



NIAS

Netherlands Institute
for Advanced Study
in the Humanities
and Social Sciences

Regulations - NIAS Selection Procedure

NIAS Safe Haven Fellowship

Article 1 General

- 1 NIAS opens the additional Call for the extended NIAS Safe Haven Fellowship applications in April 2024. This fellowship is open for scholars, artists, writers and journalists who are not able to do their work in their current location because of the consequences of conflict or war. Those facing severe infringements on their academic freedoms due to conflict or war are also welcome to apply. NIAS does not accept applicants affiliated to institutions or countries that are boycotted by the Dutch state.
- 2 A NIAS Safe Haven Fellowship consists of:
 - a. 5 months to work on a project of their own choice;
 - b. Office with Internet and ICT support;
 - c. Communal lunches (work days);
 - d. Technical and practical support;
 - e. Library service;
 - f. Participation in the weekly seminar and other academic activities;
 - g. Facilities to organise a workshop;
 - h. Facilities for public outreach;
 - i. Possibility to apply for a stipend;
 - j. Possibility to apply for subsidized accommodation in Amsterdam.
- 3 A NIAS Fellowship does not constitute an employment relationship. Subsequently, NIAS is not obligated to make social-insurance contributions or to contribute to a pension or unemployment insurance.
- 4 The Safe Haven Fellowship is a temporary fellowship that does not offer the possibility for long-term residence at NIAS or in Amsterdam. Also NIAS cannot be held accountable for possible consequences of the stay at NIAS after the fellowship has ended.
- 5 Stipends. Fellows who are in need of financial support, can apply for a stipend of €3,500 per month.

- 6 Accommodation. Fellows from outside the Netherlands can apply for a NIAS studio against a highly subsidized rate of 975 Euros per month. Fellows who come to Amsterdam with children can apply for a two bedroom family apartment against the same subsidized rate.
- 7 Travel costs. Fellows who travel from abroad to the Netherlands can reimburse a return ticket up to a maximum of 1.500 Euros. Fellows who travel back and forth from their home in the Netherlands to NIAS, can reimburse their travel costs up to a maximum of €250 Euros per month.

8 Conditions.

When signing a fellowship agreement at NIAS, you agree to live by the requirements and responsibilities listed below:

Requirements

- NIAS fellows are required to be physically present at NIAS at least four days per week.
- For the complete duration of the Fellowship Agreement every fellow needs to be released as much as possible from teaching, supervision, and administrative obligations. An exception is made for the supervision of PhD-candidates. By signing the Fellowship Agreement, both fellows and Dutch universities or institutes are committing to meet these basic conditions of a NIAS fellowship. See for exceptions on this rule: *Article 8* of these Regulations.
- Fellows attend all weekly seminars during their fellowship period.
- During the academic year of their fellowship at NIAS, fellows are required to conduct a minimum of two peer reviews of fellowship applications on behalf of NIAS.
- Fellows may take up 1 week of vacation per semester; this needs to be reported in advance to facility@nias.knaw.nl.
- Fellows can attend a maximum of two external research related events of more than one weekday per semester. The costs involved will be at the expense of the fellows.

Responsibilities

- Fellows commit to making a constructive social and intellectual contribution to the NIAS community during their stay.
- NIAS fellows are required to respect and honour the [NIAS Code of Conduct](#).
- NIAS fellows generally collaborate in the case of interview requests, videos, photography and other ways in which NIAS wishes to present the institute to the outside world.
- Fellows selected within the context of a partnered fellowship, also commit to the fellowship requirements of that partner.

- 9 Research Integrity. NIAS fellows are required to adhere to the [Netherlands Code of Conduct](#)

[for Research Integrity](#) and observe this code when carrying out their research at NIAS. This document speaks of five general principles: 1) Honesty, 2) Scrupulousness, 3) Transparency, 4) Independence and 5) Responsibility.

Article 2 Formal requirements for an NIAS Safe Haven Fellowship application

- 1 The formal requirements for a NIAS Safe Haven Fellowship application are:
 - a. On the date that the Call closes, the applicant must have at least three years research experience since the date they were awarded a PhD, if they are submitting a scientific proposal;
 - b. The project proposal must fit within the scope of humanities and/or social sciences;
 - c. The proposal should be no more than 1000 words;
 - d. The proposal should contain a clear description of the project that will be conducted during a stay at NIAS, and a short motivation stating the necessity of the stay at NIAS, please include a description of why you are or were compelled to leave your workplace if this applies;
 - e. The applicant should submit an updated C.V. of no more than 2 A4;
 - f. The applicant may not resubmit a project proposal that was previously rejected by NIAS;
 - g. The application must be completed correctly and contain all the requested information and required documentation.

