

# How the changes planned by the Research Council of Norway will affect us



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# Outline

- Why is the Research Council of Norway reorganizing
- New organization of the Research Council
- New calls in 2019 and new evaluation criteria
- Advices to our research groups/departments
- Summary



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# Why new organisation



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- “New Director”
- The objectives:
  - invest in the best and most relevant projects – viewed overall;
  - promote value creation and restructuring and find solutions to other major societal tasks;
  - provide users with unified, transparent services;
  - reduce costs by launching simplification, standardization and digitalization measures, among other things.
- Introduce:
  - Integrated portfolio management
  - Common funding and assessment areas
  - Internal reorganization

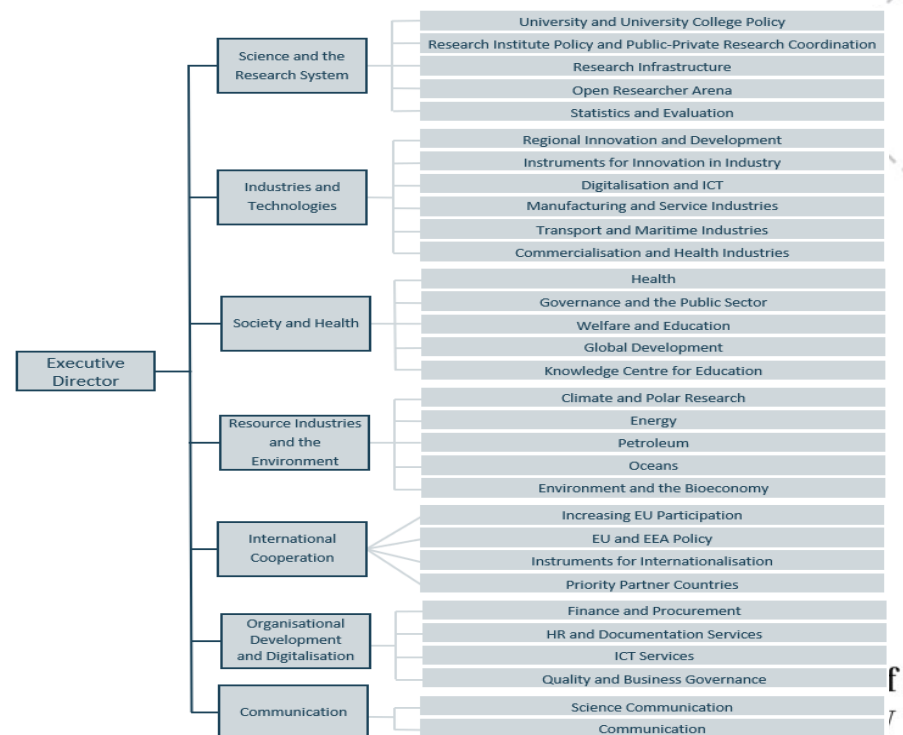


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# New organization

- The new boards on two levels
- Executive board “Styret” replaces “hovedstyret”
- Portfolio boards related to specific sets of thematic or scientific budgetary aims
- Internal reorganization:



# New portfolio boards

- Industri og tjenestenæringer
- Muliggjørende teknologier
- Energi, transport og lavutslipp
- Landbaserte bioressurser, landbasert mat og miljø
- Klima- og polarforskning
- Petroleum
- Hav
- Helse
- Velferd, kultur og samfunn
- Utdanning og kompetanse
- Demokrati, styring og fornyelse
- Global utvikling
- Humaniora og samfunnsvitenskap
- Naturvitenskap og teknologi
- Livsvitenskap (medisin og helse)

Nomination for board members for the 15 boards  
due date January 2019



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# Important changes in 2019

- One overall application process
- **One call** for each type of application annually
- New **evaluation criteria**
- New **templates** for all type of applications
- New **templates** for CVs
- **Limitations** concerning the total number of applications per principal investigator
  - Please check each call for specific limitations
- New **web pages** from April 23<sup>rd</sup>



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# New evaluation criteria



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- **Excellence – Impact – Implementation**
  - Further specific description for each call
- **Excellence**
  - Originality in research and innovation
  - Robustness/solidity
- **Impact**
  - Potentials
  - Knowledge transfer and implementation
- **Implementation**
  - Project manager and team
  - Plans and organisation



