

**Call for proposals
for the Transnational Research Proposals
supporting the theme
“Enhancing well-being for the future”**

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Total call budget: ca. EUR 16 million

Project duration: between 24 and 36 months

Project consortia:

Composed of at least 4 and maximum 6 Principal Investigators, i.e. partners, eligible to receive funding from the *Well-being* Call Funding Organisations from 4 or more different countries participating in the call

Countries participating in the call:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

Submission and evaluation:

Two-stage submission and evaluation process based on the criteria of Excellence, Impact, and Quality and Efficiency of Implementation, additional criterion: Relevance to the Call theme will be assessed at the Outline Proposal Stage

National/Regional Eligibility Requirements:

Each partner must fulfil the conditions of the national/regional Funding Organisation, as described in the *National/Regional Eligibility Requirements* document

Tentative timeline:

Time	Call phase
26 th May 2023	Call announcement
21 st September 2023	Outline proposal deadline
26 th March 2024	Full proposal deadline
October/November 2024	Call results
December 2024 - March 2025 (depending on national requirements and funding decisions)	Project start

1.1 Background

NORFACE, New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Cooperation in Europe, is a partnership of national research funding organisations in Europe dedicated to leading and developing opportunities for researchers in the area of social and behavioural sciences.

CHANSE, Collaboration of Humanities and Social Sciences in Europe, is a programme supporting research in the area of Humanities and Social Sciences implemented by 27 research funding organisations from 24 European countries and coordinated by the NCN.

NORFACE network with CHANSE has launched a Joint Research Programme “Enhancing well-being for the future” to fund collaborative, transnational research projects. The programme is supporting research in the area of Social Sciences implemented by 20 research funding institutions from 18 European countries.

The call Invites Outline Proposals for innovative social science research with a deadline of 21st September 2023.

The funding available for research projects in this major transnational programme over a period of three years has been set at ca. € 16 million by the funding partners.

2. Call Theme

NORFACE in collaboration with CHANSE now proposes a major transnational programme on the topic of "Enhancing Well-Being for the Future". This theme can be approached from a variety of perspectives and disciplines, primarily social sciences and beyond. It enables and encourages multi-disciplinarity and provides opportunities for pan-European research integrating researchers from different regions of Europe, and for comparisons across various contexts and over-time.

The program **Enhancing well-being for the future** will have three major objectives:

- To advance excellent and internationally leading theoretical and methodological research on well-being, which may be multi-disciplinary, inter-disciplinary and comparative, and which builds synergistically on a pan-European basis.
- To develop and promote theoretically grounded, research-based knowledge and insight into well-being related to issues of high societal, policy, economic and practical relevance, in ways that have the potential to have substantive impact on people's lives.
- To motivate and support excellence and capacity building for research on well-being on a cross-national basis throughout the NORFACE countries, Europe, and beyond.

The Concept of Well-being

The conceptualization of well-being can be inclusive, i.e., including many aspects in its definition, or use a more restrictive concept. In addition, there are many similar concepts showing some overlap with the current concepts of well-being. For example, flourishing has close relation to well-being, and this concept has evolved over the years from a predominantly psychological approach complemented with social concern and the search for justice. Another distinction is between more affective evaluations, i.e., asking about a person's emotional experiences, and more cognitive, judgment-focused evaluations, like life satisfaction or quality of life evaluations.

Some definitions of well-being have been rooted in the hedonic tradition, which accentuated constructs such as happiness, positive affect, low negative affect, and feeling good. Others have developed from the eudaimonic tradition, with an emphasis on positive functioning, psychological functioning, satisfaction with life, fulfillment, and human development. Well-being is, therefore, more than just happiness and life satisfaction; most researchers believe that well-being is a multi-dimensional construct.

Even if there is no consensus around a single definition of well-being, there is general agreement that at minimum well-being includes (i) the presence of positive emotions and moods (e.g., contentment, happiness); (ii) the absence of negative emotions (e.g., depressed mood, anxiety); and (iii) satisfaction with life, fulfillment, and positive functioning.

Well-being is linked to many desirable outcomes, such as healthier relationships, more prosocial behaviour, better health and life expectancy, greater productivity at work, better income, and increased creativity. Happy people are more likely to get involved with social, political, and environmental issues. Longitudinal research with children shows that low subjective well-being can be predictive of future problems, while high subjective well-being was found to be predictive of those things that correlate with wellbeing, such as getting married, becoming parents, having a lower likelihood of a divorce, and a lower probability of losing or changing one's job. While well-being research has predominantly focused on the individual level, this concept also has an ecological utility, for example at the work, local community, school, or general societal level; community well-being, defined as the sense of well-being shared by a group, has recently emerged as a relevant concept.

