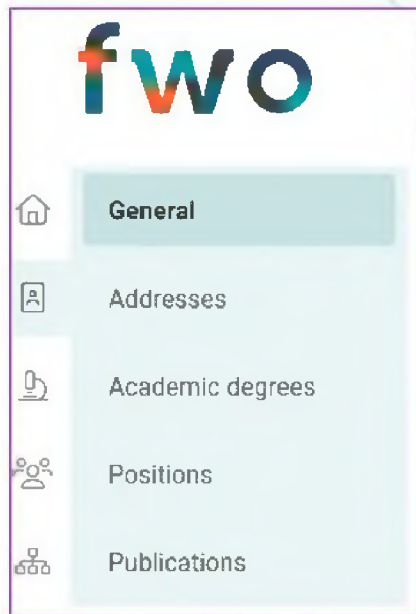


The image shows a screenshot of the FWO E-LOKET PERSONALIA interface. On the left, there is a navigation menu with the FWO logo and several menu items: General, Addresses, Academic degrees, Positions, and Publications. The 'Personalia' section is highlighted. To the right of the menu, there is a list of hints for completing personal details, including a dropdown menu for 'Scientific Disciplines'.

- **General:**
 - National registration number
 - Also non-Belgian applicants with Belgian ID card
 - ORCID registration <https://orcid.org/>
 - Scientific Disciplines: use level 4
 - ▾ Engineering and technology
 - ▾ Mechanical and manufacturing engineering
 - ▾ Mechanics
 - ▶ Acoustics noise and vibration engineering
- **Addresses**
 - (future) *Belgian service address!*
 - *Legal domicile address*
 - *Non-Belgian domicile in EU: add [TIN code](#) (tax identification number)*
- **Academic degrees & positions**
 - Correct, complete & up to date!
- **Publications**
 - Complete list as on Mar 1, 2024
 - Published or *accepted for publication*

You can start a new fellowship application only if at least following items in 'Personal Details' are completed:

Personalia >



The screenshot shows the 'Personalia' menu in the fwo system. The menu is titled 'Personalia' and has a right-pointing arrow. Below the title is the 'fwo' logo. The menu items are: 'General' (highlighted with a teal background), 'Addresses', 'Academic degrees', 'Positions', and 'Publications'. Each item has a small icon to its left: a house for 'General', a person for 'Addresses', a document for 'Academic degrees', two people for 'Positions', and a group of people for 'Publications'.

General

- Gender
- Place of birth
- Nationality
- [ORCID ID](#) (*Open Researcher and Contributor ID*)

Addresses

- Domicile address (in Belgium or abroad)
- (Future) service address

Academic degrees

no access to new application  *before these 7 items are completed...*

APPLICATION TYPE SELECTOR

After completing or editing your personal profile, you may start or proceed preparing your application. Select 'create application' to start a new application.

The image shows a user interface for creating an application. On the left, a sidebar contains the 'fwo' logo and navigation items: 'Dashboard', 'Personalia', and 'Researcher' (which is circled in purple). Below the sidebar is a 'Create application' button with a plus sign. A green arrow points from this button to the 'Application forms' section. The 'Application forms' section is highlighted with a green grid pattern. To the right, a 'Create application' dialog box is open. It has a title bar with a close button. Below the title bar, there is a section titled 'Select Application Type' with a dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is open, showing three options: 'Fellowships', 'PhD Fellowship fundamental research', and 'Standard' (which is highlighted with a green border). Below the dropdown menu, there is a section titled 'Working title (optional)' with a text input field. The text below the input field reads: 'Define a working title for your application so you can easily identify it later. This title is not a part of the application itself and can be changed later on.'

APPLICATION FORM

Manual save as well as auto-save features

← TESTERS TEST ⌛ ⚙️ ↗️

My PhD Fellowship fundamental research ✎
PHD FELLOWSHIP FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

Save Export PDF

- GENERAL
- PERSONAL DATA
- HOST INSTITUTION - PR...
- PROJECT
- PEER REVIEW
- ETHICS
- DATA MANAGEMENT PL...
- CONSENT

General

Enter the English title of your research proposal.

0 / 240

Enter the Dutch title of your research proposal.

0 / 240

Complete the abstract of your research proposal - English version.

0 / 1500

Complete the abstract of your research proposal - Dutch version.

0 / 1500

Select up to five scientific disciplines that best characterize the proposed research.

The disciplines mentioned in the 'Personalia' section, together with the free-text keywords below will be used to allocate your application to the best fitting internal reviewers within the panel.

[Go to the personalia page to update disciplines](#)

No items found.

Enter up to three English free-text keywords or concepts that best characterize the proposed research.

These keywords allow reviewers to quickly understand the broad scope of your proposal.

Minimum amount of entries: 1.

Maximum amount of entries: 3.

+ Add

Keyword ↑

Please add an item

Enter up to three Dutch free-text keywords or concepts that best characterize the proposed research.

These keywords allow reviewers to quickly understand the broad scope of your proposal.

Minimum amount of entries: 1.

Maximum amount of entries: 3.

+ Add

Keyword ↑↓

Please add an item

Personal Data

Explain any career breaks.

Explain possible gaps in your CV in the input field below. Make sure your current position and previous appointments are well listed in the e-portal 'Personal details' section ('Posts / Career'). If you have interrupted your academic career at any given point for at least three months (maternity leave, parental leave, full-time sickness leave, unconventional career paths such as leave because of activities in industry or other non-academic sectors, ...) provide details about this below (reason, start/end date). This will allow the reviewers to fairly assess your career stage.