Article 3 Application procedure

- 1 The Call for Applications for the NIAS Safe Haven Fellowship is open from the 15nd of January. This is a continuous call which will stay open until further notice. Should this date or any other date indicated in this document fall in a weekend, the call opens or closes on the following Monday.
- 2 Applications should be written in English and submitted via the application module on the NIAS website and must comply with all the formal requirements stated above in *Article 2* of these *Regulations*.
- 3 An application can be considered submitted once an automatic confirmation of receipt has been received. Applications that are not submitted before the deadline of 12 noon on the 21st of May will not be taken into consideration.
- 4 NIAS and KNAW employees, members of the KNAW Board and members of the NIAS Academic Advisory Board (AAB) may not apply.
- 5 The Selection Officer at NIAS checks whether the application complies with all the

formal requirements as stated in *Article 2* of these *Regulations*. If the application meets all the formal requirements it is sent to the Advisory Committee. If the application does not meet the formal requirements the application will be rejected and the applicant will be informed by email by NIAS.

Article 4 Criteria

- 1 The evaluation is based on review of the following criteria:
 - a) A clear (research) topic and (research) question
 - b) Relevance of the (research) project: academic, societal, cultural or artistic relevance
 - c) Identification of the problems involved and methodology
 - d) Feasibility of the time schedule
 - e) Intended (research) output
 - f) Added value / necessity of the NIAS environment for the fellow
 - g) Fellow's potential contribution to NIAS and its community.

Article 5 Advisory Committee

- 1 The NIAS Directorate installs an Advisory Committee which has the task of advising the NIAS directorate on the selection procedure and rank applicants. On the basis of the advice of the Advisory Committee the NIAS directorate makes decisions about the allocation of fellowships.
- 2 The Advisory Committee consists of a maximum of three members including the chair.
- 3 All decisions made by the Advisory Committee are by majority vote.
- 4 The members of the Advisory Committee are bound by the "KNAW code of conduct for the boards, juries and committees that assess and decide on the conferral of awards, memberships and funding" ([Website KNAW](#)).
- 5 NIAS staff provide the necessary administrative and facilities support for the Advisory Committee.
- 6 The Advisory Committee will propose two candidates to the Director of NIAS, with a reserve list of two additional candidates.

Article 6 Final selection by the Director of NIAS

- 1 The Director of NIAS decides the final selection of candidates on the basis of the Advisory Committee's advice.
- 2 The Director of NIAS also finalises the reserve list of candidates on the basis of the

Advisory Committee's advice. This list will be used to augment the group if candidates from the first list refuse (or are unable to accept the fellowship offer). Candidates on the reserve list are approached according to their ranking scores.

- 3 The Director of NIAS informs all candidates in writing of his decision, i.e. candidates who have been selected, candidates who have not been selected and candidates who have been placed on the reserve list.
- 4 Once all selected candidates have been informed by the Director of his decision, NIAS will discuss with the successful candidates the details of their Fellows Agreement, based on their personal circumstances. If the two parties do not come to mutual agreement, the Director's decision (as stated in *Article 6, section 3*) expires. If that is the case, the Director of NIAS will select a suitable new candidate from the reserve list.

Article 7 Events beyond the parties' control

- 1 In case of an event beyond the parties' control, such as a pandemic, conflict or war, that makes it (temporarily) impossible for NIAS and/or the successful candidates to comply with obligations set forth in their Fellowship Agreement, an additional agreement is drafted by NIAS and signed by both parties;
- 2 Such events include for instance (further) shutdown, work stoppage or work delay of a governmental entity, service provider or other business necessary for the performance of the terms of the Fellowship Agreement; (further) national or local government orders, including but not limited to (further) travel restrictions; the COVID-19 or other illness or required lockdown or quarantine of either NIAS-KNAW or the Fellow;
- 3 Successful candidates who hold a fellowship during such an event, are exempt from *Article 2, section 1i*.

Final Provisions

- 1 These *Regulations* were finalized by the Directorate of NIAS on 06-01-2025.
- 2 In any situations not mentioned or covered by these *Regulations*, the Director of NIAS will make the final decision.

Regulations - NIAS Selection Procedure Safe Haven fellowships effective from January 2025

Jan Willem Duyvendak