Many indicators that measure living conditions fail to measure what people think and feel about their lives, such as the quality of their relationships, their positive emotions and resilience, the realization of their potential, or their overall satisfaction with life. Therefore, pan-European quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research can enhance the understanding of well-being.

Challenges and Themes

There are a range of predictors, correlates, and causes of subjective well-being, and it is an outcome of diverse developmental processes including beneficial effects for many aspects of cognitive functioning, health, and social relationships. Much well-being research has been primarily data-driven, and an integrative, multi-level understanding of well-being and its reciprocal relationship with other variables is needed, accounting for the dynamics of well-being and its multi-dimensionality. This can include a life-cycle analysis as well as the study of intervention studies, among many approaches.

Therefore, there is a great need for a more coherent European research programme on well-being from a multi-level (individual, group, geographical, and demographic) perspective. The aim of this call is to stimulate research projects aiming to gain systematic knowledge on mechanisms underlying well-being as well as dynamic processes related to how well-being develops over time. This improved understanding of well-being is necessary to create evidence-informed interventions or policies on how to increase well-being for the future and make these improvements sustainable for all groups of the population. A special focus may also be needed on understanding well-being in specific (e.g., vulnerable) subgroups, including children, migrants, minority groups, and less economically and socially advantaged individuals.

In order to increase the evidence base for interventions, policy and politics, research on actions and interventions on individual, group, community, and national levels to enhance well-being is highly needed. Cross-national European comparisons may increase the understanding how culture, social structures, institutions, and contexts are reciprocally related to well-being. This may enable the impact of knowledge mobilization and provide policy-relevant knowledge of importance for political as well as social and economic processes.

There are several important lines of research that are key for the enhancement of well-being. Knowledge is needed on the distribution and determinants of well-being, consequences, potential targets for intervention, and policy options for widespread implementation. The present call proposes to focus the research on the following themes:

- (i) Crises, challenges, and well-being.
- (ii) Environmental challenges and well-being.
- (iii) Well-being and mental health.
- (iv) Well-being, economy, and politics.

The Call will finance the applications with the highest scientific quality, regardless of which theme(s) they relate to. **Please note that the call excludes proposals primarily focusing on the development and/or evaluation of interventions.**

Theme 1: Crises, challenges, and well-being

European countries (as well as countries world-wide) have been confronted with numerous crises and challenges in recent years, many of which are ongoing. This increasing uncertainty includes economic crises, energy crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic, the current experience of war in Europe, the movement of refugees and migrants into Europe, and the challenges related to climate change impacts. To be able to better respond to these crises and challenges in Europe at a population level, it is important to better understand the effect of well-being-related factors on coping with crises and challenges as well as short- and long-term effects of crises on well-being. Individual and societal resilience in the presence of external shocks is a relevant topic for enhancing well-being in the future.

Surviving crises, including traumatic experiences, can have long-lasting effects on individuals and is one of the most pervasive risk factors for psychopathology but also for somatic, decreased social and occupational functioning, and mortality. Similarly, these experiences can leave long-lasting traces on families, other social groups, and society, including rise in social, economic and educational disparities,

social division, and social unrest. However, surviving a crisis and trauma can also lead to personal growth and trigger positive developments on a societal level. Although immediate effects of trauma have been studied extensively, there are still crucial gaps in our understanding of long-term consequences of trauma that can be best addressed using a multi-disciplinary and trans-national research program.

In sum, the first theme focuses on the impact of crises and challenges on well-being, with a specific focus on the *dynamic processes* unfolding over time and in conditions of increasing uncertainty in turbulent times. The research conducted as part of this theme should contribute to the overall aim of enhancing well-being for the future by identifying potential targets for future interventions and contributing to an increased understanding of the driving forces behind changes in well-being.

Research questions related to this theme may include but are not restricted to:

Dynamic features of well-being in response to stressors and crises. What are the positive and negative consequences of systemic disruptions on the life and well-being of European citizens? How do the effects of trauma at the different levels (individual, group, society) interact? What are the factors buffering the negative effect of stress, crises, and trauma on well-being? What are the moderators of disruptive vs. growth-related effects of traumatic experiences at an individual and societal level? What is the impact of implemented policy measures on well-being?

Modelling well-being over time and developing prediction models using different data sources, with a specific focus on understanding fluctuations in well-being, e.g., in response to crises and challenges, and using prediction models to identify individuals at risk of decreased well-being and/or identify contextual markers for deterioration in well-being.

Long-term effects of ongoing crises and challenges on well-being at a population level. What role do cultural, political, and economic factors play in this regard?

