



ReCIPE REDUCING CONFLICT AND IMPROVING
PERFORMANCE IN THE ECONOMY

BIG RESEARCH GRANT (BRG)

APPLICANT GUIDE

2025 – 2029



**Growth Research
Platform**



Contents

About ReCIPE	2
Big Research Grants	3
Summary	3
Country and Policy Relevance.....	3
Eligibility	3
PhD Students/candidates	4
In-country Research	4
Grant Contracts.....	4
Call and Grant Timeline.....	6
Evaluation and Selection.....	7
How To Apply For A Big Research Grant.....	8
Preparing Your Application	8
How to Submit an Application	10
Create an Account.....	10
Applying to a BRG	14
Successful Applicants	18
BRG Frequently Asked Questions	19
Applications.....	19
Budgets	21
Contracting.....	21
Annex	23

About ReCIPE

The [Reducing Conflict and Improving Performance in the Economy](#) (ReCIPE) programme, established in April 2024 and funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) pursues a research agenda that aims to provide a better understanding of the links between conflict, economic growth and public policies.

Conflict has become an ever more pressing global problem, with record levels of armed conflict around the world in recent years. Rigorous empirical research on conflict is, however, relatively recent and important gaps in our understanding remain.

The objective of ReCIPE is to fund cutting-edge research that could be published in leading academic journals while simultaneously being relevant to the policy dialogue in low- and middle-income countries. ReCIPE will support rigorous and quantitative research that investigates the following questions: how important is economic growth (or lack of growth) for fuelling conflict and fragility; how do different types of economic growth contribute to conflict; and how can economic policies be used to mitigate conflict. This includes a focus on nine research areas:

- Public policies for peace
- Private and public investments and peace
- Institutions, democracy and peace
- Geoeconomics
- Climate change, natural resources and conflict
- Information and conflicts: From the role of (social) media and public opinion to big data and forecasting
- Ethnic diversity and nation-building
- Peacemaking, peacebuilding and reconstruction
- Gender, inequality and conflict

ReCIPE is also focused around three cross-cutting development issues that are simultaneously related to conflict and economic performance:

- The Generation of new data
- Gender Equality and Inclusion
- Climate Change and the Environment

During grant application evaluations, research proposals speaking to these issues in the context of conflict will receive particular consideration.

The programme will also organise and support a number of policy and academic events. ReCIPE will engage closely with the policy community to make progress towards identifying practical economic policies that can help reduce conflict. In addition, ReCIPE aims to be ‘question driven’, and so will encourage research grounded in economics but which incorporates key findings and approaches from other social sciences.

More information on our research themes and cross-cutting issues can be found in our Research Strategy, available on [this webpage](#).

Big Research Grants

Summary

Big Research Grants (BRGs) are awarded up to the value of **£100,000**. They are designed to fund research that cannot be covered by our Compact Research Grants (CRGs). Applicants must justify the additional time and resources that they are requesting relative to the smaller CRGs.

BRGs can fund research assistance, data collection and/or purchase, and potentially research stipends/teaching buyouts (see BRG Budget Guidelines for eligibility requirements). Grants also support travel to field sites, even when secondary data is utilised. While we view this kind of travel (with the possibilities for field visits and conversations with policymakers) as particularly important for researchers who lack prior experience in the countries that they intend to study, applicants proposing in-country activities will need to strongly justify the activities and outline relevant security and safety considerations. Please note that cost effectiveness and value for money are important evaluation criteria and submitted budgets must adhere to the BRG Budget Guidelines, available on [this webpage](#).

Country and Policy Relevance

ReCIPE has a specific list of Focus Countries that make up the core of the programme. The list is [available on this webpage](#).

Please note that an important criterion for funding of proposals is the relevance to policy in one or more of these countries, especially for Focus Countries that are low-income. Proposals outside the ReCIPE Focus Countries will need to make a strong and clear case for the relevance of the research to policy in one or more of the Focus Countries.

Please also note that research does not have to be at the national level. See the ReCIPE Research Strategy for more details.

All funded projects, regardless of location, will have to discuss within their final report and research brief (see below) the potential lessons for policymakers in Focus Countries.

Eligibility

We welcome applications to our BRG calls from researchers all over the world, and encourage applications that propose collaboration between researchers from lower- and higher-income countries.

In view of the current political situation and the imposition of economic sanctions on various Russian entities by Western governments, we are not currently able to accept proposals for projects that include researchers or members of the research team who are based at Russian institutions.

Principal investigators applying to BRG calls should currently have a PhD or be enrolled in a PhD programme. In exceptional circumstances, we will consider applications submitted by principal investigators who do not fit these criteria, however, they must be able to demonstrate a history of high-quality academic and/or policy-relevant research. Although there are no formal qualification requirements for co-investigators, co-investigators on ReCIPE-funded projects usually have a PhD or are enrolled in a PhD programme. The knowledge, expertise, and qualifications of the entire research team will be taken into account when evaluating the proposal.