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# Example: *Evaluation criteria for Researcher project*

## Excellence

**The extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, novel, and goes beyond the state of the art**

- Scientific creativity and originality
- Novelty and boldness of hypotheses or research questions
- Potential for development of new knowledge beyond the current state of the art, including significant theoretical, methodological, experimental or empirical advancement

**The quality of the proposed R&D activities**

- Quality of the research questions, hypotheses and project objectives, and the extent to which they are clearly and adequately specified
- Credibility and appropriateness of the theoretical approach, research design and use of scientific methods. Appropriate consideration of interdisciplinary approaches
- Where relevant, the extent to which appropriate consideration has been given to ethical issues, safety issues, gender dimension in research content, and appropriate use of stakeholder/user knowledge



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# Example: *Evaluation criteria for Researcher project*

## Impact

### Potential impact of the proposed research

- The extent to which the planned outputs of the project address important present and/or future scientific challenges
- If relevant with respect to the project objectives, the extent to which the planned outputs will address UN Sustainable development goals or other important present and/or future societal challenges.
- The extent to which the potential impacts are clearly formulated and plausible

### Communication and exploitation

- Quality and scope of communication and engagement activities with different target audiences, including relevant stakeholders/users



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# Example: *Evaluation criteria for Researcher project*

## Implementation

### **The quality of the project manager and project group**

- The extent to which the project manager has relevant expertise and experience, and demonstrated ability to perform high-quality research (as appropriate to the career stage)
- The degree of complementarity of the participants and the extent to which the project group as a whole assembles the necessary expertise needed to undertake the research effectively, and provides added value

### **The quality of the project organization and management**

- Effectiveness of the work plan, including the extent to which resources assigned to work packages are aligned with project objectives and deliverables
- Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, ensuring that all participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role
- Appropriateness of the proposed management structures and governance



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# Project description template

for Researcher Projects, Young Research Talents, Mobility Grants

- 1. Excellence
  - State of the art, knowledge needs and project objectives
  - Novelty and ambition
  - Research questions and hypotheses, theoretical approach and methodology
- 2. Impact
  - Potential impact of the proposed research
  - Measures for communication and exploitation
- 3. Implementation
  - Project manager and project group
  - Project organisation and management

- *Further guidance in specific document*



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# Type of Projects

- **Researcher Projects, Young Research Talents, Mobility Grants** (Deadline April 10<sup>th</sup>)
- **Collaboration Projects on Societal Challenges and Business Development** (April 10<sup>th</sup>)
- **Knowledge-Building Project for Industry** (September 4<sup>th</sup>)
- **Innovation Projects** (September 25<sup>th</sup>)
- **Centre Scheme Funding** (SFI two-stage April and September 25<sup>th</sup>)
- **Commercialisation Projects** (September 25<sup>th</sup>)
- **Coordination and Support Activities** (September 25<sup>th</sup>)
- **Research Infrastructure** (2020)
- ***Specific requirements for each call/application***

# Overview of calls in 2019

See:

[https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Research\\_funding\\_in\\_2019/1254037516684](https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Research_funding_in_2019/1254037516684)

# How should we respond to these changes?

# Advices to research groups

- The significant changes by the Research Council **calls** for better **planning** and **coordination** of the internal application process
  - Annual plans for applications within each research group/department
  - Allocation of resources to support the work with applications
  - Quality assurance of all applications
- Robust research groups key to success



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# Plans and coordination

- Which calls are relevant for the research group in the year to come?
  - The Research Council of Norway
  - Horizon2020
- Which type of application?
- Who should apply (PI and co-PIs)?
- External collaborators



→ Annual plan research group/depart.



# Allocation of resources and approval

- Time to write and to get feedback
  - Reduced teaching load for PI?
- Budgeting and administrative support (not all the day before the deadline)
  - Personnel?
  - Infrastructure
  - Other costs?
- Approval of proposal/budget by department head / dean in due time



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# Internal review of applications

- All applications from research groups should be subjected to internal review prior to submission
- Internal peer review require internal deadlines prior to the final deadline
- Peer review can be arranged within research groups or departments, external reviews can also be used



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