Theme 2: Environmental challenges and well-being

It is commonplace knowledge that the living environment influences well-being and health. Much research has focused on intra-individual factors or the impact of social environment. The effects of external environmental as well as national contexts have not been studied in an equally systematic way. Ongoing climate change is already having considerable impact on well-being and mental health in several ways, including heightened exposure to hazards as well as impact of changes in temperature and the natural environment.

There is an indication of decreased well-being, happiness and mental health among individuals living in cities. This highlights the necessity to understand underlying processes as a possible basis for targeted prevention aimed at increasing urban resilience. Some aspects of the external environment, such as housing and community structure, can have a considerable impact on well-being and mental health, but their details are still poorly understood. Investigating the effects of these factors may have important implications for urban planning, but also infrastructure provided for disadvantaged minority groups, especially in the context of enhancing well-being.

Work-place environment also plays an important role in shaping well-being. Many changes in the European labour market are likely to have an effect, such as implementation of widespread remote work, virtual coworking at a large scale, flexible work, flexible contracts, as well as legislation and management mechanisms aimed at increasing employment inclusiveness and equality.

The theme deals with the impact of environment and environmental changes on the well-being dynamic, with a specific focus on the effects of urbanization, climate change, and work environments. It should contribute to the overall aim of enhancing well-being for the future by increasing mechanistic understanding and identifying potential targets for future interventions that may be applied to enhance well-being.

Research questions related to this theme may include but are not restricted to:

Effect of urbanicity on well-being: An increasing number of people in Europe live in cities, and cities also host the largest number of disadvantaged minorities. There is indication of decreased well-being and

mental health in populations born in and living in cities, highlighting the necessity to understand underlying processes as a possible basis for targeted prevention aimed at increasing urban resilience.

Effect of workplace and work organization on well-being: Studies indicate that subjective well-being is causally linked to higher productivity on the job, more creativity and self-regulation and better citizenship behaviour. More research is needed, particularly from a cross-country perspective, to enhance the evidence-based for increasing well-being in the workplaces including the platform economy. This includes examining processes and efforts that may have increased in turbulent times such as the importance of job characteristics, notably, scope of creativity, autonomy, and flexibility, as well as type of contract, features of work environment, such as diversity, equality and inclusiveness, and managerial practices and legal regulations.

Effects of housing, and community structure on well-being: Rise in the cost of living, low housing affordability creates new inequalities and generational tensions, strengthened by financial uncertainty and labour insecurity. Spatial organization of neighbourhoods, their accessibility, quality of amenities, green spaces, and infrastructure, has a direct effect on well-being of inhabitants, but also an indirect effect via quality of neighborhood ties, interactions, and cohesion. It is important to understand how well-being can be enhanced by spatial designs aimed at accommodating diversity and eradicating inequality.

Effect of climate change on well-being: Ongoing climate change is already having considerable impact on well-being and mental health in several ways, including heightened exposure to hazards well as the impact of changes in temperature and the natural environment. This may also include psychological reactions to the threat of climate change (eco-anxiety or fear of climate change).

Theme 3: Well-being and mental health

A developmental perspective on mental health among adolescents clearly indicates the shortcomings of using a traditional unidimensional deficit model of mental health, where mental health is regarded as the absence of mental disease. Expanding the perspective from a symptom- and problem-oriented view to a more positive and asset-based perspective adds additional value to studies of mental health and allows a better understanding of the processes that may result in enhancing both mental health and well-being. At the same time, well-being and mental health are clearly related, and many of the factors showing an impact on well-being discussed in this call have also been shown to severely impact mental health. Therefore, the third theme focuses on a better understanding of the relationship between well-being and mental health particularly in the conditions of turbulent times. Research proposals for this theme should clearly go beyond static conceptualizations of these two factors and focus explicitly on the dynamic interaction of these processes over time, including responses to disruptions, crises, or challenges.

Research questions related to this theme may include but are not restricted to:

Uncovering the development of mental health and well-being among children and adolescents. Research is needed to better understand the development of well-being and mental health in children and adolescents, including the identification of distal and proximal causal factors, the role of the educational system, and their responses to disruptions and crises.

Similarly, investigating the long-term trajectories of well-being and mental health and their interaction beyond adolescence appears promising. A further possibility would be to have a generational perspective, thus applying a multi-generational life course perspective. A family perspective is also relevant for the intergenerational transmission of values and identities.

Building the basis for future population-based and individual-based interventions: It can be expected that promoting well-being has a preventive effect for the development of mental health problems. However, universal prevention in unselected samples typically shows only very small effects, most of which are not sustained over time. To build the basis for more targeted preventative interventions in the future, research examining potential targets for such interventions are needed.

Theme 4: Well-being, economy, and politics

One of the focal points in well-being research is formed by the distribution of well-being in relation to income, age, education, geography, and other social, political, and economic factors. The inequality in well-being has also prompted much policy interest in left behind places, old industrial areas, run-down urban neighborhoods, less privileged ethnic minorities etc. It turns out that the interaction between people and places – through the link with place-based characteristics of an area – is important in shaping individual and group well-being.

