

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS  
HELLENIC OBSERVATORY

**CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSALS 2015**

**THEMES:**

- 1. An evaluation of reform implementation**
- 2. What model of employment relations for Greece?**
- 3. Immigration, asylum, and the EU**

The LSE's Hellenic Observatory invites researchers with a recognised interest in contemporary Greece to submit an application for funding in order to carry out a project on one of the themes highlighted above and further clarified on page-3. This call has been made possible by funding generously provided by the National Bank of Greece, to which we wish to record our gratitude. This initiative is consistent with the Observatory's mission to promote public policy research and to foster academic collaboration and networks and follows on from previous successful calls made in 2009; 2011, 2013 and 2014.

The Call is open to all researchers with a university affiliation, who hold a doctorate (PhD degree) and have at least two years of post-doctoral research experience. Applications from groups of researchers are also eligible, but in this case all member of the research team should meet the eligibility criteria. Applications from researchers who have had an affiliation with the Hellenic Observatory at any time over the past two years as well as from researchers with a current LSE affiliation are not eligible.

Research grants of up to Euros €12,000 will be awarded to the successful applicant(s) for research

on one of the themes, to be undertaken normally within a period of 12 months. It is expected that a total of three projects will be selected from this Call based on the quality of the proposal and the research record of the applicant(s). Payments will be made in two equal instalments, the first on commencement of the project and the second on completion of the defined outputs to the satisfaction of the LSE project leader. The successful applicant(s) must provide a relevant research account in their host institution for the transfer of the grant. It is hoped that the agreements will be drawn up and signed by all parties by Monday 4 January 2016.

Applications should be submitted electronically by **Sunday 27th September 2015 (10pm GMT)** to [Hellenicobservatory@lse.ac.uk](mailto:Hellenicobservatory@lse.ac.uk).

The subject line of the email should read "HO Call 2015" only and all application material should be in MS Word format. In the email applicants should indicate the research theme addressed by their proposal. Applicants who are unable to submit their application in this form must contact the Hellenic Observatory office on +44 (0)20 7955 6066 or +44 (0) 20 7107 5326 at least 10 days before the advertised deadline.

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**Terms & Conditions**

The award will be made by a Selection Committee appointed by the LSE solely on the basis of the application materials submitted. All applicants must provide (a) a project proposal (of up to 8 pages), detailing the research question, the conceptual framework and methodology, the empirical data, and the expected outputs; (b) an indicative budget (see below); (c) a copy of the CVs of all applicants; and (d) a cover letter, summarising the competencies of the applicant and/or research team in relation to the proposed research. For group applications, an additional document highlighting the structure of the team and the allocation of tasks across its members is required.

The indicative budget should justify the costs identified for the project. All types of costs are allowed - including costs for fieldwork, data, travel, consumables and research staff – insofar as they can be accepted as essential parts of the proposed research. Overhead costs of up to 15% of the total budget are allowed, but these should be included in the budget (the total budget cannot exceed €12,000). The Selection Committee has the right to request additional information regarding budget costs and to award a smaller amount than the one requested or advertised. Awards must be used solely for the purposes set out in the application. An amount of up to 20% of the total budget can be transferred between budget headings without reference to the Hellenic Observatory. Requests for budget transfers in excess of this amount should be addressed to the Hellenic Observatory.

The Selection Committee is solely responsible for approving the eligibility of applications and

reserves the right to request additional information from the applicants. Shortlisted applicants may be asked to participate in a telephone/SKYPE interview. In all cases, the decisions of the Selection Committee will be final. The Committee reserves the right not to make any awards or to adjust the number of awards it makes.

The successful researcher / research team will be required to provide an 'Interim Progress Report' (at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> month of the project), a 'Final Report' (at the end of the project) and a full research/policy paper presenting the results of the project, in a manner suitable for publication in an international academic/scientific journal, for publication in the GreeSE Papers series of the Hellenic Observatory. The prospect of additional publications, in other outlets, stemming from the research project will be a significant criterion for the evaluation of the applications submitted.