PhD Students/candidates

We welcome submissions from PhD students to our regular BRG calls. However, given the scale of funding of our BRGs, all applicants will be assessed on their capability and experience in conducting data collection and research more broadly at this scale. We anticipate that PhD students applying on their own may struggle to compete with more established researchers. As a result, we encourage PhD students to apply as part of a team alongside more senior co-investigators, which may help to demonstrate the project's feasibility and credibility. For all PhD students acting as principal investigators, we require a letter of support from your PhD supervisor no later than two weeks after the deadline. A PDF of the letter can be sent to the ReCIPE Team at recipe@cepr.org.

For the advisor: Please discuss the feasibility of the research proposal, the intellectual support which the student will receive from advisors and others, an assessment of the student's ability to carry out the research, and of the student's longer-term potential as a researcher.

In-country Research

For research projects conducting in-country studies in conflict or post-conflict settings, additional restrictions may apply. Funding decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the country's current situation, applicable sanctions, and any necessary risk assessments and requirements.

Researchers whose proposals rely on the collection of data in-country will be required to outline in their proposal the implications for the project of potential delays and the alternatives to face-to-face fieldwork. This can be included in the methodology section of the proposal template.

Any fieldwork will need to be cleared by the researcher's university and, where possible, in-country IRBs. Decisions on fieldwork should follow the advice of governments and should especially consider the security situation of the location. Crucially, any proposal that includes face-to-face interaction should also briefly make clear how the researchers intend to ensure the safety of researchers and any participants involved in the study.

Grant Contracts

BRGs are designed to be **contracted directly with an institution** and typically run for 24 months. The principal investigator for the project can select the institution; this does not need to be their 'home' institution. While we try to remain as flexible as possible, our grant contracts were approved with our funders, the UK FCDO, and therefore are **non-negotiable**. We strongly recommend researchers and institutions look at our contract template as well as other documents, available at the bottom of this webpage, before applying.

Please also note that due to local Indian regulations regarding the return of foreign funds, any contract with an Indian institution will be invoice based with no funds paid up front.

Proposals may be submitted for 'eligible' institutions and organisations. An eligible institution:

- is a legally registered entity in its home country;

- is not bankrupt or being wound up, is not having its affairs administered by the courts, has not entered into an arrangement with creditors, has not suspended business activities, is not the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, and is not in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
- has not been convicted by a judgement for fraud, corruption, involvement in criminal organisations, or any other criminal activity or breach of relevant law;
- has fulfilled its tax obligations, obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions, or obligations relating to the treatment of employees.

In order to be considered eligible, researchers and institutions selected for funding must comply with and complete the following documents. We strongly recommend researchers and their institutions look at these documents ahead of time. Any substantive delays to the contracting process deemed to be unreasonable may result in the offer of funding being withdrawn. Templates for these documents can be found at the bottom of the page.

- **Declaration of eligibility form:** the legal representative of the organisation or institution must sign a declaration that the organisation or institution:
 - Is not bankrupt or being wound up, is not having its affairs administered by the courts, has not entered into an arrangement with creditors, has not suspended business activities, is not the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, and is not in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
 - Has not been convicted by a judgement for fraud, corruption, involvement in criminal organisations or any other criminal activity or breach of relevant law;
 - Has fulfilled its tax obligations, obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or obligations relating to the treatment of employees.
- **Legal representative form:** this form should be filled and signed by the person legally authorised to represent the organisation or institution. It must be printed on the organisation or institution's letter head and include an official organisation stamp.
- **Legal status form:** a copy of an official document from the organisation or institution (such as a company register) that shows the name of the legal entity, the address of the head office, the registration number given to it by the national authorities. Note: unlike the other three forms, there is no template provided by ReCIPE for this document.
- **Finance identification form** (including copies of the most recent bank statement and a copy of the certified annual accounts): this form should be filled and signed by a representative of the organisation or institutions. Note: this does not need to be the legal representative.
Professional Indemnity/Liability Insurance: This insurance, or equivalent institutional liability coverage, protects institutions and researchers against claims arising from professional activities connected to the delivery and management of the ReCIPE-funded project. Our contract requires institutions to maintain Professional Indemnity Insurance throughout the duration of the project and for six years afterwards. The minimum coverage amount should be at least for the grant award total.
Travel Insurance: In cases where international travel is planned by the project team to a higher risk country, travel insurance will be required, covering at least the length of the travel. Proof of insurance cover may be requested.