Child poverty, particularly, when persistent over several years, is of concern not only for its immediate effect on this vulnerable group but also because of larger-term effects and its contribution to sustainable cycles of deprivation. Analysis of the influence of national policy and politics regarding equality on dynamics of well-being in different population sections is warranted. A further analysis of the impact of economic growth with or without growing inequality on well-being in Europe, and the sustainability of the welfare state, could give policy-relevant knowledge.

Societal-level well-being complements individual, work, and community perspectives. Countries differ substantially in their levels of well-being. Studies have shown that societies with higher well-being are those that are more economically developed, have effective governments with low levels of corruption, have high levels of trust, and can meet the citizens' basic needs for food and health. Cultural and institutional factors also play a role in the national well-being. Therefore, well-being at the national level has been proposed as a measure of prosperity of nations that is complementary to GNP.

Research questions related to this theme may include but are not restricted to:

Analysis of economic growth and well-being: the impact of economic growth on well-being in countries with or without increasing inequalities seems highly relevant. Economic growth and development also include analysis on the welfare state and the labour market, among others.

Well-being of marginalized groups: Recognition and social presence of minority groups is crucial for their members' well-being but is also impacting the dominant minorities. It is relevant to study how the institutional provisions created to accommodate marginalized groups translate into their well-being, including their integration and relations with the wider society, especially from a comparative perspective. Social and political polarization and well-being: the negative effect of inequality on individual and societal well-being has been studied mostly in relation to economic inequalities. There is a need to understand how political polarization and mobilization of pre-existing cleavages impacts well-being at both individual and societal level, and what factors can 'cushion' the negative effect of social and political conflict on well-being.

Well-being economics in political reality: well-being economics aims to actively use well-being metrics and tools to inform government priorities and policy making. Several countries have explicit policies related to well-being. Therefore, a comparative study on these policies or on the development of the well-being economy in Europe would be timely and relevant.

Cross-cutting Perspective

The program will support research that addresses one or more of the four major themes. In addition, there are four essential cross-cutting themes of relevance for the program.

(i) Rethinking well-being and its measurement is critical for pan-European well-being research. Further development of theory and concepts of wellbeing as well as its measurement is a prerequisite for understanding the core of well-being. Therefore, theoretical, and methodological considerations are essential for research included in this call.

(ii) Interdisciplinary research is fundamental to this programme, which acknowledges the value of adding theoretical and methodological tools from several scientific disciplines in researching well-being. Moreover, the research can also be transdisciplinary and engage society, policymakers, and other stakeholders during and after the project.

(iii) Inequality is an important facet of well-being research. The distribution and driving forces behind inequalities, including differences between gender, age groups, socioeconomic strata and ethnicity are important considerations in researching well-being.

(iv) The research should include a pan-European perspective and a comparative focus on well-being. Applicants are encouraged to compare across European geographies and beyond, from different types of welfare regimes, historical legacies, different family patterns, household configurations.

3. Eligibility

3.1 Who can apply

Researchers can submit a proposal on behalf of a project team comprised of between four (4) and six (6) eligible Principal Investigators based in min. four different countries participating in this Call. All partners in a project team must have the interest and competence to undertake social science research within the specified topic of the Well-being programme.

3.1.1 Eligibility of (participants in) a project team

For this Call, national/regional eligibility rules apply (see National and Regional Eligibility Requirements included in the Call documentation) as well as transnational eligibility rules. Please note that all partners in a consortium must be eligible for applying under the conditions of this Call both on the transnational and national level, i.e. if one of the partners is declared not eligible, the full consortium will be declared not eligible and the proposal will not be evaluated.

Individual researchers and stakeholders may participate in one proposal only. Teams must convincingly justify the participation of all researchers involved in their application.

Only researchers eligible to the funding of the participating organisations from the following countries are eligible to apply as Project Leader (PL) or Principal Investigator (PI), irrespective of their nationality: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.

Researchers from other countries may participate as a Cooperation Partner.

The inclusion of Ukrainian researchers is encouraged, applicants should review the guidance within the national eligibility requirements. Following European restrictive measures, no collaboration between project consortia and Russian and/or Belarussian institutions is allowed.

Please note that one person cannot serve as PI or PL in more than one proposal submitted under the current *Well-being* call and the call on *Crisis – perspectives from the humanities* launched jointly by CHANSE and the HERA network (both launched on Friday May 26th, 2023). In addition, the same application cannot be submitted under the two calls.

