

Fundación

Jesús Huerta de Soto

Ballester

2026

RESEARCH GRANTS ON
ANARCHO-CAPITALISM

OFFICIAL CALL

APPLICANT GUIDELINES & ELIGIBILITY

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 30 APRIL 2026

Grants of up to € 20.000

info@fjhsb.es

www.fjhsb.es/en/research-grants/

**RULES GOVERNING THE 2026 INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR RESEARCH GRANTS OF THE
JESÚS HUERTA DE SOTO BALLESTER FOUNDATION**

1. Purpose of the call for applications

The Fundación Jesús Huerta de Soto Ballester announces the international call for applications for up to ten “Huerta de Soto Grants for Research on Anarcho-Capitalism” per year, aimed at promoting original and rigorous scientific research projects on the functioning of anarcho-capitalism in any area of social life, as well as on the most appropriate democratic transition to anarcho-capitalism. It will be considered an advantage if the corresponding research projects are carried out within universities and national or international research centres, both public and private, dedicated to the production and transfer of knowledge, and if the chosen field of research has not been previously addressed.

The aim of this call for applications is to support and enable research and academic activities that contribute to the scientific progress of anarcho-capitalism from the perspective of the Austrian School of Economics and its main authors, generating scientific results with high academic impact. Although it is impossible today to know the specific solutions that would arise from entrepreneurial creativity in an environment of complete freedom, these Grants are intended to promote research that analyses specific areas of social life currently subject to state intervention (please refer to the attached Annex*), in order to explore how they could develop in an environment entirely based on individual freedom and the absence of institutional coercion, that is, in an anarcho-capitalist society; with special reference to the analysis of the most appropriate transition towards processes of completely voluntary social cooperation, and how the evolution of new technologies and Artificial Intelligence operates to its advantage.

2. Type and scope of the grants

The grants are intended for one-year projects (exceptionally extendable to two years), carried out by an established research team or by a Principal Investigator (PI).

The support is intended to cover expenses in general directly related to the development of the project, such as, among others, the cost and maintenance that make it possible for the researchers to dedicate the time required for the research project, as well as the cost of subscriptions to journals, books or other bibliographic material, attendance at courses or seminars, specialised services, databases, computer programmes, specific equipment, etc.

Under no circumstances will any amounts paid under an employment contract be eligible for funding.

* The Annex entitled “*Key Research Areas on Social and Economic Life in an Anarcho-Capitalist Order*” is mandatory reading and forms an integral and inseparable part of this call.

3. Requirements for the research team receiving the grant

The researcher or researchers who apply for the grant accept all the conditions of this call for applications. Therefore, by applying for this grant, they accept its terms and conditions and its decision, which will be final, and waive any right of appeal.

It will be considered a particularly relevant merit if the PI or members of the research team, where applicable, are affiliated as teaching or research staff with national or international universities or academic institutions, with no additional requirements other than possessing the appropriate qualifications for the research work to be carried out.

4. Mandatory documentation

All applications must be submitted electronically in Spanish or English to the Foundation's website (www.fjhsb.es) with a cover page that includes the title of the research and the name and nationality of the researcher or researchers, accompanied by:

- National identity card or passport,
- Proof, where applicable, of affiliation or connection to a national or international university or research centre,
- Detailed scientific report on the project with a minimum of 1,000 words,
- Abbreviated curriculum vitae (CV) of the PI and, where applicable, of the other project participants.

The PI of the project is obliged to comply with and enforce all ethical and legal regulations (including personal data protection) in force in Spain and, where applicable, in their country of residence for the proper development of the research project. The Foundation may require proof of such compliance.

5. Submission and deadlines

The deadline for submitting applications will be from 12:00 noon on the 15 March to 8:00 p.m. on 30 April 2026 (Spanish time).

Applications submitted after the deadline or that do not meet the requirements of this call will not be accepted.

6. Assessment process

Applications will be evaluated by the Scientific Advisory Board of the Fundación Jesús Huerta de Soto Ballester, as well as by external advisors who, where appropriate, are deemed necessary, following a competitive process and, in all cases, the final decision will be made by the Foundation's Board of Trustees. The evaluation process will consider:

- the scientific merit of the project,
- the originality and clarity of the objectives,
- the perspective and the methodological and analytical rigor, from the standpoint of the Austrian School of Economics and its principal authors, including, inter

alia, the Spanish Scholastics, C. Menger, E. von Böhm-Bawerk, L. von Mises, F.A. Hayek, M.N. Rothbard, I.M. Kirzner, A. Benegas Lynch (h), Walter Block, H.H. Hoppe, J. Salerno, J. Huerta de Soto, P. Boettke, and J.G. Hülsmann, among others,

- the suitability, where applicable, of the research team,
- its temporal and budgetary feasibility,
- and its potential academic impact and knowledge transfer at the national and international levels.