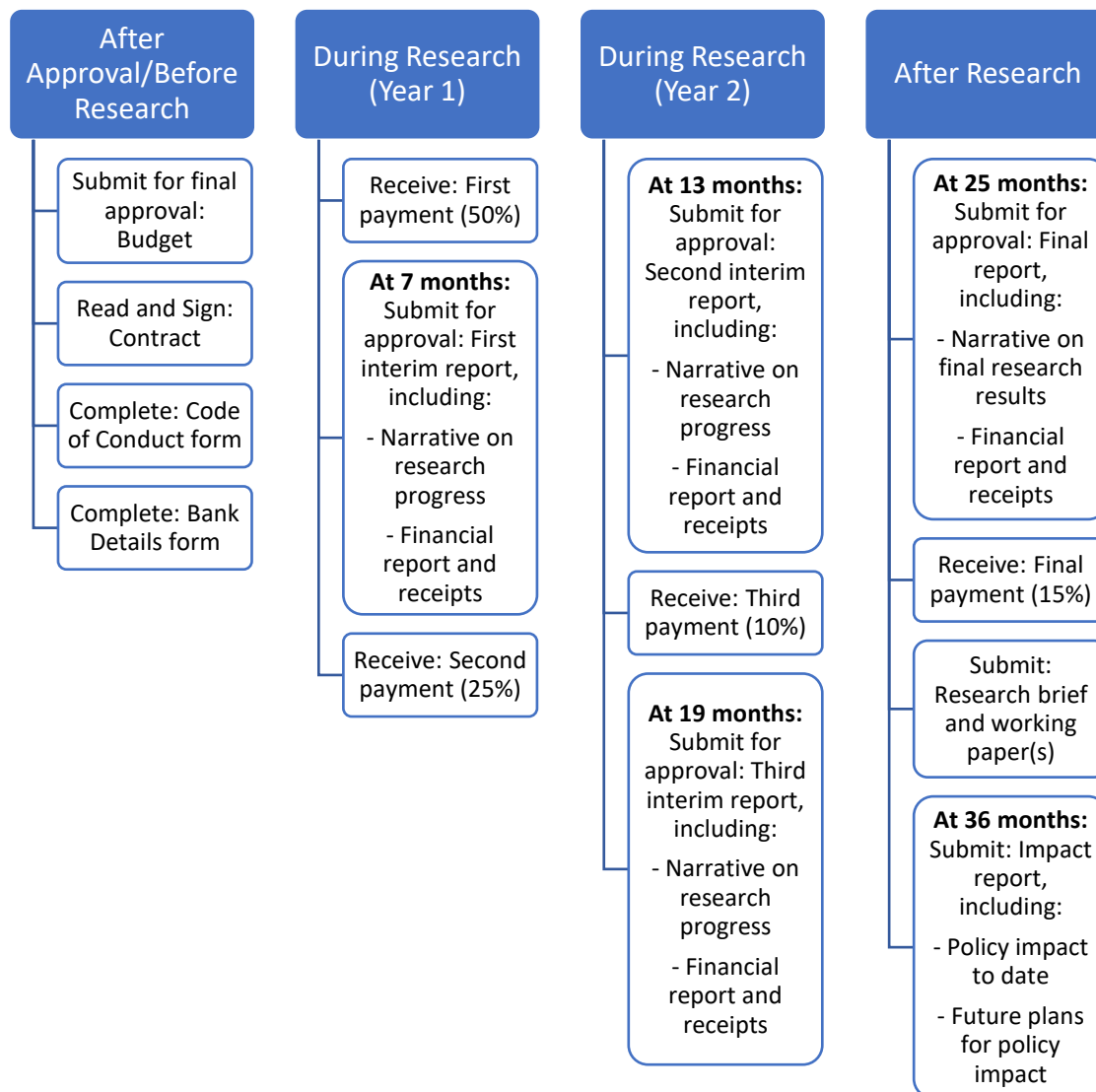
In some (exceptional) circumstances, it may also be appropriate for CEPR to administer the project on behalf of the researcher, i.e. for CEPR to act as the host institution, for example, where a host institution is unable to satisfy the necessary eligibility or evaluation criteria, whilst the researchers' credentials and expertise are considered of sufficiently high quality to undertake the research.

While we try to remain as flexible as possible, the grant contracts were approved with the FCDO and therefore are non-negotiable. Please look at our contract template, available at the bottom of this document or [this webpage](#), before applying.

Call and Grant Timeline

We aim to issue funding decisions within four months of call deadlines. Successful proposals are then announced on the ReCIPE website, together with a description of the work supported.

A BRG is to be completed within 24 months. Please note that contracts should be signed within one month of the return of the final decision, which is also the expected project start date.



Evaluation and Selection

Big Research Grants proposals are considered via a four-stage procedure.

Stage 1: Proposals for submitted BRGs are first checked for completeness by the Project Implementation and Uptake Team, and the supporting documentation are verified. Proposals that are materially incomplete or cannot be verified are rejected as ineligible at this stage. The ReCIPE Research Officer performs a first assessment of proposal quality to check that proposals are "within scope" and pass a minimum quality bar. They then pass all proposals and their comments to the Research Director who creates a longlist, based on the following criteria:

- Quality of the proposed research
- Relevance to policy
- Feasibility and credibility of the proposal
- Value for money
- Contributions to expanding the field

A more detailed breakdown of these criteria and their respective weightings can be found below. **Please note this award criteria should be considered as a guide only, applicants will not be provided with a score or detailed feedback in relation to specific criterion.**