3.1.2 Composition of project teams

Each project team should strive to include researchers early in their careers, including post-doctoral and PhD students, as participants in the project. NORFACE and CHANSE strive to promote gender equality, please refer to the [NORFACE Statement on Gender Equality](#). Furthermore, involving geographically balanced consortia is strongly encouraged.

Each project team should consist of 4 to 6 Principal Investigators from four to six different countries participating in this Call. Within a project team, applicants can take on the role of Project Leader, Principal Investigator, Team Member, Cooperation Partner or Associate Partner. There must at least be a Project Leader, and three or more Principal Investigators in each consortium. The addition of Team Members and Cooperation or Associate Partners is optional and they can be involved in the project team based on the design of and needs for a particular project. Please consider the role of each participant in a project team carefully in the text below.

3.1.3 Applicants: roles of Project Leader (PL) and Principal Investigator (PI) Principal Investigators

The Project Leaders will be researchers responsible for carrying out and managing the project. They will be the contact point for the Call Secretariat on behalf of all the applicants for scientific, knowledge exchange and communication matters. The responsibilities of a PL for the administrative and financial management of a funded project may differ per country or funding agency. In addition, the PL is responsible for leading the project activities at their own institution. The PL must be based at an institution eligible to the funding of a Funding Organisation participating in this Call. The role of PL is not limited to researchers at any specific career stage, though national or regional eligibility rules may apply.

Principal Investigators are responsible for leading the project activities at their own institutions. They will be responsible for the administrative and financial management in case a project is funded and may differ per country or funding agency. The role of PI is not limited to researchers at any specific career stage, though national or regional eligibility rules may apply. Each PI should be based at an institution eligible for funding by a participating funding organisation.

There may be more than one PI from one country but only one PI per university or research institution. If there is more than one applicant from a particular country, one of them needs to be identified as the national contact point.

3.1.4 Additional roles: Team Members, Cooperation Partners (CPs) and Associate Partners (APs)

Researchers who are involved in a national team and who do not have the role of Project Leader or Principal Investigator can be involved in an application as Team Members. Please note, adding Team Members is optional, but only allowed when a PL or PI from that country, university or research institution is already involved in the application. The role of a Team Member is not limited to researchers at any specific career stage, though national or regional eligibility rules may apply.

Researchers from countries not participating in this Call are invited to participate in the projects as **Cooperation Partners (CPs)**. Cooperation Partners cannot apply for funding directly from the Call budget, although some funding agencies allow for costs to be applied for through other partners in a project team depending on national or regional regulations.

Stakeholders are invited to participate in the projects as **Associate Partners (APs)**. This relay to the public sector, policy makers, and the creative and cultural sectors, who may provide significant added value and valuable insights to the project from the user's perspective. They can be included in the proposal in a collaborative and advisory capacity to help explore the knowledge exchange potential of the proposed research.

The applicants invited to submit a Full Proposal will be asked to demonstrate the (re)sources from which the participation of the CPs and APs will be funded. Contributions by external partners can be either in cash or in kind. This should be made clear in the description and planning of the project proposal.

3.1.5 Changing team composition

Teams that have submitted an Outline Proposal invited to the Full Proposal stage are not allowed to make changes to the core of the proposal and therefore to the project team. However, in case of force majeure, changes in the consortium are allowed in case that (a) a Project Leader or Principal Investigator changed their national affiliation and after consultation with the Call Secretariat, (b) a Project Leader or Principal Investigator is on sick or parental leave and after consultation with the Call Secretariat, or (c) following an explicit recommendation by the Review Panel and in line with (national/regional) eligibility requirements. Applicants are advised to consult Call Secretariat and representatives of their national/regional funding agencies in case of doubts relating to this matter. Adding Cooperation partners and team members to the Full Proposal is allowed. The eligibility of all participants in a project team will again be checked in the Full Proposal phase by the Call Secretariat and the national/regional funding agencies.

3.2 Eligible funding

3.2.1 Available funding

Small and large projects are equally welcome. Project teams may request a maximum of € 1,500,000 in total across partners.

3.2.2 Eligible costs

All costs must be eligible according to the national or regional eligibility rules (see National and Regional Eligibility Requirements), which may be specified per budget item. Each research partner may request funding for personnel costs, consumables, travel costs, equipment and subcontracting in accordance with these national or regional rules. In case of doubt, applicants should consult their respective national/regional organisations for advice.

Funded projects will be encouraged to engage in joint programme activities and in knowledge exchange activities regarding the outcomes of the project, and engage stakeholders as early on in their project and project development as possible. Costs for these activities that fall within the funding period may be included in the requested funding in addition to the costs for research.

The estimated budget must be given in euros (€ / EUR) and be tabulated according to the application template provided. In the Outline Proposal form only estimated costs need to be specified, but please note that these should still be as realistic as possible. For this, it is strongly advised to consider the national/regional guidelines for eligible costs that must be followed at the Full Proposal stage. Estimated costs can be updated in the Full Proposal, although the changes are limited to a deviation of 10% for the total budget per project.