7. Selection, approval and financial aid

The decision will be published on the Foundation's website before the 30th of July of 2026 at 12 noon Spanish time. The deliberations and decisions of the Board of Trustees and its Advisory Council are confidential and final. In exceptional circumstances, the Board of Trustees may decide to award more than 10 grants, or to declare the competition void. No correspondence, notices or additional communications will be sent to applicants whose projects have not been selected.

The Principal Investigator undertakes to carry out the research work in accordance with the scientific and financial report of their project and under the conditions stipulated in these Terms and Conditions.

The amount of the grant, which will be determined and communicated by the Foundation's Board of Trustees on a final and non-appealable basis, will range between EUR 10,000 and EUR 20,000 depending on the scope and duration of the project, and will be paid in three (3) instalments. The first, corresponding to 25% of the total, will be paid at the start of the project, once it has been approved by the Board of Trustees. The second 25% will be paid six months after approval and after the submission of a 'Monitoring and Evaluation Report'. And the remaining 50% will be paid at the end of the project, once the Board of Trustees has received the article or other document in English or Spanish resulting from the research (which must be sent in any case before 30 July of the following year). The project report will include a financial estimate of the grant requested, specifying its main concepts.

If the centre where the research work is carried out requires any amount for indirect costs, this may not in any case exceed five percent (5%) of the total amount of the grant awarded.

Although under no circumstances will intellectual property rights be transferred to the Foundation in relation to documents, ideas, works or any other material generated within the framework of the research activity funded by these grants, the Foundation will have the right to disclose and, where appropriate, publish the work carried out. In any case, when publishing such materials, the author must always refer to the grant received from the Fundación Jesús Huerta de Soto Ballester. If publication in a high-impact JCR scientific journal is achieved, the recipient will be entitled to additional funding equivalent to 10 per cent of the grant received. In any case, the PI or members of their

team must present the conclusions and an English summary of their work at the next “Madrid Annual Conference on Austrian Economics”, which takes place every October at Rey Juan Carlos University in Madrid, for which purpose they may request reimbursement of the corresponding travel expenses from the Foundation.

8. Compatibility and limitations

In the project application, researchers must declare whether they have another similar project currently being funded by public or private bodies, including other foundations. Principal investigators who have an active project funded by this Foundation may not participate as PI in a new project until the funded project has been completed. Projects that end in the current financial year will not be considered for this calculation.

9. Conflicts of interest

The following persons may not apply for or receive these Research Grants of the Jesús Huerta de Soto Ballester Foundation, whether as principal investigators or as members of the research team:

- Members or spouses of the Board of Trustees of the Fundación Jesús Huerta de Soto Ballester.
- The ascendants, descendants, and siblings of the members of the Board of Trustees of the Jesús Huerta de Soto Ballester Foundation, as well as their respective spouses.
- Members of the Advisory Council and external advisors to the Fundación Jesús Huerta de Soto Ballester.

10. Obligations regarding dissemination and acknowledgement

All publications, communications or results derived from the project must include the following statement:

“Project granted by the Fundación Jesús Huerta de Soto Ballester”

11. Revocation

Failure to comply with these Terms and Conditions, with the commitments made to both the Foundation and the research project, as well as unauthorised deviation from the budget or failure to submit or absence of the follow-up ‘Monitoring and Evaluation Report’ or supporting documents that may be requested by the Foundation, as well as any ethical or legal breach, may result in the revocation of the grant and the obligation to repay it.

12. Data protection

The Principal Investigator undertakes and is responsible for the processing of confidential data required for the completion of the project. It is the responsibility of the PI of the project to ensure that the storage and use of this data complies with the provisions of Organic Law 3/2018 on the Protection of Personal Data and Guarantee of Digital Rights,

as well as the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016).