0 / 3000

STUDY RESULTS (ACADEMIC EDUCATION)

This section will be used by the evaluators to assess your potential as a PhD researcher, based on your past academic trajectory.

Study narrative.

Show how your academic study trajectory has formed the ideal preparation for doing a PhD, in general and and specifically on the topic of the proposed project. Where appropriate, refer to your grades of relevant courses, your percentiles or relative ranking or other study results. You may also highlight specific programs or courses you took. If applicable, include additional information on your personal situation which you believe this may have affected your study results and should need to be taken into consideration during the evaluation.

0 / 3000

Relative positioning of your study results.

Provide the following information for the master's degree on the basis of which the application is submitted (see PhD fellowship regulations article 7): the **overall result** you obtained for this **master's degree, expressed as a percentage**; your relative ranking within your study group expressed as the **percentile** (referring to your university study group) or rank.

• If you have not yet obtained a master's diploma, please enter the study results and percentile related to the relevant **bachelor's diploma**.

• Regarding diplomas from **non-Flemish universities**, either a percentile score (if available), or at least your rank within your study group should be provided. If neither of these data is available, use the text field at the bottom to provide qualitative information on all your study results.

• Master-after-Master diplomas are not taken into account for percentile/rank information (but may be discussed above in the 'study narrative').

• More information on providing relative ranking information can be found on the programme webpages.

Please select the relevant diploma for percentile/rank information.

Date	University	Degree	Grade	Country
<input type="radio"/> 30/06/1993	University College Ghent	Accountancy and Finance	Bachelor	BE

Upload the declaration on your percentile or rank within study group

Note that this document is mandatory and an essential part of your application. However, exceptionally and when duly justified this document can be submitted within reasonable time after the submission deadline.

Maximum file size is 10 MB

Allowed file extension(s): .pdf

 Download template

 Upload

Please upload your file(s)

Enter the study results of your diploma.

Enter the global percentage -up to 2 decimal places e.g. xxx,xx

To find the percentile to which you belong with the study result with which you obtained the selected diploma, proceed as follows:

(for non-Flemish universities, please contact this institution to obtain percentiles or ranking)

1. Select the Flemish university where you obtained your diploma.

- 1 Ghent University
- 2 Hasselt University
- 3 KU Leuven
- 4 University of Antwerp
- 5 Vrije Universiteit Brussel

2. Find your diploma and the academic year in which you obtained it.

3. Look for the highest percentile value that is smaller or equal than your study result. However, in case multiple percentile values equal your study result, the lowest of these percentiles is to be filled in.

Provide details about the positioning of your grade based on the percentile or study group ranking.

Not applicable Percentile Ranking study group

Percentile

Provide details about the positioning of your grade based on the percentile or study group ranking.

Not applicable Percentile Ranking study group

Percentile e.g. P95, P90, P85 ...

Ranking study group

Provide details about the positioning of your grade based on the percentile or study group ranking.

Not applicable Percentile Ranking study group

Ranking within the study group.

Number of students within study group.

Not applicable

Provide details about the positioning of your grade based on the percentile or study group ranking.

Not applicable

Percentile

Ranking study group

Text field to provide additional information on your study results (the global percentage, percentile, rank in study group). (optional)

If you were not able to provide a global percentage and/or positioning in the study group, you can use this text field to present in a qualitative way the relative positioning of all your study results compared to your peers. You can also use this text field to provide additional information on your academic study results (Bachelor, Master, Advanced Master, ...), i.e. detailed course scores can be added or, if you have not yet obtained your master, you can marks obtained in the first master year. All evidence on study results should be uploaded in 'Personal Details/studies' section.

0 / 2000

MOTIVATION AND COMPETENCES

This section will be used by the evaluators to assess your potential as a PhD researcher, based on your motivation, acquired scientific competences and scientific mindset.

Write a motivation statement

Elaborate on your motivation and research interests to pursue an individual PhD trajectory. Elaborate also on how your scientific background and competences will allow you to start the PhD project. Provide a clear and substantiated overview on the skills you have already developed, and on the competences yet to be acquired and how you will acquire them.

0 / 2000

Scientific activities, experiences and achievements.

In this input field you can further elaborate on first steps as a (potential) scientist. List relevant activities, experiences and achievements that may be relevant for assessing your potential to start a PhD. For mobility and awards, other dedicated input fields are available below.

- For (ongoing or finished) **master thesis** or equivalent (as well as dissertation advanced master): mention title, promotor, research group and host institution. If the thesis is related to your PhD topic, also specify initial objective, methodology used and (intermediate) results.
- For (PhD) **research** already started, specify initial objective, methodology used and (intermediate) results.
- If applicable mention (up to 5) **publications and other achievements**. Mind, do mention for each achievement item (publications and other achievements) **your share** and its nature, and those of other significant partners in the workload.
- **For publications:** list all authors, title of publication and journal name (without abbreviations) with volume, start/end page and year. Mention whether the publication was peer reviewed or not. For book publications, give all necessary bibliographic information (author(s) or editor(s), book title, publisher, place, year, number of pages).
- **Make sure your complete publication list is up to date in the e-portal 'Personal details' section ("Publications").**
- **For other achievements:** provide a short description, when it was undertaken and finalised and list all the relevant participants involved in it.
- List any other **distinct research output** that does not fit in the bibliographic publication list and that is meaningful in a broad sense with respect to this fellowship application. It may be constituted by a data base, surveys, a technical diagram, software, objects (maquettes, prototypes...), any other type of activity or output you consider to be relevant. Date the output where appropriate.
- Mention any relevant, past or concretely planned, experiences (internships, presentations, collaborations, ...)