3.2.3 Project duration

Projects can have a duration of up to 36 consecutive months, with a minimum of 24 months. Projects can start on 1 December 2024 at the earliest and must have started by March 2025 at the latest.

4. Submission of Proposals and Assessment Procedure

4.1 Procedure

Applications to the Well-being programme will be processed in two stages: an Outline Proposal stage and a Full Proposal stage.

In the first stage, Outline Proposals are invited with a deadline of **21st September 2023, 14.00 CET**. Eligible applications will be assessed by a Review Panel composed of international experts in an “open competition”, i.e. a selection of proposals that could potentially be funded is made based on the programme’s assessment criteria. Applicants will receive a notification on the results of the Outline Proposal stage in January 2024.

The deadline for submitting Full Proposals is **26th March 2024 14.00 CET**. Eligible Full Proposals are submitted for assessment to external referees. Applicants will be given the opportunity to comment on these external reviews referees, after which the Review Panel will assess the applications, the reviews and the rebuttals, arriving at a list of projects recommended for funding based on the assessment criteria. Funding decisions are expected in October/November 2024.

4.2 Outline Proposals

The Outline Proposals are concise versions of foreseen Full Proposals. The project Outline Proposals must be submitted via the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS): <https://proposals.etag.ee/chanse-2023/>. Proposals received after the deadline, incomplete proposals, proposals not using the proper form or proposals that are otherwise failing to comply with the eligibility requirements set out in this Call for Proposals (see section 3) will be declared ineligible and remain without assessment by the Review Panel. All Outline Proposals must be completed in English and follow the proposal structure as set out in the Outline Proposal Form and Financial Plan excel sheet included in the Call documentation

4.2.2 Evaluation of the Outline Proposals

Eligible Outline Proposals will be reviewed by an international independent Review Panel, consisting of experts nominated by the *Well-being* Call Board. The composition of the Review Panel will be available on the NORFACE and CHANSE websites after the evaluation of the Full Proposals is finished. Expertise in the panel aims to widely cover the disciplinary fields targeted in the call. The Review Panel assesses the Outline Proposals comparatively, using the programme’s assessment criteria (see paragraph 4.4) and subsequently prioritises these according to likelihood of funding. The Review Panel will recommend to the *Well-being* Call Board a shortlist of applicants to be invited to submit Full Proposals.

All applicants will receive a notification of the results of the Outline stage in January 2024. Applicants whose proposal are invited to submit a Full Proposal will be given a deadline of 26th March 2024. All applicants will receive a brief evaluation report from the panel.

4.Full proposal phase

Eligible Full Proposals are submitted for assessment to external, independent referees for peer review. Each Full Proposal is aimed to be evaluated by a minimum of two external referees. The reviews will be sent anonymously to the Project Leader for comments before the Review Panel assesses the

applications. Applicants will not be informed of the identity of the external referees during or at any point after the assessment procedure.

In addition, in the Review Panel at least two assessors will be assigned as *rapporteur* for each Full Proposal. The assessments received from the external referees, the comments received from the applicant and the pre-assessment from the *rapporteurs* will form the starting point for a joint assessment carried out by the international Review Panel.

The Panel will prepare a consensus evaluation report on each Full Proposal based on the application, the external reviews, the comments by the PL and the Panel discussion. The Panel will make a funding recommendation to the Call Board, which will take the final funding decisions in October/November 2024. This will be followed by approval of the national or regional funding organisations where applicable. PLs will receive the consensus report of the Review Panel as feedback after the final funding decisions as well as the selection decision.

4.4 Criteria

All Outline Proposals and Full Proposals are assessed against explicit criteria.

At the outline stage, four sets of criteria are used. (1) scientific excellence, (2) quality and efficiency of the implementation and the management, (3) potential impact and (4) relevance to the theme of the call. All four sets of criteria will be taken into consideration and will be given equal weight. Each criterion will be scored on a scale from zero to five, with a minimum threshold of three on each criterion being necessary for the application to be considered for funding.

At the Full proposal stage, only three sets of criteria are used: (1) scientific excellence, (2) quality and efficiency of the implementation and the management, and (3) potential impact. These criteria will be scored on a scale from 0 to 5, with a minimum threshold of 3 for the project to be considered for funding.

In addition at both evaluation stages, the RP will assess ethics issues included in submitted proposals (if applicable).

I Scientific excellence - Quality of the transnational project

- Sound concept, and quality of objectives;
- Progress beyond the state-of-the-art;
- Quality and effectiveness of the scientific and technological methodology, data collection and associated work plan;
- Is the proposal undertaking truly novel research?