AWARD CRITERIA		Possible	Score
Criterion A	Qualifications and expertise of the Principal Investigator and project team	(25)	
	Scientific credentials of Principal Investigator	15	
	Credentials and experience of the research team, including meaningful participation by focus country researchers	10	
Criterion B	Quality of the proposed research	(20)	
	Clear description of the conceptual framework, analytical framework and research questions, demonstrating in-depth knowledge of the issue/s under question	10	
	Methodology and its appropriateness to the research questions	10	
RESEARCH SCORE		(45)	
Criterion C	Identification of the policy relevant dimensions of the subject, and how well it fits into the priorities identified in the Research Strategy	(30)	
	Potential policy uptake	10	
	Quality of the Policy Impact Plan	10	
	Relevance to cross-cutting themes	10	
POLICY SCORE		(30)	
Criterion D	Quality and Value for Money of the project management plan	(20)	
	Value for money including resource allocation (personnel and budget)	15	
	Work organisation and feasibility of the schedule	2.5	
	Quality assurance mechanisms and ethical considerations	2.5	

Criterion E	Quality of the Host Institution	(5)	
	Relevant experience (including, where relevant, experience with managing fieldwork in conflict affected settings), track record, governance and management structure	5	
	IMPLEMENTATION SCORE	(25)	
	TOTAL SCORE	(100)	

Stage 2: The Research Director then passes on the longlisted proposals to external evaluators. In this stage, the evaluators review the three-page proposal summary, the CV of the principal investigator and the budget. After reviewing this material, evaluators are asked to provide a short review and rating of the proposals. From these evaluations, a shortlist of proposals is decided.

Stage 3: Shortlisted proposals are each assigned to two evaluators for a more detailed review of the full proposal. In this stage, each evaluator reviews the proposals in relation to the above criteria and provides a review on the entirety of the proposal.

Stage 4: The Research Director then appoints a Grants Selection Panel (GSP), including the second round of external evaluators, to discuss the shortlisted proposals together.

After the GSP meeting, the ReCIPE Research Director prepares and submits a finalised list of proposals to the ReCIPE Programme Management Group (PMG). The PMG considers the list and confirms the proposals to be funded.

How To Apply For A Big Research Grant

Preparing Your Application

You need to prepare the following material for your application for a BRG in advance of accessing the online application portal. Please note that you must use the templates provided at the bottom of this document or [this webpage](#) for the proposal and budget.

- Project title
- Project abstract. The abstract should include a section highlighting the policy implications of the proposed research for ReCIPE focus countries.
- Contact details and CVs for all investigators (referencing, in particular, similar projects led by the investigators and any relevant publications)
- Proposal. The proposal template can be found at the bottom of this document or [this webpage](#). This is the main and complete description of the project and should include a discussion of each of the following elements. The total length of sections 1, 2 and 3 should not exceed 15 pages with a minimum font size of 11 and single spacing.
 - Scientific quality
 - Abstract
 - Motivation
 - Methodology
 - Relevance to ReCIPE research agenda, research themes, and cross-cutting issues
 - Detailed workplan

- Expected outputs
 - Contributions to expanding the field
 - Policy impact plan
 - Potential users
 - Potential uses
 - Outreach strategy
 - Policy outputs
 - Relevance to ReCIPE Focus Countries
 - Monitoring impact
 - Implementation
 - Management structure
 - Dissemination
 - Budget narrative
 - Participants
 - Other funding
 - Ethics
 - Privacy
 - Intellectual property rights
 - Open and enhanced access to research outputs
- Budget. The budget template and guidelines can be found at the bottom of this document or [this webpage](#). This provides a detailed breakdown of how the funds will be used under the grant.
- Coordinating institution verification documentation. Templates can be found at the bottom of this document or [this webpage](#).
 - Declaration of eligibility form: the legal representative of the coordinating institution must sign a declaration that the coordinating institution is not in any of the situations listed in the document.
 - Legal representative form: this form should be filled and signed by the person legally authorised to represent the organisation or institution. It must be printed on the organisation or institution's letter head and include an official organisation stamp.
 - Legal status form: a copy of an official document from the organisation or institution (such as a company register) that shows the name of the legal entity, the address of the head office, the registration number given to it by the national authorities. Note: unlike the other three forms, there is no template provided by ReCIPE for this document.
 - Financial identification form (including copies of the most recent bank statement and a copy of the certified annual accounts): this form should be filled and signed by a representative of the coordinating institution. Note: this does not need to be the legal representative.
- Keywords

Our BRG Frequently Asked Questions can help provide answers to many of the questions you may have when preparing these materials and submitting your application. Once prepared, we recommend reading our 'How To Submit an Application' guide, which will be available soon, to take you through the online application portal.

Before submitting your proposal, you will also need to you have read ReCIPE's [Code of Conduct for Researchers](#), CEPR's [Conflict of Interest Policy](#), [Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). All grantees are required to adhere to these policies.

Proposals (including all supporting documents) must be submitted in English. Where any required supporting document cannot be obtained in English, a translation verified and approved by an official authority must be submitted.

All financial information contained in the proposed budget must be expressed in pounds sterling (GBP). Awards are specified, and grant payments are made in pounds sterling (GBP).

