

GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS



AIAS-RIKSBANKENS JUBILEUMSFOND FELLOWSHIP (AIAS-AJ FELLOWSHIP) 2027-2028

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The AIAS-Riksbankens Jubileumsfond Fellowship (AIAS-RJ Fellowship)

1.1 About AIAS

AIAS is a haven for intellectual exploration that proudly hosts excellent researchers who are eager to conduct and develop their research in an interdisciplinary, international and collaborative research environment. AIAS rests upon the foundation principles of interdisciplinary pursuit, fostering global collaborations and nurturing an environment where innovative breakthroughs emerge through transparent and reflective discourses by providing a space for engagement, collaboration and creativity.

AIAS is located within the campus of Aarhus University and provides an environment in which connections spark, ideas flourish and boundaries fade as you engage not only with fellow researchers from a diversity of disciplines, but also with colleagues from diverse departments and research hubs across the university.

As an 'Institute for Advanced Study', AIAS brings researchers together across disciplines, seniority and nationality. AIAS offers different types of fellowship programmes for excellent researchers from all academic disciplines to pursue cutting-edge research projects in optimal research conditions. The daily encounter with the diverse research disciplines at AIAS provides fellows with fresh and different insights and perspectives on their own research, leading to new and unexpected research questions and ideas.

Moreover, AIAS works as an interdisciplinary platform for research across Aarhus University and hosts both thematic groups and fellows in individual fellowships. The Institute is active and holds both small-scale and large-scale events and activities, which fellows are welcome to join and contribute to.

Read more about AIAS on the AIAS webpage: www.aias.au.dk

1.2 The AIAS-RJ fellowship programme

The AIAS-RJ fellowship allows the selected fellow to concentrate on their research interests, while also being an active member of the AIAS research community, and participate and contribute to seminars and activities beyond their field of expertise. Fellows must be eager to engage in the interdisciplinary community at AIAS and expand research collaborations with colleagues at Aarhus University.

2 Duration of the fellowship

The duration of a fellowship is **12 months**. The fellowship period should be consecutive, and it is, therefore, not possible to split up the fellowship period into smaller parts. The fellowship is a full-time position, and it is not possible to prolong the fellowship by working part-time. **The fellowship starts on 1 September 2027 and ends on 31 August 2028.** The starting date is non-negotiable.

3 The fellowship includes

The AIAS RJ fellow is offered a salary based on seniority, and employment conditions and wages are regulated through the Danish collective union agreements. AIAS covers travel costs to and from Aarhus and offers relocation assistance (See section 7: 'Working at AIAS and in Denmark'). Moreover, the fellowship includes a moderate budget for research activities.

- A full salary equivalent to the Danish wage levels and based on individual merits and seniority.
- Travel costs to and from Aarhus.
- A moderate research budget for research activities, conferences, workshops etc.
- A standard computer, office supplies, etc. available during the fellowship.

The fellow has an office space, and the opportunity to participate in the infrastructure of AIAS, in academic training activities, and in conferences and workshops at AIAS and at the relevant research environments at AU.

4 Eligibility

4.1 Academic eligibility

The programme targets talented, curiosity-driven researchers who:

- are of any nationality who hold a tenured position at a Swedish research institution
- work within the humanities and social sciences or related fields
- have a research experience of a minimum of 4 years after completion of the PhD

The number of years is counted from the date stated on the PhD diploma up to the deadline of the call on 24 November 2026.

4.2 Application requirements

The application must be complete and comprehensive and contain all mandatory documents. All mandatory documents must meet the requirements mentioned below. All applications are screened and will be rejected if the eligibility and application requirements are not met.

4.3 Ethical considerations

Applicants are required to reflect on and address potential ethical issues relevant to their proposed project. This reflection should be integrated into the project design from the outset, in line with principles of responsible research and innovation and good research practice. Good research practice should be understood in accordance with the principles set out in [the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#). Applicants must declare if the project involves any ethical considerations associated with their project and briefly describe how these will be managed throughout the research process ensuring compliance with ethical standards and applicable regulations.

