

Announcement of funding for 2–3 research groups within UiO:Democracy

UiO:Democracy announces funding for 2–3 interdisciplinary research groups, each with a budget of 1–3 million NOK plus a Ph.D. position. The groups are asked to plan projects for a 3–5-year period (within the time frame 2025–2029).

UiO:Democracy is an interdisciplinary initiative at The University of Oslo that aims at exploring the prerequisites, challenges, and futures of democracy. We encourage research groups of varying sizes and scopes that facilitate new interdisciplinary constellations. The applicants should position themselves in relation to *one* of the following tracks (but can also indicate other tracks for which their project is relevant):

Track 1: Democracy as a form of governance and the institutions of democracy

Track 2: Citizens, diversity, and inequality

Track 3: The role and function of knowledge

Track 4: Democracy and crisis management

Track 5: Democracy in everyday life

In addition to these thematic tracks, UiO:Democracy has three cross-cutting dimensions: sustainability, globalization, and digitalization. All applicants are expected to incorporate at least one of these dimensions in their project.

Applicants should consult UiO:Democracy's foundational document (<https://www.uio.no/english/research/strategic-research-areas/democracy/pictures-documents/foundationaldocument-uiodemocracy.pdf>)

for a more detailed description of the aims and ambitions of the research initiative.

Formal criteria:

Organization:

- The research group must consist of at least four researchers.
- The Principal Investigator must hold a permanent position at UiO.
- Participants from at least two faculties/centres at UiO must be involved.
- The grant includes a Ph.D. position. Buy-outs of seniors are limited to 10% per person.
- A host unit at UiO must be designated in cooperation with the administration at this unit.

Application:

- An abstract (max 200 words; the abstract is not included in the page count).
- Description of research group and project (ca. 4 pages).
- Description of how the research will be implemented (e.g. work packages) (ca. 0,5 page).
- A dissemination plan showing both academic and societal impact (ca. 0,5 page).

The application should be no more than 5 pages long. Page format should be A4 with 2 cm margins, size 11 (Calibri) and single line spacing.

Each application must also have attachments that include:

- Milestones and the bibliography for references used in the application.
- A 3–5-year budget for the period. Please consult the finance section at your unit regarding this.
- CVs for research group members, following the standard format of the Norwegian Research Council ([CV standard format](#)). Please only attach the CVs of maximum five core members of the research group.

The project description and attachments must be written in English.

Assessment criteria:

- Scientific excellence, including originality and rigour in research design.
- Ability to identify knowledge gaps and familiarity with the existing literature on the topic.
- Promise of new knowledge beyond the current state- of-the-art, including theoretical, methodological, and empirical advancement.
- Genuine interdisciplinarity (convincing design for achieving real exchange between different academic subjects and traditions).
- How the project relates to the thematic tracks and cross-cutting dimensions of UiO:Democracy.
- The review committee will take gender balance into account if two or more applications are considered to be of equal quality.

All applications will be reviewed by an interdisciplinary and international panel. The panel will present its ranking to the board of UiO:Democracy. Finalists may be called for a brief interview before the board makes the final decision.

The deadline for applications is 15 September 2024.

Applications must be submitted to Ephorte, 2022/28004.