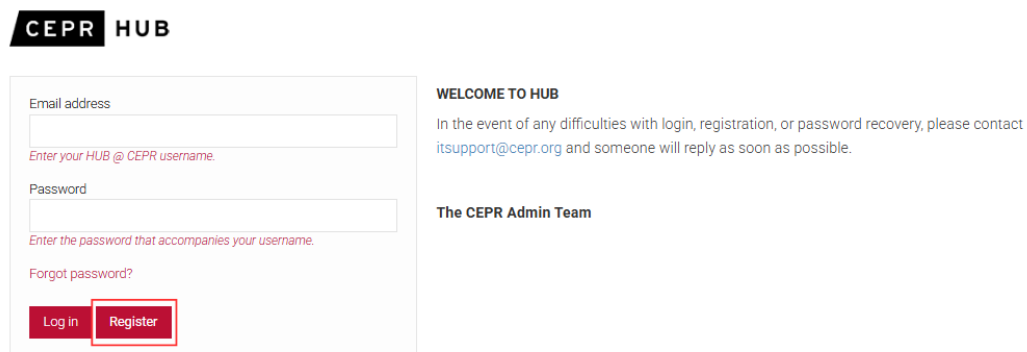
All costs incurred by the applicant in the course of the submission process/application procedure must be borne by the applicant. ReCIPE does not provide financial assistance to applicants.

All necessary documents for your proposal can be found on [this webpage](#).

How to Submit an Application

Create an Account

All proposals must be submitted online through our online application portal, [CEPR Hub](#). In order to access the application form, you must first create an account. Once on [CEPR Hub](#), click “Register”, fill in your personal information, and complete the account creation.



CEPR HUB

Email address

Enter your HUB @ CEPR username.

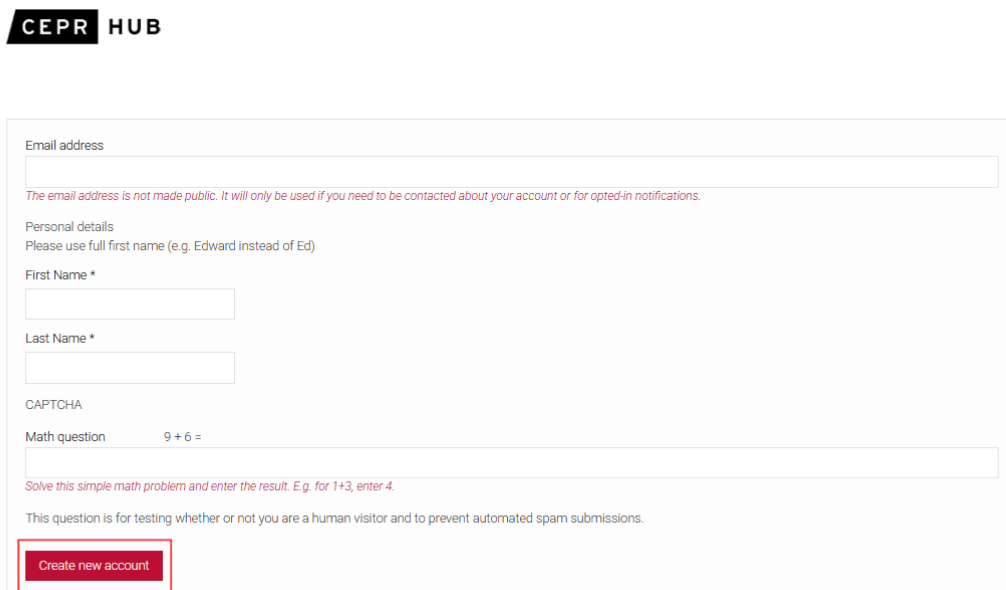
Password

Enter the password that accompanies your username.

[Forgot password?](#)

WELCOME TO HUB
In the event of any difficulties with login, registration, or password recovery, please contact itsupport@cepr.org and someone will reply as soon as possible.

The CEPR Admin Team



CEPR HUB

Email address

The email address is not made public. It will only be used if you need to be contacted about your account or for opted-in notifications.

Personal details
Please use full first name (e.g. Edward instead of Ed)

First Name *

Last Name *

CAPTCHA
Math question 9 + 6 =

Solve this simple math problem and enter the result. E.g. for 1+3, enter 4.

This question is for testing whether or not you are a human visitor and to prevent automated spam submissions.

Once you have signed up, you must verify your account and set a password through an email sent to your email address. Click the one-time login link in the email and set your password.

Dear

Thank you for registering at HUB @ CEPR. You may now log in by clicking this link or copying and pasting it into your browser:

<https://hub.cepr.org/user/reset/28035/1752658231/WuZcMiu7iqMZLT3PBvUYQc...>

This link can only be used once to log in and will lead you to a page where you can set your password.

After setting your password, you will be able to log in at <https://hub.cepr.org/user> in the future using:

username:

password: Your password

-- HUB @ CEPR team

CEPR HUB

This is a one-time login for

Click on this button to log in to the site and change your password.