0 / 3000

Specify earlier mobility (research stays) in other organizations.

Indicate the research stays which have already been undertaken, prior to this project. If applicable, motivate shortly the added value of each stay to the project. Add details on the organization, type of organization, country, contact person, start/end date, function/activities.

0 / 2000

Specify concrete mobility plans (research stays) within the FWO fellowship.

Indicate the research stays which are planned within the FWO fellowship. Motivate shortly the added value of each stay for the project. Include details on the organization, type of organization, country, contact person, start/end date, function/activities. See [Programme Regulations Art. 4 §2](#)

0 / 2000

List any scientific awards.

List prizes and awards, (e.g. best master thesis...). Specify the awarding body, title, date, amount and theme

0 / 600

Host institution - promotor

This part of the application form provides info on host institutions and (co-)promotors of your research. There are 3 levels where data can be filled in.

1. **As a FWO PhD researcher, you must be affiliated to a main Flemish host institution. You must refer to a (main) promotor in this institution.***

* Eligible main host institutions are: Universities in the Flemish Community, the Evangelical Protestant Faculty of Leuven, the Faculty for Protestant Theology in Brussels.

Select a main Flemish host institution (Art. 4§1 of the FWO regulations) from the pick list, and name a (main) promotor. The (main) promotor will be invited by FWO to submit a recommendation letter. Co-promotors will receive a notification by FWO.

(Optional) You can name a co-promotor, affiliated to the same main host institution.

2. (Optional) In case of a collaboration with a Flemish or Federal scientific institution, where the research is carried out, (Regulations Art 4§1), the co-hosting organization and co-promotor should be named. It should be mentioned on level 2.

Select an organization from the pick list*, and name a co-promotor. If needed you can name another co-promotor affiliated to this organization.

* If the organization is not mentioned on the pick list, select 'other' and name the organization. FWO will consider whether this organization fulfills the requirements to act as a co-hosting institute.

3. (Optional) In case another co-promotor oversees your PhD project, mention the organization they are affiliated to, and the corresponding co-promotor. It should be mentioned on level 3.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Main Flemish host institution2. Other host institution(s) - Flemish or federal3. Other organization(s)	<p>Main Flemish host institution and promotor(s) (Art. 4§1)</p> <p><i>Minimum amount of entries: 1.</i></p> <p><i>Maximum amount of entries: 1.</i></p> <p>+ Add</p> <p>Main Flemish host institution <input type="text"/></p> <hr/> <p>Please add an item</p>
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Add: main Flemish host institution

Main Flemish host institution

Promotor

Eligibility main promotor: [check Art. 10§2 of the regulations](#)

The (main) promotor will be invited by FWO to submit a recommendation statement on the PhD fellowship application.

In case of collaboration with other research units in the same or other host organizations, co-promotors should be mentioned. These will receive a notification by FWO. They will not be invited to submit a recommendation statement.

Minimum amount of entries: 1

Maximum amount of entries: 1

+ Add

First name ↑↓

Last name ↑↓

Research unit ↑↓

Please add an item

Co-promotor(s) *(optional)*

You may specify one or more co-promotors.

+ Add

First name ↑↓

Last name ↑↓

Research unit ↑↓

Please add an item

Add: promotor

Title

First name

0 / 50

Last name

0 / 50

Date of birth *(optional)*



Current occupation

0 / 70

Employment rate



Email

Research unit

0 / 50

Street and number

0 / 50

City



Add: co-promotor

Title

First name

Last name

Date of birth *(optional)*

Current occupation

Employment rate

Email

Research unit

Street and number

City

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Main Flemish host institution <li style="border-left: 2px solid #008080; padding-left: 5px;">2. Other host institution(s) – Flemish or federal 3. Other organization(s) 	<p>Other host institution(s) – Flemish or federal, and promotor(s) (Art. 4§1) (optional)</p> <p>If you will carry out your research in another host institution (Flemish or federal) according to Art 4 §1 of the regulations, please click "Add" to select an institution in the drop-down menu. If the institution is not mentioned in the picklist, select 'Other' and name the organization. FWO will consider whether this organization fulfills the requirements to act as a co-hosting institute.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+ Add</p> <p>Other Flemish- or federal host institution ↑↓</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; margin-top: 5px;">Please add an item</div>
--	--

Add: other Flemish- or federal host institution

Other Flemish- or federal host institution

v

Co-promotor(s)

Minimum amount of entries: 1.

[+ Add](#)

First name ↑↓

Last name ↑↓

Research unit ↑↓

Please add an item

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Main Flemish host institution 2. Other host institution(s) – Flemish or federal <li style="border-left: 2px solid #008080; padding-left: 5px;">3. Other organization(s) 	<p>Other co-promotor(s) and their affiliation (optional)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+ Add</p> <p>Other organization ↑↓</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Co-promotor(s) ↑↓</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; margin-top: 5px;">Please add an item</div>
--	--

Add: other organization

Other organization

0 / 60

Co-promotor(s)

Minimum amount of entries: 1.

[+ Add](#)

First name ↑↓

Last name ↑↓

Research unit ↑↓

Please add an item

Project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project description:

The project description should be structured following the template provided by FWO. The sequence of the different topics should be followed exactly as provided in the original template. The total project outline has a maximum of 10 A4 pages (Font Calibri 11, single line spacing, original template margins...) herein included all tables, graphs, illustrations, etc.

