International Research Visits Programme, IH–CSIC

International Visiting Scholars Programme, IH–CSIC

Preamble

Since its establishment, the Institute of History of the Spanish National Research Council (IH-CSIC) has maintained a strong commitment to scientific excellence, internationalisation, and opening historical research to new methodological and disciplinary perspectives. To further strengthen this commitment, the IH-CSIC launches the first call of its International Visiting Scholars Programme, an initiative aimed at supporting early-career researchers holding a PhD who are in the initial stages of consolidating their research careers and are based at institutions abroad. The programme seeks to foster innovative research projects through short-term visits while building strong, lasting scientific ties between the awardees and IH-CSIC research groups. This first call will award two grants for research visits lasting between one and three months, to be undertaken in 2027 at the IH-CSIC premises at the Centre for Human and Social Sciences in Madrid or the School of Hispanic-American Studies in Seville.

Article 1. ***Purpose of the call***

This call aims to select two researchers to undertake a research visit at the IH-CSIC.

The visits are intended to:

- Develop an independent research project in collaboration with IH-CSIC research and/or technical staff.
- Encourage the establishment of international scientific networks and collaborations.
- Promote innovative, interdisciplinary projects addressing contemporary societal challenges.
- Facilitate access to the archives, libraries, laboratories, infrastructure and other relevant scientific resources made available by the IH-CSIC.
- Strengthen awardees' scientific independence, leadership and competitiveness in future national and international research funding and fellowship calls.
- Generate scientific, educational and institutional benefits for the IH-CSIC.

Article 2. ***Details of the call***

- Two research visits will be funded.
- Each visit will last a minimum of one month and a maximum of three months.
- The visits will take place between March and September 2027.
- Visits will be hosted at the IH-CSIC premises in Madrid or Seville, depending on the nature of the project.
- Visits must be conducted in person.

Article 3. ***Applicant profile and eligibility requirements***

Applicants must meet the following requirements by the application deadline:

- Hold a doctoral degree (PhD).

- Have a documented contractual or professional affiliation with a university, research centre or other institution abroad at the time of application.
- Be a foreign national or, if a Spanish national, provide evidence of residence and research activity abroad.
- Have authorisation from their home institution where required to undertake the visit.
- Have sufficient proficiency in Spanish or English to carry out the project and participate in IH-CSIC scientific activities.
- Meet all applicable legal requirements for entry into, residence in and stays in Spain.

No prior affiliation with a specific IH-CSIC research group is required. However, applicants may identify in their proposals the groups or researchers with whom they would like to collaborate on their projects.

Article 4. ***Scientific scope and priorities of the call***

Proposals must relate to the IH-CSIC's scientific research areas, preferably to one of its three strategic priorities:

- Historical, cultural and artistic heritage.
- Governance, power and citizenship.
- Globalisation, transfers and exchanges.

Particular consideration will be given to projects featuring one or more of the following:

- Connections across different topics, geographical areas or historical periods.
- Integration of disciplines beyond history, including the social, natural, experimental or technological sciences.
- A focus on contemporary societal challenges, such as migration, intercommunity conflicts, power relations, gender equality, discrimination or human impacts on ecosystems.
- A significant technological component, such as artificial intelligence, geographic information systems, computational analysis or modelling.
- The development of new research lines or methodological renewal of existing lines at the IH-CSIC.

Article 5. ***Funding and eligible expenses***

Each awardee will receive a grant of €2,300 for each full month of their visit, to cover accommodation and living expenses.

The IH-CSIC will arrange return travel through the CSIC travel agency and cover the cost up to a maximum of €1,300 per awardee. The IH-CSIC will also arrange accident and civil liability insurance for the duration of the visit, up to a maximum of €150 per person.

Where applicable, the IH-CSIC may advance up to 80% of the accommodation and living expenses grant at the start of the visit. The remaining amount will be paid after the visit, upon submission of the required supporting documentation and a report on the activities undertaken.

Any expenses exceeding these limits shall be borne by the awardee.

Article 6. ***Application procedure and deadline***

Applications must be submitted by email to secretaria.ih@cchs.csic.es. The subject line must read "International Visiting Scholars Programme + First Name + Surname".

The proposed application period is from 15 November 2026 to 31 January 2027, inclusive.

Applications may be submitted in Spanish or English.

Article 7. ***Required documentation***
1. Short curriculum vitae (maximum 4 pages).

2. Research statement (maximum 2,000 words) including: proposal title and abstract; requested duration and proposed dates of the visit; background, objectives and scientific relevance of the project; methodology and work plan; timetable; IH-CSIC groups or researchers with whom collaboration is envisaged; training, outreach or knowledge-transfer activities sponsored by the IH-CSIC in which the applicant will participate during the visit; expected scientific outcomes; and anticipated benefits for the IH-CSIC.

3. Proof of doctoral degree.

4. Proof of affiliation with an institution abroad: a certificate, contract, institutional letter or other document demonstrating a current contractual or professional relationship must be provided.

5. Identity document/passport.

Article 8. ***Evaluation criteria***
Selection will be based on a maximum score of 100 points, through assessment of the documentation submitted by applicants.

Documentary assessment: maximum 100 points

- Project quality, originality and feasibility: up to 40 points
- Alignment with IH-CSIC scientific research areas: up to 30 points
- Track record and international potential: up to 30 points

Applications will be assessed by a committee comprising members of the MaX committee and one representative from each IH-CSIC research group or department.

Article 9. ***Decision***
The provisional decision will be published on the IH-CSIC website and communicated individually to successful applicants before 28 February 2027.

Successful applicants will have ten working days from publication of the provisional decision to formally accept the grant and confirm their proposed dates. Failure to accept within this period will be deemed a withdrawal, and the next candidate on the reserve list may be invited.