This login can be used only once.

Log in

Password

Password strength:

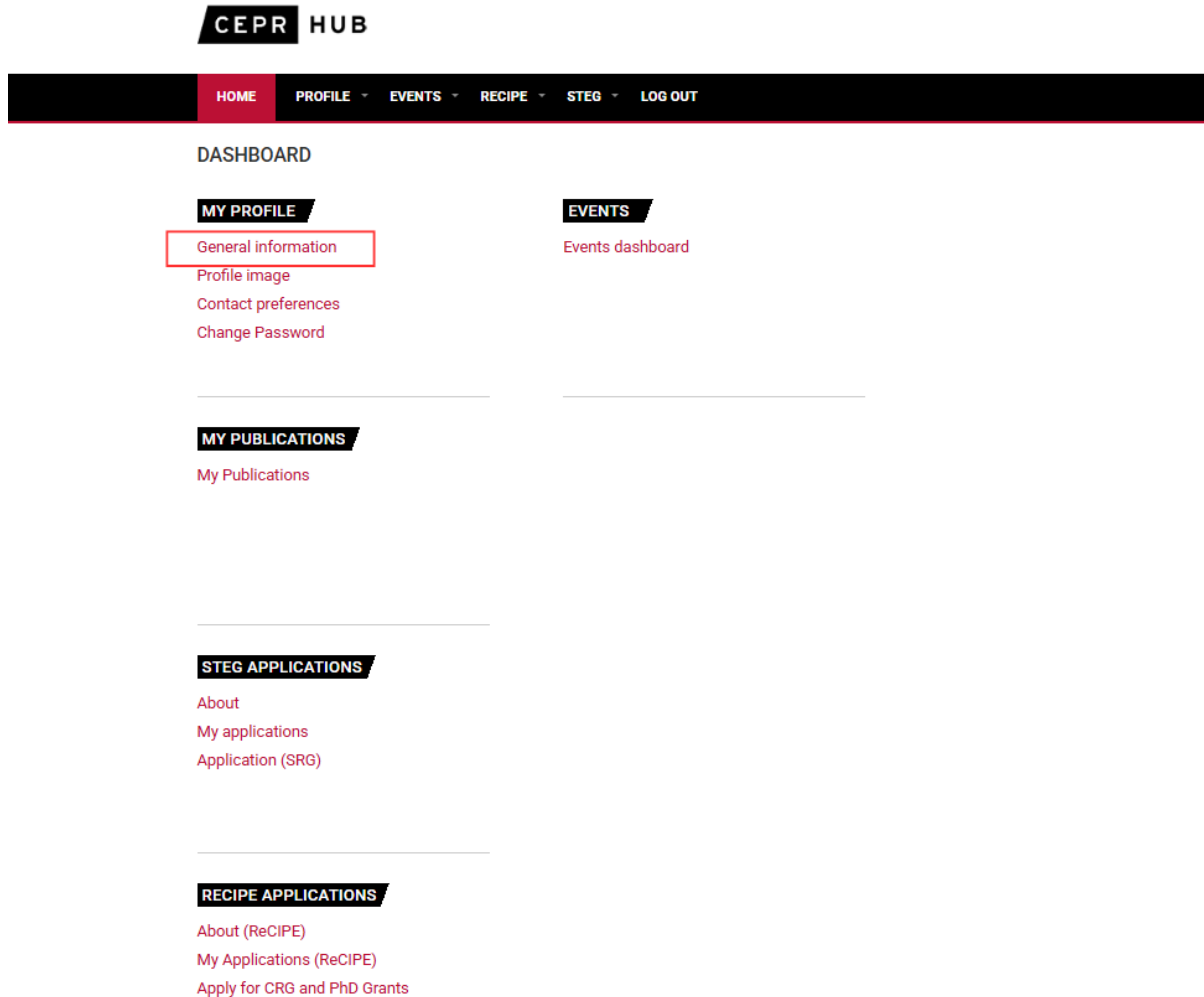
Confirm password

Passwords match:

To change the current user password, enter the new password in both fields.

Save

Once you have set your password and confirmed your account, you must complete the Personal Details form. From the password confirmation page, go to “Home”. Then, in your Hub Dashboard, go to “My Profile” and select “General Information”.



The screenshot shows the CEPR HUB dashboard interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following items: HOME (highlighted in red), PROFILE, EVENTS, RECIPE, STEG, and LOG OUT. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is titled "DASHBOARD".

Under "DASHBOARD", there are two main columns:

- MY PROFILE** (highlighted in black):
 - General information (highlighted with a red box)
 - Profile image
 - Contact preferences
 - Change Password
- EVENTS** (highlighted in black):
 - Events dashboard

Below these columns, there are four more sections, each with a black header:

- MY PUBLICATIONS**: My Publications
- STEG APPLICATIONS**:
 - About
 - My applications
 - Application (SRG)
- RECIPE APPLICATIONS**:
 - About (ReCIPE)
 - My Applications (ReCIPE)
 - Apply for CRG and PhD Grants

You can now fill in your personal details. Please give priority to entering your name, email, organisation and job title, as this information will be displayed on the website if your application is successful.