Maximum file size is 10 MB

Allowed file extension(s): .pdf

 Download template

 Upload

Please upload your file(s)

Template project description

PHD FELLOWSHIP FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH PROJECT OUTLINE (MAX. 10 A4 pages)

The titles below provide a list of aspects that should be discussed in the project outline. This is followed by a brief description of the expected content in italics. Please retain these titles in the final project description, but remove the description. You may add extra titles and subtitles as necessary. Please stick to the maximum number of 10 A4 pages, without changing text layout (font Calibri 11, line distance 1, page margins etc.). Please also remove this explanatory paragraph before submitting this project description.

(if applicable) Changes to previous project proposal

If this PhD project proposal has been submitted to FWO earlier, please concisely describe the major changes, e.g. how you considered the panel suggestions as a feedback to your first application.

Click here to insert your text.

Rationale and positioning with regard to the state-of-the-art

Elaborate the scientific motivation for the project proposal based on scientific knowledge gaps, and the issues and/or problems that you want to solve with this project. Concisely describe the related international state of the art, with reference to scientific literature. Position your project in relation to ongoing national and international research.

Click here to insert your text.

Scientific research objectives

Describe explicitly the scientific objective(s) and the research hypothesis. Explain whether and how the research is specifically challenging and inventive, describing in particular the innovative aspects of the envisaged results. Discuss in detail the results (or partial results) that you aim to achieve, such as specific knowledge and academic breakthroughs.

Click here to insert your text.

Research methodology and work plan

Elaborate the different envisaged steps (experiments/activities) in your research, and motivate your strategic choices with the aim of reaching the objectives. Describe the set-up and cohesion of the work packages including intermediate goals (milestones).

Show where the proposed methodology (research approach) is according to the state of the art and where it is novel. Discuss risks that might endanger reaching project objectives and the contingency plans to be put in place should this risk occur.

Use a table or graphic representation of the planned course of activities (timing work packages, milestones, critical path) over the 4-years grant period.

Click here to insert your text.

References

Give an overview of the bibliographical references that are relevant for your research proposal.

Click here to insert your text.

OTHER FUNDING

Have the content of this proposal and at least the main part of the proposed research actions, be it with literally the same text or in a varied form, already been submitted before AND was it funded or is the funding decision still pending (applications that finally did not result in funding should not be mentioned)?

Yes No

To whom have they been submitted?

to FWO, regardless of the type of funding (fellowship, project,...)

Specify the project number(s), title and programme.

0 / 8000

Has the proposal already been funded?

Funding decision still pending Yes

to another organization

Please enter the name of that organization.

0 / 240

Has the proposal already been funded?

Funding decision still pending Yes

Enter any additional remarks and the decision date(s) of pending funding decision(s) mentioned above.

- You are encouraged to use this field as an opportunity to point out potential overlap, complementarity, added value of current funding applied for or already obtained, ... related to the applications mentioned above.
- There can be good reason for applying or already having applied for funding at FWO or elsewhere. It is however important that the panel understands how pending applications for funding or obtained funding mentioned above relate to the current application.

State NA if not applicable.

0 / 1000

PROJECT POSITIONING AND EMBEDDING

Explain how this project fits into the research activities of the involved host institution(s).

Elaborate on the positioning and embedding of your project in the research group(s), its scientific as well as strategic ambitions. If applicable, also position your own previous and current research to the proposed PhD fellowship project.

0 / 2000

Position the project in a national and international context.

Mention specific research collaborations planned in the course of this project, if appropriate, mention larger projects, programmes or networks your proposal may be part of.

0 / 1200

Did you take the issues of gender/sex and diversity into account while designing your research plan (e.g. selection of human participants and/or animals in experiments, relevance of research questions and/or results with respect to gender differences, ...)?

This issue will be taken into account during the evaluation as part of your research methodology and work plan.

Not applicable Yes

Justification.

0 / 1200

Did you or will you work with societal actors other than research partners in the whole or parts of the research process (from design of the application up to the execution of the research)?

'Societal actors' consist of all kinds of groups in society (like patients and/or their organizations, other citizens, firms, ...) involved in or connected to the research in one way or another. There is no limitation to what kind of partners in society possibly can be included, nor is involving societal partners an obligation whether such an involvement could be relevant or not is left to the judgment of the applicants of the research proposal. Take into account, however that the evaluators may find that collaboration with societal actors is recommendable or even necessary; you may anticipate this by clarifying your position in the designated textbox. Please be aware that this question on societal actors does not concern science communication or valorization.

This issue will be taken into account during the evaluation as part of your research methodology and work plan.

Not applicable | Yes

Justification:

0 / 1200

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Indicate how the results of the proposed research will be communicated to a non-expert audience.

FWO encourages its fellows to disseminate the results of their research widely and valorise them where possible.

0 / 1200

Peer review

INTERNAL PEER REVIEW

There are 31 thematic panels, ranging over 5 scientific domains, and one specific interdisciplinary panel. More details on these panels and their specific scopes can be found here. You should first select a scientific domain, and then select the thematic panel in that domain that best fits your research project. The Specific Interdisciplinary Panel covers interdisciplinary research that meets the functional definition of interdisciplinarity as adopted by this panel.

Specify the scientific domain in which your research is situated, then select the appropriate panel.

Scientific domains (bio, cult, gm, med, wt)

Specify the scientific domain in which your research is situated, then select the appropriate panel.

Select the appropriate panel.

Motivate your choice of expert panel.

