

## Call for independent experts for 2017

The Bulgarian National Science Fund (BNSF) hereby invites applications from individuals with a view to establishing a database of independent experts who could be called on in connection with evaluation of research proposals. According to the Regulations of the BNSF, independent experts shall be chosen on the basis of scientific expertise and experience, provided in the information form supplemented by a list of publications and a short CV. By submitting their filled and signed information form, independent experts agree to be included in the reviewers database of the Fund and to be selected as reviewers of proposals. The personal data collected in the context of the present call will be processed in accordance with the regulations on the protection of personal data. The information in the database will be available for the Executive council, the scientific committees and the staff of BNSF. The reviewers will receive remuneration depending on the call and the number of reviewed proposals. The database is updated annually and applications from new qualified experts are highly welcome.

The filled documents with signed form for agreement, supplemented by a list of publications and a short CV, should be sent by e-mail to the following addressed, according to the research area:  
m.stefanova@mon.bg – Biological sciences and Medical sciences;  
kristina\_hristova@mon.bg – Agricultural sciences and Mathematics and informatics;  
b.hadjieva@mon.bg – Physical sciences and Chemical sciences;  
dokatanova@mon.bg – Social sciences and Humanities;  
aleksandrova@mon.bg – Technical sciences and Earth sciences.  
For all research areas the letters should be copied to: FNI-IS@mon.bg.

Deadline for submission: open.

### Additional information:

After selection of the independent experts as reviewers, they will be required to sign a declaration certifying that there is no conflict of interest at the time of contracting and that they undertake to inform the BNSF if any conflict should arise in the course of their duties. The reviewers will sign contracts with BNSF in relation to evaluation procedures, confidentiality and remuneration.

According to the current procedures of BNSF, the evaluation of proposals is only remote. Each proposal is evaluated anonymously by two reviewers. In case of in case of difference between the individual assessments which is more than the 15 points, a discussion between the evaluators will be arranged. On the base of the evaluation reports, the expert committee of BNSF in the corresponding area ranks the proposals and recommends which proposal to be supported. The

ranking is done separately for each research area and the total amount of grants for each research area is predefined in the call for proposals. The final decision for financing the projects is taken by the Executive council of BNSF. The final ranking and the list of financed proposals in each research area will be publically available. The evaluation reports (without the names of the reviewers) of each proposal will be sent to the principal investigator of the proposal.

The proposals are expected to be evaluated in the period September-October. One expert is expected to evaluate up to 5 proposals in one call. Depending on the call, the text of the proposal ranges between 15 and 30 pages. The evaluation is expected to be completed within two weeks.

For contacts and further information:

Post address:

Bulgarian National Science Fund, Al. Stamboliiski Blvd. № 239 B, fl. 3 and 4, Sofia 1309,  
Bulgaria

e-mails:

Executive council: FNI-IS@mon.bg

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