PROFILE - PERSONAL DETAILS

My contact details

Name Prefix ▼

First Name

Last Name

Phone Number

Email

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

Street Address Line 3

Street Address Line 4

City

Postal Code

Country ▼

Website

Affiliation

Organization

Job Title

Individual

Biography

Reason for Registration

ORGID

RePEc Author ID

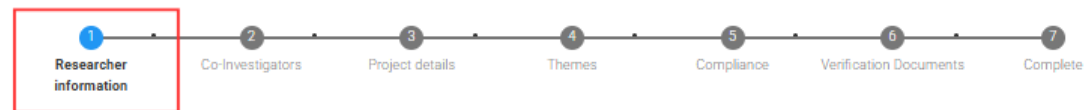
Further details can be added to your profile at a later stage through your account, such as a short biography and a profile image, which will both be visible on our website if your application is successful.

Applying to a BRG

Applications to BRG calls can be made through the BRG Application Form. In your Hub Dashboard, go to “ReCIPE Applications” and select “Apply for BRG Grants”.

In order to complete the following Application Form, please first provide the details and CV for the principal Investigator as well as the name of the coordinating institution. The coordinating institution does not have to be the Principal Investigator’s “home” institution.

RECIPE - BIG RESEARCH GRANTS: APPLICATION FORM



Click [here](#) if you are submitting on behalf of the principal investigator. Please note that you will not receive a confirmation email of submission if you change the principal investigator's email address.

RESEARCH TEAM

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (YOUR DETAILS)

First Name

Last Name

Email

PhD Candidate

Yes
 No

Your CV

No file chosen

INSTITUTIONS & ORGANISATIONS

When filling in an affiliate institution / organisation, please type the **full name of the institution with no abbreviations** (e.g London School of Economics and Political Science and NOT LSE)

Your (Principal Investigator) Organisation

Select from list:

Coordinating Institution

Select from list:

This is the institution with which the BRG will be contracted. This does not need to be the principal investigator's organisation.

Please provide the details and CV of each co-investigator, if any.



CO-INVESTIGATORS

How many?
Please select the number of co-investigators in the application.

You must then indicate which call you are applying for (e.g. 1st call for Big Research Grants), provide details about your project, and upload your proposal, proposal summary and budget using the templates available on the website. Indicate also if your proposal is a resubmission from previous funding calls (only applicants officially invited to resubmit by the Evaluation Committee can do so).



PROJECT DETAILS

Proposal Call Name

Project Title

Abstract

Keywords

Budget Value (£)

FILE UPLOADS

Budget No file chosen
You must use the template provided on the [ReCIPE website](#).

Proposal No file chosen
You must use the template provided on the [ReCIPE website](#).

Partners & Other Funders
Please specify details of any partnering institutions or other funders (if any) for this proposal. For each partner, you should enter the institution name, funding and any periods the funding covers.

Is this a Resubmission?
 Yes
 No

Please indicate what is the Primary Theme that your proposal focuses on (you must select only one). Then, specify all Themes – including cross-cutting issues and your Primary Theme – that are relevant to your proposal (you may select as many as you wish). For guidance, you can refer to the nine ReCIPE Research Themes and the three cross-cutting issues described on the website and in the Research Strategy.

You must also indicate which countries are the focus of the proposed research. ReCIPE has a specific list of Focus Countries available on the website. Proposals outside the ReCIPE Focus Countries will need to make a strong and clear case for the relevance of the research to policy in one or more of the Focus Countries.

RELEVANCE TO RECIPE

Primary Theme: **Select one primary theme**

Please select the Primary Theme that your proposal focuses on (you must select only one).

Themes: **Select all related themes**

In this field, you must select all themes (including the primary one) that you feel are relevant to your application

Focus Country(ies):

Please refer to the ReCIPE Focus Countries List on the ReCIPE website. Please write the region name if the research is at a regional level.

< Previous **Next >** Reset

For your application to be complete, you must agree to the compliance policies listed below and available on the website.

COMPLIANCE

Please tick the boxes to confirm you have read and agree with the following policies. Links to the policies are available on the **ReCIPE** website. Please note researchers must agree to the policies for their application to be considered.

Code of Conduct for Researchers
 Yes

Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy
 Yes

Privacy Policy
 Yes

Conflict of Interest Policy
 Yes

< Previous **Next >** Reset

To finalise your application, please upload the completed verification documents using the templates available on the website. Verification documents are not mandatory at the time of the application but will be required if your application is successful. You may submit them later via email at recipe@cepr.org. Once this is done, you will be able to submit your application.

VERIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Financial Identification
Form ?

No file chosen
You must use the template provided on the [ReCIPE website](#)

Legal Status Form ?

No file chosen
Please refer to the [ReCIPE website](#) for more details.

Declaration of Eligibility
?