Carefully read the scientific scope of the selected expert panel and motivate why your application fits the scope of this panel - i.e. why this panel has the most appropriate expertise to evaluate your proposal.

0 / 500

Scientific domain intd

Specify the scientific domain in which your research is situated, then select the appropriate panel.

Select the appropriate panel.

Motivate your choice of expert panel.

Please carefully read the functional definition of interdisciplinary as adopted by the Specific Interdisciplinary Panel and motivate clearly and extensively how your application meets this definition.

- There is more than one discipline involved and these disciplines are sufficiently distinct
- The disciplines are at the same coordinated level; each discipline is essential to achieve the expected outcome.
- The use of different, sufficiently integrated disciplines leads to synergy. Due to this synergy, the state of the art is advanced in all involved disciplines and/or in a shared area.

0 / 500

Ethics

FWO Ethics Table

The table below lists questions about possible ethical aspects in research proposals. Please go through the main table and tick 'YES' for aspect(s) relevant to your proposal. Then answer any related sub-questions by clicking on the appropriate ethical topic that becomes listed under 'Ethical Issues'. You can return to the main table by clicking on 'Ethical Issues'.

If you mark a 'yes' for the question, it follows that:

- **For the questions marked with *:** the applicant is legally or on the basis of institutional regulations obliged to ask for an ethical approval at the competent ethics committee of the host institution. Please do take into account that even when there is no obligation with regard to the research itself, for the publication of the results an approval may still be necessary and that no retroactive ethics committee approvals are provided

If you have answered questions with an * positively, you must submit an ethics approval request with detailed documentation on e.g. study methodology, procedures, informed consent form, insurance, etc to the ethics committee **as soon as your application has been approved for funding**. Study-specific procedures cannot begin until this ethics approval has been formally given. Only if the approval relates to a work package planned at a later stage of the project, and if legislation allows, the host institution may decide to authorize the researcher to obtain ethical approval at a later stage, i.e. at the latest before the initiation of the relevant part of the research. Please keep in mind that this delayed application/permission is not possible for all research institutions. Also keep in mind that the ethics advisory procedure can take some time and that therefore you should submit your proposal to the ethics committee well in time.

- **For the questions that are not marked:** Perhaps no ethics approval may be needed for your research proposal. However, please do take into account that your host research institution might have a stricter policy towards ethics approval for certain research topics and methodology. Furthermore, even when there is no obligation with regard to the research itself, for the publication of the results an ethics approval may still be necessary. At any case, the applicant will have to reflect on those issues and take, if necessary, appropriate measures. If in doubt, it is advised to contact the supporting services of your host institution.

For more information on each of the ethics issues and how to address them, check the FWO webpage on [research ethics](#) and the [Guidelines on FWO's ethics checklist](#).

Ethical issues

Are you using human embryos and/or human embryonic stem cells in your study?

Yes

No

Does your research involve human subjects?

Yes

No

Do you use human cells and/or tissues in your research?

Yes

No

Does your study require the processing of personal data?

Yes

No

Does your research involve animal testing?

Yes

No

Does your research use genetic resources and/or associated traditional knowledge covered by Access and Benefit Sharing legislation and/or the Nagoya Protocol?

Yes

No

Does your research involve international collaboration with non-EU countries?

Yes

No

Could your research potentially harm the environment and/or the health and safety of people involved?

Yes

No

Could your research have dual-use or military applications?

Yes

No

Could your research be misused, compromise security and/or human rights?

Yes

No

Does your research involve artificial intelligence?

Yes

No

Are there any other ethical considerations that need to be taken into account?

Yes

No

Ethical issues

Human embryos
and/or human
embryonic stem cells



Ethics approval related to these questions should always be requested before the start of the research project as a whole (as soon as your application has been approved for funding). In addition to ethics approval by your local ethics committee, research projects using human embryos also require subsequent approval by the Federal Commission for Medical and Scientific Research on embryos in vitro (FCE).

Ethical issues

Human embryos
and/or human
embryonic stem cells



Does your research involve the use of human embryos? *

Yes

No

Does your research involve human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)? *

Yes

No

Ethical issues

Human embryos
and/or human
embryonic stem cells

Does your research involve the use of human embryos? *

Yes No

Does your research involve human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)? *

Yes No

Will the hESCs be directly derived from embryos within this project?

Yes No

Are the hESCs previously established cell lines?

Yes No

Ethical issues

Human participants

Ethical issues

Human participants

Does your research involve human participants?

Yes

No

Does your research involve interventions (physical, also including imaging technology, behavioral treatments, etc.) on the study participants? *

Yes

No

Does this activity involve conducting a clinical study as defined by the Clinical Trial Regulation (EU 536/2014) i.e. using pharmaceuticals, biologicals, radiopharmaceuticals, or advanced therapy medicinal products? *

Yes

No

Does your research involve human participants?

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they volunteers for non-medical studies (e.g. social/societal or human sciences research)?

Please note that not every research involving human participants triggers the obligation to request ethical approval. However, it is important to keep in mind that the journal in which you want to publish the results of your research might ask you, nonetheless, to submit an ethical approval. For this reason, it might be advisable to request ethical approval anyway before the start of the project from the relevant ethics committee within your institution.

Yes	No
-----	----



Are they persons unable to give informed consent (including children/minors)? *

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they potentially vulnerable individuals or groups? *

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they children/minors? *

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they patients for medical/clinical studies? *

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they healthy volunteers for medical/clinical studies? *

Yes	No
-----	----

Does your research involve interventions (physical, also including imaging technology, behavioral treatments, etc.) on the study participants? *

Yes	No
-----	----

Do the interventions involve invasive techniques?