4.4 Use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the project proposal

The AIAS-RJ programme policy on the use of AI in research proposals is aligned with the guidelines of the [ERC Scientific Council on the use of AI](#). These guidelines recognise that researchers may seek input from AI technologies or human third parties during proposal preparation—for example, to brainstorm or generate ideas, search the literature, or revise, translate, or summarise text. However, it is emphasised that the use of external assistance in preparing a proposal does not relieve the author of full and sole responsibility for authorship, including proper acknowledgements, avoidance of plagiarism, and adherence to good scientific and professional conduct.

For this reason, applicants are required to declare any use of AI in their application in step 2 in the application template, see section 6 'How to apply: Application system and requirements' and in step 3 of the application template 'Consent'. In doing so, the applicants confirm that the proposal represents their own work and that they have verified the accuracy, validity, and appropriateness of the content, including any citations generated by language models, and have corrected any errors, biases, or inconsistencies. Failure to meet these requirements will result in rejection of the application on the grounds of plagiarism.

5 How to apply: Application system and requirements

To use the application system 'GrantOne', it is necessary to create a user profile. When your profile is complete, you can access the application template. Below is an overview of the content needed in the application template, and the flow in the online application system 'GrantOne'. The template is divided into three parts in the application system:

- 1) **Applicant**
- 2) **Application**
- 3) **Consent**

5.1 Applicant

The following information about **the applicant** should be provided:

- Name (as stated in your passport)
- Address
- Postal code
- City
- Country
- Email
- Phone number
- Date of birth
- Gender (for statistical purposes only)
- Nationality
- Home institution (name, address, and country)
- Department
- Academic title

Date of completed PhD

- Year of completed PhD: the year and date of the completed PhD that you select in the dropdown menu must be identical to the date stated on your diploma.

Uploads

- **PhD Diploma** (Mandatory upload in Pdf):
Upload the PhD diploma. The diploma must be written in the Latin alphabet. If not, a certified translated copy must also be attached.
- **CV and publication list** (Maximum ten pages; mandatory upload in Pdf)
CV and publication list of a maximum of ten pages. The CV must describe your background, education, career until now; and a selected list of your recent publications and/or publications that you find particularly relevant for your proposed project.

If you have had **career breaks**, e.g. maternity/paternity/parental/sick leave and compulsory military service, please indicate the period(s) of leave clearly with dates. When assessing applicants' research productivity, the review and selection panel will take the individual career path into account.

5.2 Application

Area of research

Please select your **main area of research**.

- Arts & Humanities
- Business & Social Sciences

A second main area of research

If your research spans more than one main area, please select a second main area of research, if applicable.

Project title (Maximum 100 characters in the textbox)

The title should provide the reader with a general idea of what the project is about.

Short abstract (Maximum 600 characters in the textbox)

The abstract should provide the reader with a clear understanding of the objectives and motivation of the project. This summary can e.g. be used as the short description of the proposal in the evaluation process when communicating with the reviewers. It must therefore be short and precise and should not contain any confidential information.

Why AIAS and Aarhus University (Maximum 1000 characters in the textbox)

Describe why the project should be carried out at AIAS and AU and the added value of the interdisciplinary AIAS environment. Please also state if connections to research environments at Aarhus University have already been established and note the contact information of the collaborator.

Ethical considerations (Maximum 1000 characters in the textbox)

Please indicate whether the project raises any ethical issues. If so, briefly describe the issues and how they will be addressed. State whether formal ethical approval or other authorizations are required.

Use of AI tools (Maximum 1000 characters in the textbox)

Please indicate whether generative AI tools were used in the preparation of this application. If yes, briefly specify the tools (e.g., language editing, idea development, coding assistance) and their general purpose.

The applicant remains responsible for the content of the application.

Project description (Maximum three pages, including in-text citations and reference list; mandatory upload in Pdf). The text should be formatted in font size 11 pt with 2 cm margins.