The Hellenic Observatory will also cover the basic costs for the researcher (or one team member) to present the research findings at the LSE. The researcher (or research team) will be obliged to give full acknowledgement to the Hellenic Observatory and to the National Bank of Greece in all publicity and outputs related to the project, copies of which should be sent to the Hellenic Observatory. The Hellenic Observatory also retains the right to publicise a summary of the results, with full acknowledgement to the authors of the research, on its website and in its other publicity outlets.

## Call for Research Tender 1-NBG1-2015

Project Theme: An evaluation of reform implementation

The 'bail-out' programmes, with their specification of reforms that the Greek government is obliged to adopt, have focused attention on not only the political difficulty of establishing domestic agreement on many of these items, but also on the progress of their implementation and their eventual impact. Under this Call, research projects are invited that will adopt a case study approach to explore the challenges that have arisen in the processes of adoption and implementation, by state institutions, of one or more key structural reforms and the likely impact of the reform(s). Projects may select any of the reform areas listed in the 'Memorandum of Understanding' signed by Greece. The project will relate the empirical findings to the literature (Greek and comparative) on public policy analysis and public administration, utilising relevant conceptual frames, in order to illuminate the institutional constraints affecting the 'reform capacity' of Greece in the crisis period and the challenges that lay ahead.

## Call for Research Tender 2-NBG2-2015

Project Theme: What model of employment relations for Greece?

The Greek labour market had long been thought to be in need of deep reform, as it seemed to combine 'the worst of two worlds', exhibiting a combination of rigidities and insecurity even during the high-growth years. Prior to the crisis this led to (largely incomplete) policy debates as to whether Greece should move in the direction of the 'Irish model' (more flexibility, even if at the expense of job and income security) or of the 'Scandinavian model' (selective flexibility combined with more employment security but less job security). The crisis offered an abrupt 'resolution' to this question, with a significant set of reforms in the 'flexibility' direction – arguably going further than what is observed in most European countries – pursued under the country's adjustment programmes. In any of these instances, be it the pre-crisis debates or the post-crisis reforms, there has been little discussion about the set of labour market regulations and employment relations that would be deemed suitable for the country given its production structure (sectoral specialisations, firm sizes, prevalence of self-employment, etc.), its history of employment relations (path dependencies, role of unions, etc.) and its societal characteristics (role of family, informal networks, attitudes to self-seeking, etc.). This Call invites proposals for original academic research that will seek to develop criteria, and on the basis of these make policy-relevant recommendations, for the appropriate types, levels and mix of labour market regulations in the country. Research should offer an in-depth analysis of the key characteristics, weaknesses and needs of the Greek labour market; it should engage in a comparative analysis of systems of industrial relations / labour market regulation across European and other cases; and should use these to draw conclusions for the future model of employment relations and labour market regulations in Greece. Both qualitative and quantitative analyses are welcome, although mixed-methods approaches may be deemed more appropriate for this research. Although the objective of this Call is to support research that will address the Greek labour market at large, applications focusing on specific aspects / areas of the labour market will also be considered.

## Call for Research Tender 3-NBG3-2015

Project Theme: Immigration, asylum, and the EU

In a recent report, the EU border agency, Frontex, announced that in the first months of 2015 46,000 migrants had attempted the Eastern Mediterranean route to Europe, as more chose the route from Turkey to Greece than the sea crossing from Libya. Frontex anticipates that as other crossings become more difficult, more asylum seekers will take their chances entering across the Aegean. The border islands of Lesbos, Samos, Chios, Rhodes and Kos now find resources strained and are feeling the effects on tourism. At the same time, Syriza recently announced plans to turn Greece's immigrant detention camps into open reception centres and release many of the currently detained asylum seekers. In a context of economic crisis, as well as current debates over asylum and security within the EU, where does asylum in Greece stand today? Research would explore any aspect of asylum seeking, including its relation to wider debates over immigration in Greece. Projects may offer new empirical evidence (e.g. case studies or large-N) and should be clearly set within a conceptual frame.

For more information please refer to the General Guidelines of this Call or contact the Hellenic Observatory at [Hellenicobservatory@lse.ac.uk](mailto:Hellenicobservatory@lse.ac.uk).

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