Yes	No
-----	----

Do the interventions involve collection of biological samples?

Yes	No
-----	----

Does this activity involve conducting a clinical study as defined by the Clinical Trial Regulation (EU 536/2014) i.e. using pharmaceuticals, biologicals, radiopharmaceuticals, or advanced therapy medicinal products? *

Yes	No
-----	----

Ethical issues

Human cells/tissues

Ethical issues

Human cells/tissues

Does your research involve the use of human (including foetal) cells or tissues? *

Yes

No

Does your research involve the use of human (including foetal) cells or tissues? *

Yes

No

Does it concern human foetal tissues/cells (not covered in section 1, i.e. other than human embryonic tissue and hESCs)?

Yes

No

Are they obtained from commercial sources?

Yes

No

Do they originate from another laboratory/institution/biobank?

Yes

No

Were they produced or collected by you during previous research activities?

Yes

No

Are they produced or collected by you as part of this project?

Yes

No

Ethical issues

Personal data



Personal data are defined as 'any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person'. An 'identifiable natural person', or 'data subject', is 'one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person' (Article 4(1) GDPR).

Ethical issues

Personal data



Does your research involve collecting and/or processing of personal data?

The GDPR requires that all personal data processing activities are recorded. Please consult your host institution for the procedure to follow as soon as the project is granted.

 Yes No

Does your research involve international import or export of personal data?

 Yes No

Does your research involve collecting and/or processing of personal data?

The GDPR requires that all personal data processing activities are recorded. Please consult your host institution for the procedure to follow as soon as the project is granted.

Yes	No
-----	----

Does it involve the collection and/or processing of special categories of personal data (e.g.: information on sexual orientation, ethnicity, genetic information, biometric and health data, political opinion, religion or philosophy of life)?

Yes	No
-----	----

Does it involve profiling, systematic monitoring of individuals, or large-scale processing of special categories of data, or intrusive methods of data processing (such as, surveillance, geolocation tracking etc.)?

Yes	No
-----	----

Does your research involve further processing of previously collected personal data (including use of pre-existing data sets or sources or merging existing data sets)?

Yes	No
-----	----

Does it involves the processing of personal data related to criminal convictions or offences?

Yes	No
-----	----

Does your research involve international import or export of personal data?

Yes	No
-----	----

Do you plan to export personal data from the EU to non-EU countries?

Yes	No
-----	----

Do you plan to import personal data from non-EU countries into the EU or allocate personal data from a non-EU country to another non-EU country?

Yes	No
-----	----

Do you plan to export personal data from the EU to non-EU countries?

Yes No

Specify the type of personal data and country/ies involved.

0 / 2500

Do you plan to import personal data from non-EU countries into the EU or allocate personal data from a non-EU country to another non-EU country?

Yes No

Specify the type of personal data and country/ies involved.

0 / 2500

Ethical issues

Animals

Ethical issues

Animals



Does your research involve research procedures to live non-human vertebrate animals (incl. independently feeding larval forms, foetal forms of mammals in the last trimester of their normal development) and/or cephalopods, and/or forms in earlier stages (if the experiments have consequences in later stages)? *

Yes

No

Does your research involve research procedures to live non-human vertebrate animals (incl. independently feeding larval forms, foetal forms of mammals in the last trimester of their normal development) and/or cephalopods, and/or forms in earlier stages (if the experiments have consequences in later stages)? *

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they non-human primates?

If no ethical approval has been obtained for the proposed research as of yet, the ethics approval process has to be initiated prior to the project application deadline. In any case, FWO must be in the possession of the ethical approval at the time of the rebuttal, or if no rebuttal is foreseen in the procedure of the subsidy channel concerned, at the latest 1 month before the start of the evaluation panels. See Guidelines on FWO's ethics checklist for further information or contact MED@fwo.be for assistance.

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they genetically modified animals?

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they cloned farm animals?

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they endangered species?

Yes	No
-----	----

Are they non-human primates?

If no ethical approval has been obtained for the proposed research as of yet, the ethics approval process has to be initiated prior to the project application deadline. In any case, FWO must be in the possession of the ethical approval at the time of the rebuttal, or if no rebuttal is foreseen in the procedure of the subsidy channel concerned, at the latest 1 month before the start of the evaluation panels. See Guidelines on FWO's ethics checklist for further information or contact MED@fwo.be for assistance.

Yes

No

Ethical approval for non-human primates.

Please upload either the ethical approval for the intended experiments on non-human primates, or the acknowledgement of receipt of your request for ethical advice by the Ethics Committee on Animal Testing.

Allowed file extension(s): .pdf.

Maximum file size is 10 MB.



Upload

Please upload your file(s)

Ethical issues

Access and benefit sharing and the Nagoya Protocol

Ethical issues

Access and benefit sharing and the Nagoya Protocol

Does your research involve genetic resources or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, that are captured by the EU Regulation related to the Nagoya Protocol?

In Access and Benefit Sharing legislation, more specifically according to the EU-legislation related to the Nagoya Protocol, 'genetic resources' are defined as 'any material of plant, animal, microbial or other origin containing functional units of heredity and that is of actual or potential value', and 'traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources' means 'knowledge held by an indigenous or local community that is relevant for the utilisation of genetic resources'. Please consult <http://nagoya.vlir.be> for the procedure to follow as soon as the project is granted.

Yes

No

Does your research involve genetic resources or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, that are captured by the EU Regulation related to the Nagoya Protocol?