Applications must have a detailed project description since the reviewers cannot evaluate poorly defined proposals adequately. The project description should be a clear, convincing and compelling account of the proposed research and include:

- Description of the methodology, the expected impact, planning, and feasibility of the project within the fellowship period.
- The project's added value of being carried out in an interdisciplinary and collaborative environment.
- Considerations of expected research impact/outcome of the fellowship.

Please make sure that all the requested information is included in the application, and that the mandatory files are uploaded and meet the format requirements. **If the requirements are not met, the application will be rejected.**

5.3 Consent

A consent form must be filled in to give your consent that AIAS and Aarhus University can process all personally identifiable data in accordance with applicable personal data regulations and to confirm that the information provided in the application system is correct, including statements on the use of AI, ethics,

6 Assessment and selection

6.1 Review and selection panel

Following the application deadline, submitted applications will undergo an administrative eligibility screening. Eligible applications will be sent in double international peer review. The international peer review consists of international experts within the most corresponding research field.

Based on the evaluation of the international peer reviews, a Quality Assurance Board, consisting of a representative from Aarhus University affiliated with each of the relevant main areas, will quality check the external reviews before the applications will be put forward to the final assessment and selection by the AIAS Board of Directors and the AIAS Management.

6.2 Assessment criteria

The fellowship applications will be assessed based on the evaluation criteria below:

- **Scientific excellence of the project description**, quality of the proposed project, clear and relevant methodology, the expected impact, planning, and feasibility of the project within the fellowship period.
- Scientific excellence of the **applicant's academic qualifications**, intrinsic merits, performances, potentials, and collaborative experiences

- **Match of the applicant with AIAS and AU:** why the project should be carried out at AIAS and AU, the added value of the interdisciplinary AIAS environment, and interdisciplinary considerations.

When to apply - Timeline

- Opening of call: August 2026.
- **Deadline for applications: 24 November 2026 at 12.00 (noon) CET.**
- Evaluation period: December 2026-March 2027.
- Applicants will receive answers: Ultimo March 2027.
- Fellowship periods begin: 1 September 2027.

7 Working at AIAS and in Denmark

7.1 Employment conditions

The AIAS-RJ Fellows will be recruited following a collective agreement for state-employed academics. The terms of salary (including pension) and employment are regulated by the collective agreement for state-employed academics.

The Aarhus University work conditions will allow both female and male researchers to combine family and work, children and career.

- 37-hour work week (full-time – part-time is not possible)
- Contribution to a pension fund
- 5 (+1) weeks paid holiday annually
- Salary paid during illness
- If you have a sick child, you are entitled to stay at home with your child under the age of 18 on the first two days of illness with full salary

Foreign employees are covered by the same rules and regulations as Danish employees and are therefore covered by the Danish social security system and entitled to social security benefits. Social security in Denmark is tax-funded, i.e. as a fellow you will not have to pay health insurance contributions or long-term healthcare insurance. Danish taxes are high. However, more attractive and special taxation rules (known as “The researcher taxation rule”) apply to most foreign researchers. The HR Department at Aarhus University and the Danish tax authorities will be able to advise foreign researchers whether they qualify for the special tax rate for foreign researchers. See more information [here](#)

7.2 Relocation service at AIAS

In addition to covering the travel costs (return economy travel to Aarhus), the AIAS-RJ fellows can expect assistance with practical and logistical matters that may arise. AIAS has a dedicated relocation employee who, in collaboration with the International Academic Staff Services at Aarhus University, will be of assistance in solving matters regarding visa applications, relocation, accommodation, language courses, spouse support, childcare options, finding schools for accompanying children, etc.

More information about Denmark can be found on www.workindenmark.dk - a public organization that offers practical information and general advice on all issues related to working in Denmark.

8 Contact

For additional information regarding the application process or the AIAS-RJ programme in general, applicants are welcome to contact:

Programme Manager, Helle Villekold at helle@aias.au.dk

The AIAS-Riksbankens Jubileumsfond's fellowship programme has received funding from 'Riksbankens Jubileumsfond' and Aarhus University. For further information about AIAS, please visit www.aias.au.dk.