**Key Research Areas on
Social and Economic Life in an Anarcho-Capitalist Order:
A State Coercion-Free Institutional Design Agenda**
(Indicative and non-exhaustive)

1) Law, justice, and dispute resolution

- Discovery of law (customary law, private case law and jurisprudence, *lex mercatoria*).
- Production and competition among legal codes (standard clauses, contractual frameworks).
- Arbitration, mediation, conciliation, private courts, and networks of arbitrators.
- Enforcement of arbitral awards and court judgments: guarantees, bonds, insurance, registers of defaulters and noncompliers.
- Evidence, chain of custody, private expert reports, evidentiary standards.
- Property law: definition, boundaries and delimitation, easements, neighbour relations, damages, nuisance activities affecting third parties, etc. Corporate law and stakeholder protections.
- Family law, protection of children and minors, human rights, gender transition, religious freedom, minority rights.
- Criminal law and illegality: definition of crime, proportionality of sanctions, restitution to the victim, domestic violence, cybercrime.
- Handling of “victimless crimes” (decriminalization approach and liability for damages).
- Protection against abusive conduct (civil liability, audits, competition, reputation).

2) Competitive security, defence, and public order

- Private security agencies and their sponsorship and funding (fees, subscriptions, insurance).
- Crime prevention: patrols, surveillance, lighting, urban design, neighborhood cooperation. Prevention of fraud and scams.
- Coordination among agencies and “de-escalation protocols” (prevention of private armed conflicts and wars).

- Private defence and confederated alliances (mutual assistance pacts, deterrence, logistics). Religious freedom.
- Firearm ownership and control, lawful use of force, training and certification (standards and auditing).
- Freedom and religious organization, morality and dynamic efficiency. The Church's social teaching.
- Protection against terrorism, organized crime, mafias and statist and political violence. Offences involving the advocacy or glorification of crime and statism.
- Cybersecurity and digital defence (private critical infrastructures, incident response).

3) Identity, reputation, and trust systems

- Digital identity, voluntary KYC (Know Your Customer) verification, decentralized credentials.
- Reputation and contractual scoring (compliance, creditworthiness and solvency, dispute history).
- Notarization, electronic signatures, registration of contracts and evidence (traditional, blockchain systems and other alternatives).
- Privacy by design vs. the need for proof in disputes (contractual balance).

4) Infrastructure, mobility, and networks

- Streets, roads, highways: funding, dynamic tolling, maintenance, road safety.
- Railways, ports, airports, and logistics: interoperability, technical standards.
- Sea lanes, lighthouses, buoyage, nautical charts, maritime rescue. Exploitation of marine resources, shipwrecks and continental shelves.
- Urban transport: traffic, parking, micromobility, accidents and insurance.
- Telecommunications and radio spectrum: allocation, private auctions, anti-interference coordination.
- Energy and water networks: production, distribution, access, quality, redundancy, resilience, easements.
- Exploration and exploitation of space, property rights over celestial objects, satellites and planets.

5) Urban planning, housing, and land-use governance

- Contractual urbanism: coordination and acceptance of use clauses, community bylaws, neighbourhood associations, homeowners' associations and condominium communities.
- Building standards, structural safety, fire safety, accessibility: private certification.
- Land-use planning: compatibilities, externalities (noise, emissions, shadows).
- Management of neighborhoods and common spaces: cleaning, security, gardening and landscaping, lighting.
- Gentrification, exclusion, and “right of access”: contractual and competitive solutions.

6) Environment, natural resources, and management of commons

- Commons, management and ownership of coasts, beaches, rivers, groundwater, seas, oceans, and continental shelves.
- Fisheries, fish stocks, cetaceans; hunting; migratory birds (quotas, ownership and use rights, monitoring).
- Natural parks, biodiversity, wildfires, reforestation, and conservation.
- Sanitation networks, waste, recycling, circular economy, extended producer responsibility.
- Local pollution (air, water, soil) and liability for damages.
- Climate change: measurement, mitigation and offset markets, adaptation, climate insurance.
- Noise management and light pollution.

7) Health, healthcare, and biosecurity

- Competitive healthcare supply: hospitals, clinics, mutual-aid societies, insurance, subscriptions.
- Public health without the state: voluntary epidemiological surveillance, contractual reporting, incentives. Healthcare assistance and support for the Third World.
- Prevention, vaccination, quarantines, and pandemics: protocols, compatibility across private jurisdictions.

- Regulation of drugs and devices: certifiers, audits, pharmacovigilance.
- Medical emergencies (a private “112”): triage, ambulances, interoperability, coverage.
- Mental health, addictions, harm reduction, community networks.