II Quality and efficiency of the implementation and the management

- Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures;
- Quality and relevant experience of the individual participants;
- Quality of the consortium as a whole (including complementarity, as well as a balance in terms of gender, academic age, and geographical diversity);
- Appropriate allocation and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment);
- Provisions made for open access to data and results;
- Appropriate links and collaborations with stakeholder groups.

III Potential impact

- The potential scientific impact
- Value to stakeholder communities;
- The extent to which the proposal outlines a credible route to realise this impact;
- Appropriateness of measures for the dissemination and/or exploitation of transnational projects results, and management of intellectual property.

IV. Relevance to the theme of the call

- Proposal’s fitness to the objectives, key areas and priorities of the Call.

4.5 Tentative timeline

Call phase	Time
Publication of the <i>Call Pre-announcement</i>	26 th April 2023
Publication of the <i>Call Announcement</i>	26 th May 2023
Deadline for outline proposal submission	21 st September, 2023
Eligibility check	October 2023
1st panel meeting	November/December 2023
Outline proposal results	January 2024
Deadline for full proposals submission	26 th March 2024
Eligibility check	Mid-April 2024
External referee proposal assessment	April-May 2024
Rebuttal phase for applicants	June 2024
2nd panel meeting	September 2024
Call results	October/November 2024
National administrative procedures	October/November-March 2024
Start of funding	December 2024 - March 2025 (depending on national requirements and funding decisions)

5. Other Information

5.1 Research Integrity

When preparing the proposal and carrying out the research project, applicants are expected to adhere to rules of good research practice as outlined in the revised [European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity \(2017\)](#). The principles of integrity include reliability in ensuring the quality of research, honesty, respect and accountability for the research from idea to publication.

5.2 Open Access

Open access is intended to improve and promote the dissemination of knowledge and the availability of data, thereby improving the efficiency of scientific discovery and maximising the return on public research funding bodies' investment in R&D. All partners will be required to make their best efforts to ensure open access to data and peer-reviewed articles as soon as possible, taking advantage of national or international arrangements where these are available.

Reporting

The Project Leaders of funded projects have to submit a midterm activity report and a final activity report.

PIs will have reporting duties to their respective national funding organisation regarding administrative and financial matters. This is specified in the individual contracts with respective national/regional research funding organisations.

Projects funded in the Call will be requested to provide the following acknowledgement in the publications or other form of dissemination resulting from their research funded in the Call:

This work has been supported by CHANSE and NORFACE [insert project acronym], by [insert the funding organisation and the grant number for that funding organisation], [insert the next funding organisation and the grant number for that funding organisation]“.

5.3 Avoid overlap with research commissioned on the topic

Applicants should pay due regard to the focus of and research commissioned under for instance the NORFACE programme *Dynamics of Inequality Across the Life-course: structures and processes (DIAL)* and *Welfare State Futures (WSF)*. Applicants are advised to explore the possibilities of synergies with relevant programmes and to ensure that this involves added value rather than duplication.

5.4 Contact

For any additional information, please contact the Call Secretariat at: wellbeing@ncn.gov.pl. In case of specific national or regional requirements, please contact your national contact points:

- **Austrian Science Fund (FWF)**
Dr. Petra Grabner: petra.grabner@fwf.ac.at
- **Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (F.R.S-FNRS)** Maxime Gehrenbeck:
maxime.gehrenbeck@frs-fnrs.be
Joel Groeneveld: international@frs-fnrs.be
- **Bulgarian National Science Fund, BNSF**
Milena Aleksandrova: aleksandrova@mon.bg
- **Croatian Science Foundation, HRZZ**
Jasminka Boljević: jasminka@hrzz.hr
- **The Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)**
Filip Zrno: zrno@kav.cas.cz

- **The Estonian Research Council (ETAG)**
Dr. Carmen Kivistik: carmen.kivistik@etag.ee
- **Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR)**
Catherine Pellini: catherine.pellini@agencerecherche.fr
- **Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)**
Stefan Koch: stefan.koch@dfg.de
Claudia Wünsche (for technical and administrative issues): claudia.wuensche@dfg.de
- **Latvian Council of Science, LZP**
Maija Bundule: maija.bundule@lzp.gov.lv
- **Research Council of Lithuania (RCL)**
Kornelija Bacvinkienė: kornelija.bacvinkiene@imt.lt
- **Fonds National de la Recherche Luxembourg (FNR)**
Asaël Rouby: asaerouby@fnr.lu
Dr Helena Burg: helena.burg@fnr.lu
- **National Science Centre (NCN)**
Katarzyna Wincenciak: wellbeing@ncn.gov.pl
- **Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation, UEFISCDI**
Nicoleta Dumitrache: nicoleta.dumitrache@uefiscdi.ro
- **The Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency (ARIS)**
Ana Jakopin: ana.jakopin@arrs.si
- **State Research Agency (AEI)**
Juan Climent (administrative and technical issues): juan.climent@aei.gob.es
Jessica Illera Clavijo: norface@aei.gob.es
- **“la Caixa” Foundation**
Maria Gutiérrez Domènech: mgutierrez@fundaciolacaixa.org
- **Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare FORTE**
The Swedish Research Council (VR)
Aiga Giangiacomo: aiga.Giangiacomo@forte.se
Kim von Hackwitz: kim.vonhackwitz@vr.se
- **Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)**
Marie Guyaz del Aguila: marie.guyaz@snf.ch
- **UK Research and Innovation - Economic and Social Research Council (UKRI – ESRC)**
norfacewell-being@esrc.ukri.org

