

Widening Country Inspiration Story

“We would encourage potential applicants to think internationally and in terms of interdisciplinarity.”

Organisation name:

Jagiellonian University in Krakow

Organisation type: Higher Education Organisation

Country: Poland

Project Acronym: IP-PAD

Project start and end date:

1.03.2023 – 28.02.2027

Type of MSC action, Horizon

Europe: Doctoral Networks

Is your organisation a coordinator? No



What is your project about?

IP-PAD is an interdisciplinary project that examines how adolescents process political information and how this shapes them as political beings. By integrating disciplines such as political science, developmental psychology and neuroscience, IP-PAD addresses a key gap in the study of the emergence of a political-self during adolescence, offering new insights and methodologies for studying the phenomenon in question.

Why is your project important for society?

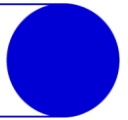
Modern democracies operate under constant threats, including terrorism, polarisation, and disengagement. Fostering democratic values from a young age is essential to protect democratic integrity and strengthen societies. The Polish research team investigates cognitive and motivational underpinnings of radicalisation and the development of political engagement psychology, providing insights for policies and educational practices to promote constructive political behaviours in youth.

What communication and public engagement measures have you foreseen?

Current dissemination efforts include public outreach initiatives (social media, blog posts), educational activities for youth (workshops in schools, ‘Science is Wonderful!’ event), and engagement with scholars (organisation of panels at the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) conference).

What kind of support did you get?

The application was completed collectively by five universities (from the Netherlands, Austria, the United Kingdom, Greece, and Poland) and partners (like Gallup). We shared our knowledge of such application processes with each other when preparing the joint application. The application process was coordinated and managed by Royal Holloway (UK), with the other universities providing additional input, feedback, and support. As Royal Holloway was not able to serve as the official head of the project due to the UK’s departure from the European Union, the University of



Amsterdam took over the management and oversight role in the project.

Do you have other successful projects under Horizon 2020 or Horizon Europe?

Yes.

What in your experience helped you to succeed?

The Jagiellonian University is very successful in Horizon 2020/ Horizon Europe projects, including MSCA Innovative Training Networks ([Euroageism](#) and [The Multilingual Mind](#)), as well as the MSCA Doctoral Networks. Previous experience, especially in running the MSCA-ITN projects, was helpful to better prepare this application to describe the link between science and policy, and to show what kind of impact the current project can have.

How did you find the partners in your consortium?

Partners were found from among existing academic research networks. Researchers from Royal Holloway, London, identified and contacted interested and known in the field (via relevant publications) research partners at the Jagiellonian University (Poland), the University of Amsterdam (the Netherlands), the University of Vienna (Austria), and Panteion University (Greece), who agreed to take part in the project.

What tips can you give other organisations that would like to apply for MSCA?

We would encourage potential applicants to think internationally and in terms of interdisciplinarity. We would also encourage potential applicants first to identify the partners who are well known in the field via publications and to relate their areas of research and

expertise to pressing issues of importance beyond the walls of academia, having a clear vision of what kind of impact the project can have.

More information on the project:



The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) support researchers at all stage of their career across all disciplines. The MSCA also support cooperation between industry and academia and provide innovative trainings and career developments.

The MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN) offer doctoral programmes implemented by partnerships of organisations from different sectors across Europe and beyond to train highly skilled doctoral candidates, stimulate their creativity, enhance their innovation capacities and boost their employability in the long-term.

The MSCA-NET project is the MSCA NCP project to facilitate the transnational cooperation to achieve a consistent and harmonised level of NCP support. The scientific community can also profit from our project to support their MSCA application.