In Access and Benefit Sharing legislation, more specifically according to the EU-legislation related to the Nagoya Protocol, 'genetic resources' are defined as 'any material of plant, animal, microbial or other origin containing functional units of heredity and that is of actual or potential value', and 'traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources' means 'knowledge held by an indigenous or local community that is relevant for the utilisation of genetic resources'. Please consult <http://nagoya.vlir.be> for the procedure to follow as soon as the project is granted.

Yes

No

Specify the country/ies.

0 / 4000

Ethical issues

International collaboration: exploitation and ethics dumping



For these issues it is necessary to comply with relevant legislation and regulations. Please contact the supporting services at the host institution, as soon as the project is granted.

Ethical issues

International collaboration: exploitation and ethics dumping



Will some of the research activities be conducted in non-EU countries?

Yes

No

Do you plan to use local resources (e.g. animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)?

Yes

No

Does your research involve international import or export of materials?

Yes

No

Will some of the research activities be conducted in non-EU countries?

Yes No

Name of the country/ies.

0 / 2500

Do the undertaken activities in these non-EU countries raise potential ethics issues? *

Yes No

Specify the country/ies.

0 / 2500

Could the situation in the country put the researcher and/or the individuals taking part in the research at risk?

Yes No

Specify the country/ies.

0 / 2500

Do you plan to use local resources (e.g. animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)?

Yes No

Specify material and country/ies involved.

0 / 2500

Does your research involve international import or export of materials?

Yes No

Do you plan to export any material to non-EU countries?

Yes No

Specify material and country/ies involved.

0 / 2500

Do you plan to import any material from non-EU countries or transfer material in-between two non-EU countries?

Yes No

Specify material and country/ies involved.

0 / 2500

Ethical issues

Environment & health and safety

Ethical issues

Environment & health and safety

Does your research involve the use of (chemical, physical, sound, ...) substances that may cause harm to the environment (water, air, soil, ...), or to animals or plants (now and/or in the future)?

Yes

No

Does your research involve the use of (chemical, physical, sound, ...) substances that may cause harm to humans, including research staff and their co-workers? (now and/or in the future)?

Yes

No

Does (part of) your research deal with endangered flora or fauna, or is it carried out within protected areas?

Yes

No

Do the proposed experiments make use of any parts of animals, GMOs or pathogens?

Yes

No

Does the proposed research make use of information, installations, processes or products that need to be covered by permits (ionizing radiation, radioactive substances, pharmaceutical products, drug precursors, explosives and precursors, cyanides, ozone-depleting substances, soils/animals/animal parts and by-products/plants from third countries ...)?

Yes

No

Ethical issues

Dual use and military applications ⓘ



Please consult the brochure of the Flemish Interuniversity Council on the topic: <https://vlir.be/publicaties/brochure-dual-use/>. For these issues your host institution has to be consulted when the project is granted.

Ethical issues

Dual use and military applications ⓘ

Does your research have the potential for military applications?

Yes No

Does your research involve dual-use items in the sense of Regulation 2021/821, or other items for which an authorisation is required?

'Dual-use goods' are 'goods, software and technology that are commonly used for civilian purposes, but that can have military applications, or can contribute to the production or distribution of weapons of mass destruction'.

Yes No

Ethical issues

Misuse, Security & Human Rights



Some research can generate knowledge, materials, methods or technologies that could also be used in unethical ways. Although such research is carried out with benign intentions, people with bad intentions may potentially harm humans, animals or the environment with the acquired research results.

Ethical issues

Misuse, Security & Human Rights



Does your research have the potential for misuse of research results?

Yes	No
-----	----

Might the activities lead to or might the chosen partners be involved in Human Rights violations?

Yes	No
-----	----

Do you take security measures to prevent misuse?

Yes	No
-----	----

Ethical issues

Artificial intelligence

Ethical issues

Artificial intelligence

Does your research involve the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence?

Yes	No
-----	----



Does your research involve the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence?

Yes	No
-----	----



Could the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence that is based on your research raise ethical concerns related to human rights, values, decision making, and/or can it cause negative societal or environmental impact?

Yes	No
-----	----

Ethical issues

Other ethical issues



Your research may raise new ethical issues and concerns that are currently not (fully) covered by the Ethics Issue Table (e.g. new developments in the fields of neurobiology, man-machine interaction, developments in nanotechnology, genetic enhancement, etc.). Please specify.

Ethical issues

Other ethical issues



Please specify.

Your research may raise new ethical issues and concerns that are currently not (fully) covered by the Ethics Issue Table (e.g. new developments in the fields of neurobiology, man-machine interaction, developments in nanotechnology, genetic enhancement, the creation of androids and cyborgs, Artificial Intelligence, etc.).

0 / 2500

Details on ethically sensitive issues per work package *(optional)*

Give the number and description of the work packages for which you will submit an application to the relevant ethics committee(s).

+ Add

Number/description of work packages ↑↓ Start date ↑↓ Ethics committee category ↑↓ Ethics committee ↑↓

Please add an item

Add: work package



Number/description of work packages

Start date

Please specify which ethics committee(s) deal(s)/will deal with your applications.

Ethics committee category

Ethics committee

Ethical issues: Yes

- I hereby acknowledge that an ethical approval is required for issues marked with an asterisk (*) as far as they apply to my project proposal. I will abide by the applicable regulatory framework, law and institutional policies regarding matters, with or without asterisk (*), that apply to my proposal. If an ethical approval is required, I will ensure to obtain this approval from the competent ethics committee of my host institution, at the latest before starting with the ethically sensitive activities.

