Coordination and Capacity Kick-off Call

The purpose and objectives

The **Coordination and Capacity Kick-off Call** is a preparatory initiative intended to support the development of project concepts for the upcoming LANGSPIL Interdisciplinary Call. The Kick-off grants support Polish research teams, particularly those led by early-career researchers, in:

- **Forming international consortia** with partners from the Donor States to address complex research challenges.
- **Developing interdisciplinary projects concepts** with potential to be submitted as proposals under the LANGSPIL call.

This will be achieved through:

- **Bilateral Working Visits**: Funding is directed toward on-site visits, enabling partners to refine project ideas and exchange expertise through in-person cooperation.
- **Tailored Capacity Building**: Based on the obstacles identified in the application process, the National Science Centre (NCN) will provide beneficiaries with targeted support, including workshops and expert facilitation. Where feasible, these measures will be extended to all potential LANGSPIL applicants. **The scope and format of these activities will be decided once the submission period has ended**.

While this initiative will support the preparation of consortia and concepts for applications, the submission of applications in the subsequent LANGSPIL Call will remain optional.

The **LANGSPIL Call**, scheduled for launch in **November 2026** with a submission deadline in **early 2027**, will focus on interdisciplinary basic research. With a total budget of 12,000,000 EUR, the call will support 3-year projects that integrate multiple disciplines, with a particular emphasis on the methodologies and approaches of the social sciences and humanities. Projects will be implemented through bilateral collaboration between Poland and the Donor States, addressing complex challenges in at least one of the following priority areas: the European green transition; democracy, rule of law, and human rights; or social inclusion and resilience. Furthermore, meaningful collaboration and knowledge exchange with non-academic partners will be highly encouraged.

Basic information

Eligible applicants	Applicants to the Kick-off Call are Polish research organizations, employing the Principal Investigator (holder of at least a PhD degree) at the time of proposal submission. State aid is not eligible under this call.
Eligible partners	All awarded funds must be managed and disbursed exclusively by the Applicant.
Call budget	EUR 150 000 (PLN 636 390)
Grant amount (lump sum)	EUR 2 800 (PLN 11 879)
Grant duration	3 months

Funding and reporting

The Kick-off grant is awarded as a **lump sum of 2,800 EUR,** intended to cover travel and subsistence costs for the Principal Investigator's on-site visits to Donor States or, in justified cases, for a Donor State researcher visiting Poland. **All other expenses are considered ineligible**.

The lump sum will be settled upon the submission of at least one **Expression of Interest** (template provided in Annex 4 to the full call text), which must be signed by a representative of an entity from Norway, Iceland, or Liechtenstein. This document must confirm that the interdisciplinary project concept was advanced through at least one on-site meeting. Failure to submit the Expression of Interest will render the lump sum ineligible, requiring a full return of awarded funds.

Additionally, beneficiaries must submit an **Interdisciplinary Project Concept** (template provided in Annex 5 to the full call text), developed in active collaboration with the Donor State partner(s) within the framework of the Principal Investigator's existing employment contract.

Submission of applications

Applications must be prepared using the form in Annex 1 to the full call text and submitted electronically (through the Electronic Delivery Box of the National Science Centre or e-delivery).
Each Applicant may submit only **one application per Principal Investigator**. If multiple applications are submitted for the same PI, only the first one registered will be considered.
The submission deadline is **1 September 2026**.

Selection procedure

Applications undergo an administrative and eligibility check by NCN Coordinators. Proposals meeting all requirements are recommended for funding. In the event of budget limitations, priority is assigned based on the Principal Investigator's track record (assessed relative to their career stage) in the management and/or participation in:

1. Non-academic cooperation (NGOs, industry, policy).
2. International research projects.
3. Domestic research projects.

If further differentiation is required, preference will be given to:

- Early-career researchers and representatives of underrepresented genders.
- Ensuring a balanced success rate across the three thematic priorities.

Detailed assessment rules are specified in Annex 3 to the full call text. The call results will be announced in October 2026, with the signing of grant contracts scheduled for November 2026.

Further information

Detailed information regarding the Kick-off call is available in the full call text and its annexes.
To facilitate the establishment of international consortia, the National Science Centre (NCN) has launched a dedicated **Partner Matchmaking Tool**. This platform is designed to assist researchers in identifying potential collaborators for calls announced under the EEA and Norway Grants. The tool is now open for registration and may be accessed **here**.
Contact person: Michał Olejnik