5.5 Anticipated funding provided by each Funding Organisation

Country	Funding organisation	Abbreviation	Budget €
Austria	Austrian Science Fund	FWF	800 000 €
Belgium	Fund for Scientific Research	F.R.S.-FNRS	200 000 €
Bulgaria	Bulgarian National Science Fund	BNSF	383 468 €
Croatia	Croatian Science Foundation	HRZZ	143 619 €
Czechia	Czech Academy of Sciences	CAS	470 000 €
Estonia	Estonian Research Council	ETAG	150 000 €
France	French National Research Agency	ANR	1 500 000 €
Germany	German Research Foundation	DFG	2 600 000 €
Latvia	Latvian Council of Science	LZP	600 000 €
Lithuania	Research Council of Lithuania	LMT	400 000 €
Luxembourg	Luxembourg National Research Fund	FNR	700 000 €
Poland	National Science Centre	NCN	750 000 €
Romania	Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation	UEFISCDI	500 000 €
Slovenia	Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency	ARIS	400 000 €
Spain	State Research Agency	AEI	350 000 €
Spain	"la Caixa" Foundation	LA CAIXA	250 000 €
Sweden	Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare	FORTE	678 438 €
Sweden	Swedish Research Council	VR	678 438 €
Switzerland	Swiss National Science Foundation	SNSF	1 200 000 €
United Kingdom	United Kingdom Research and Innovation – Economic and Social Research Council	UKRI ESRC	3 189 200 €

5.6 Personal data

Please note that personal data included in the Outline Proposals, Full Proposals and national application forms will be processed by the Call Secretariat and by funding organisations participating in this Call, according to the rules and regulations available under the following links:

- Austria, FWF: <https://www.fwf.ac.at/en/privacy-policy/>
- Belgium, F.R.S.-FNRS: <https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/charte-vie-privée>
- Bulgaria, BNSF: <https://www.fni.bg/?q=node/1075>
- Croatia, HRZZ: <https://hrzz.hr/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Procedura-o-obrađi-i-za%C5%A1titi-osobnih-podataka-2.pdf>
- Czechia, CAS: <https://www.avcr.cz/export/sites/avcr.cz/.content/galerie-souboru/Informace-o-zpracovani-osobnich-udaju-v-AV-CR.pdf>
- Estonia, ETAG: <https://www.etag.ee/en/estonian-research-council/processing-personal-data-at-the-estonian-research-council/>
- France, ANR: <https://anr.fr/fr/rgpd/>
- Germany, DFG: https://www.dfg.de/en/service/privacy_policy/research_funding/index.html
- Latvia, LZP: <https://www.lzp.gov.lv/lv/privatuma-politika>

- Lithuania, LMT: <https://www.lmt.lt/en/administrative-information/the-reform-of-personal-data-protection/information-regarding-processed-personal-data/3062>
- Luxembourg, FNR: <https://www.fnr.lu/fnr-privacy-statement>
- Poland, NCN: <https://ncn.gov.pl/dane-osobowe?language=en>
- Romania, UEFISCDI: <https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/protectia-datelor-cu-caracter-personal>
- Slovenia, ARIS: <https://www.arrs.si/sl/agencija/akti/prav-zavar-oseb-podat-16.asp>
- Spain, AEI: <https://www.aei.gob.es/en/about-aei/privacy-data-protection>
- Spain, “la Caixa” Foundation: https://legal.fundacionlacaixa.org/n/actual/legal-notice_en.html?_ga=2.257632587.1981907251.1683286755-1003705387.1683286753
- Sweden, FORTE: <https://forte.se/en/about-the-website/personal-data-policy-forte-se/>
- Sweden, VR: <https://www.vr.se/english/information-on-processing-of-personal-data.html>
- Switzerland, SNSF: https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/1993/1945_1945_1945/en
- United Kingdom, UKRI: <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/privacy-notice/>