Ethical issues: No

- I confirm that I have read all questions above and that there are no ethical issues concerning my research proposal.

Data management plan

Data management is an integral part of sound scientific research. It covers the description of data and metadata, their storage and long-term preservation, the designation of responsible persons, the handling of highly sensitive data, and the open access to and sharing of research data. The FWO has made data management a key element of its policy for all support channels provided by the FWO. The FWO expects researchers to pay due attention to this dimension before, during and for at least five years after their research. For background information on data management and the procedures regarding the Data Management Plan (DMP), which FWO expects from its applicants when applying for research funding, please see our website. Please note that the answers to the questions below and the Data Management Plan should cover the full project, including all (inter)national partners involved in cross-institutional projects.

Describe the datatypes (surveys, sequences, manuscripts, objects ...) you will collect and/or generate and/or (re)use during your research project.

0 / 700

Specify in which way the following provisions are in place in order to preserve the data during and at least 5 years after the end of the research.

Motivate your answer.

- Designation of responsible person (if already designated, please fill in their name.)
- Storage capacity repository
 - during the research
 - after the research

0 / 700

What is the reason why you wish to deviate from the principle of preservation of data and of the minimum preservation term of 5 years?

0 / 700

Are there issues concerning research data indicated in the ethics questionnaire of this application form? Which specific security measures do those data require? (optional)

0 / 700

Which other issues related to the data management are relevant to mention?

0 / 700

Consent

DECLARATION BY THE APPLICANT

General

In completing this application, the applicant confirms that to the best of their knowledge and belief, the information in this application is complete and correct.

The applicant will inform FWO immediately if the intended project cannot be carried out as foreseen or if a major change occurs that may hinder the planned implementation of the project.

The applicant declares that they have read and agree with the FWO regulations that form an integral part of the application documents published on the FWO website and that form the legal basis of the future contract. Furthermore, they take note that the FWO is committed to the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for their Recruitment.

The applicant agrees that the data required for the application and follow-up are electronically stored and used by the FWO. The FWO will use the data provided by the applicant according to the legal requirements of data protection in Belgium, including the use of the anonymized data for statistical purposes and reports. As soon as the FWO has processed your application, you will receive a notification message. The FWO respects the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) in regards to the processing of your personal data. For more information concerning the privacy policy of the FWO, we redirect you to our website: <http://www.fwo.be/en/the-fwo/organisation/processing-personal-data-privacy/>.

The applicant agrees that the FWO will forward the full application form including their personal data to, as far as applicable, the members of the FWO expert panels and to experts involved in the evaluation of their proposal in Flanders and abroad (EU and outside EU) and to a partner organization. Any of these receiving parties must declare in advance that they will treat data confidentially and that they will not forward the data or the knowledge gained to anyone nor use it for their own purpose. FWO will take the necessary safety measures to assure this data transfer to the aforementioned organizations or persons will take place in a secure and correct way. More information and details, if available, are published on the FWO website.

The applicant agrees that FWO will forward their private e-mail address, as provided in the personal data section of the FWO E-portal to their host institution, among other non-personal data regarding their application. The receiving host institution must declare in advance that they will treat data confidentially and that they will not forward the data or the knowledge gained to anyone nor use it for their own purpose. FWO will take the necessary safety measures to assure this data transfer to the aforementioned organizations will take place in a secure and correct way. More information and details are published on the FWO website or can be requested via dpo@fwo.be.

Furthermore, the applicant agrees that the following information may be included in lists published by the FWO: title/abstract; full name of the beneficiaries/supervisors; host institution(s); scientific domains/disciplines/key words; start date and end date, allocated funding of the project.

The applicant declares that all information provided in the personal data section of the FWO E-portal is accurate and up-to-date according to the instructions of the respective programme (i.e. only the items in the E-portal that are applicable to the type of support you apply for should be filled out).

The applicant declares that it fully meets the definition of a research and knowledge-dissemination organization' as stated in Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation 2022/C 414/01 [1].

Research Integrity

The FWO watches over the scientific integrity from the moment research funding is applied for until the execution of the research and the publication of the research results. Therefore, researchers benefiting from FWO support as well as their host institutions, (co-)supervisors and other collaborators involved in FWO research are required to adhere to the scientific integrity at all times.

To this end, elementary rules of behaviour have been laid down in the Ethical Code for scientific research in Belgium and the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity. Both documents are included in the call for research proposals. The FWO assumes that each researcher has acknowledged these codes from the moment the application is submitted and undertakes to comply with their provisions in all stages of the proposed research. This also applies to their host institutions, (co-)supervisors and collaborators involved in FWO research, for whom the applicant bears partial responsibility.

If there is any doubt about the applicability or implementation of a provision, the host institution and/or the researcher responsible for the project at hand will contact the FWO administration in order to clarify or make concrete arrangements about the relevant provision.

[1] an entity (such as universities or research institutes, technology transfer agencies, innovation intermediaries, research-oriented physical or virtual collaborative entities), irrespective of its legal status (organised under public or private law) or way of financing, whose primary goal is to independently conduct fundamental research, industrial research or experimental development or to widely disseminate the results of such activities by way of teaching, publication or knowledge transfer. Where such entity also pursues economic activities the financing, the costs and the revenues of those economic activities must be accounted for separately. Undertakings that can exert a decisive influence upon such an entity, in the quality of, for example, shareholders or members, may not enjoy preferential access to the results generated by it. (Definition of a research and knowledge-dissemination organisation).

I agree

Submit Application