8) Education, science, and human capital

- Childcare and basic, vocational, and higher education: competition among schools and universities, homeschooling, private vouchers, scholarships.
- Degree accreditation, curriculum standards, rankings, anti-fraud verification.
- Scientific research: philanthropic funding, business consortia, prizes, open science.
- Libraries, access to knowledge, digital preservation.
- Professional associations and licensing bodies.

9) Social protection, poverty, dependency, and pensions

- Support for vulnerable people: charity, mutualism, churches and NGOs, local networks, crowdfunding.
- Homelessness: emergency shelter, reintegration, addiction treatment, supported employment.
- Dependency and long-term insurance (LTC and disability insurance), care homes, accredited caregivers. Catastrophic diseases, ALS, etc.
- Life insurance and pensions: funded schemes, mutual-aid societies, annuity insurance, collective plans.
- Managing longevity risk, failures and insolvencies: survival insurance and reinsurance, diversification, auditing.

10) Monetary economics, banking, and the financial system

- Private money: classic gold standard, free banking with 100% reserves, competing currencies, Bitcoin, cryptocurrencies, stablecoins, metals, clearinghouses, and the abolition of central banks.
- Payments, clearing and settlement: standards, fraud prevention, dispute resolution.
- Bankruptcies, bailouts, and risk mutualisation: market discipline, credit insurance, and private “deposit” insurance.

- Systemic risk management: clearinghouses, margins, transparency, audits.
- Insurance sector: solvency and contractual compliance.
- Stock exchange and collective investment.

11) Markets, consumers, and quality standards

- Consumer and financial clients protection without a regulator: certifiers, seals and labels, reputation, liability insurance; self-regulation of addictions and dependencies.
- Food safety: traceability, audits, batch recalls, liability for damages.
- Industrial standards (private ISO-like standards), compatibility and interoperability.
- False advertising, abusive clauses: arbitration, private class actions, blacklists.

12) Personal data, privacy, and information governance

- Data protection by contract: minimization, granular consent, audits, private sanctions.
- Data custody, breach notification, and cyber insurance.
- Identity management, anonymity, right to be forgotten vs. reputational records.
- Content moderation and freedom of expression on private platforms (community rules). Artificial intelligence, image rights, protection of honour and childhood.
- News communication, control of fake news, social media and platforms.

13) Compliance, financial crimes, and cross-border cooperation

- Anti-money laundering without the state: sector standards, due diligence, private risk lists.
- Terrorist and crime financing: cooperation among entities, risk analysis, reputation.

14) Immigration, human mobility, and community membership

- Free immigration with access rules based on property and contract (residence, employment, sponsorship).
- Integration: language, employment, support networks, intercultural arbitration.
- Refugees and asylum seekers: private sponsorship, resettlement by foundations and consortia.

15) Prisons, sanctions, and restorative justice

- Private prisons: incentives, abuse risks, audits, competition, insurance.
- Alternatives: restitution, work to compensate, supervision, monitoring devices, rehabilitation, confinement in prisoner reserves and house arrest.
- Reintegration: employment, housing, reputation, treatment.

16) Culture, heritage, and symbolic goods

- Art, culture, classical music, museums, historical and archaeological heritage: foundations, patronage, memberships, endowments.
- Conservation and restoration: expert certification, collective funding, tourism.
- Public access to cultural goods: freemium models, sponsorships, licensing.

17) Disasters, emergencies, and resilience

- Natural disaster management: prevention, early warning, evacuation, shelters.
- Recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction: insurance consortia, catastrophe bonds.
- Immediate aid: private logistics, NGOs coordination, emergency markets.
- Business continuity and community resilience plans.

18) “External” relations and conflict between private legal orders

- Private international law among private communities and cities and private security agencies.
- Contractual treaties between “jurisdictions” (trade, private extradition, police cooperation).
- Dispute resolution between agencies or communities (supra-order arbitration, guarantees, reinsurance).

19) Intellectual property, creativity, and new technologies

- Patents, copyrights, trademarks: contractual alternatives, reputation, voluntary licensing.
- Innovation without legal monopolies: prizes, trade secrets, first-mover advantage, platforms.
- New technologies and artificial intelligence.

20) Animals, welfare, and human–wildlife conflicts

- Animal welfare: certification, boycotts, farm standards, liability for cruelty (depending on the adopted legal code).
- Management of urban wildlife, pests, zoonoses.
- Conflicts over animal-caused damage (owner liability, insurance).