No file chosen
You must use the template provided on the [ReCIPE website](#)

Legal Representative
Form ?

No file chosen
You must use the template provided on the [ReCIPE website](#)

After submission, you will be redirected to a confirmation page.

CEPR HUB

HOME PROFILE ▾ EVENTS ▾ RECIPE ▾ STEG ▾ LOG OUT

New submission added to ReCIPE Application Form.

MY RECIPE APPLICATIONS

CASE ID	APPLICATION TYPE	PROPOSAL CALL NAME	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	DATE SUBMITTED	PROJECT TITLE	STATUS
	ReCIPE Application Form					RG - New Application

All information submitted must be complete and all proposals and budgets must use the templates provided on [this webpage](#). Proposals that fail to use the correct templates or that have missing or false information or documents containing misrepresentations of facts will be rejected.

Upon submission of your application, you should receive a confirmation email. Please note that if you have only very recently created an account, you may not receive the email confirming receipt of your application. If this is the case, please do not resubmit your application but contact the ReCIPE Team at recipe@cepr.org to confirm submission.

If you have any other issues with the application process, please contact the ReCIPE Team at recipe@cepr.org.

Successful Applicants

Successful applicants are expected to report their progress on a regular basis. The progress of BRGs is monitored through a system of interim and final reports. One interim report is required every six months with a final report required within one month of the end date of the project. The reports are reviewed by the ReCIPE Team, and approval will be necessary for the further disbursement of funds. The interim report should include:

- A non-technical summary of the project
- Completed activities
- Planned activities
- Research findings
- Policy impact
- Outputs and dissemination activities
- Financial report

The final report should include:

- A non-technical summary of the project
- Completed activities
- Remaining activities
- Methodology
- Research findings
- Policy impact
- Outputs and dissemination activities
- Financial report

Upon completion and approval of the final report, and once final analysis has been undertaken, projects are also required to produce a research brief to join the ReCIPE Research Brief series. This is a three-page summary of the project designed to inform policymakers of the research that ReCIPE undertakes. The research note should be prefixed by a short abstract. The main body of the note should discuss in greater depth the:

- Research question and motivation
- Policy context and background
- Methodology (including any data collection)
- Main findings
- Policy impact
- Next steps

A year after the project has been completed, projects are also required to submit a Policy Impact Evaluation. This evaluation is designed to outline the achievements of the project that were originally proposed in the Policy Impact Plan section of the proposal. The document includes:

- A project description
- A summary of the main findings and policy implications
- A summary of the project's engagement with policymakers
- A summary of the project impact
- A listed of dissemination activities and/or outputs until that point

Templates for the interim and final reports can be found on [this webpage](#).

BRG Frequently Asked Questions

Applications

How can I apply for a Big Research Grant?

Applications for a Big Research Grant should be submitted through the CEPR Hub. Instructions on how to submit an application will be made available when the portal is open.

Who can apply for a Big Research Grant?

ReCIPE invites applications from researchers located all over the world. Principal investigators applying to BRG calls should currently have a PhD or be enrolled in a PhD programme. However, in view of the current political situation and the imposition of economic sanctions on various Russian entities by Western governments, we are not currently able to accept proposals for projects that include researchers or members of the research team who are based at Russian institutions.

Are there specific affiliation requirements?

There are no strict affiliation requirements for individuals applying for BRGs. Please note, however, that these grants are intended to fund academic research rather than supporting programmes.

Can I apply as a team?

Yes, you may apply as a team. Indeed, we encourage collaboration between academics and in-country specialists. We similarly encourage multidisciplinary teams.

However, only one researcher should submit the proposal as the representative of the team. That individual can select the coordinating institution, though this does not need to be their 'home' institution, and is responsible for the project implementation, should the application be successful.

Do I need a senior collaborator?

Only if she or he will make a necessary and substantive contribution to the work. (Don't include someone who will be nothing more than a silent partner.) We encourage and are eager to fund strong applications from less established researchers, including junior faculty, postdocs, and PhD students. We also enthusiastically welcome submissions from less represented demographics and from those in low-income countries. We do not believe that the so-called top-tier departments have a monopoly on good research, and we consequently encourage applications from researchers across the entire profession.

Can PhD students/candidates apply for a Big Research Grant?

We welcome submissions from PhD students to our regular BRG calls. However, given the scale of funding of our BRGs, all applicants will have to justify and be assessed on their capability and experience in conducting data collection and research more broadly at this scale. We anticipate that PhD students applying on their own may struggle to compete with more established researchers. As a result, we encourage PhD students to apply as part of a team alongside more senior co-investigators, which may help to demonstrate the project's feasibility and credibility.

Does applying for a Compact Research Grant preclude someone from also applying for a Big Research Grant?

Applying for a CRG does not preclude one from applying for an BRG. However, please note that if both a CRG and BRG application for the same research project are successful, there must be no overlap in

their respective budgets and the research teams will still be required to complete the full reporting process for each grant separately.

Is there a deadline for proposal submission?

Yes. Deadlines for an individual call for proposals will be stated on the call information page. The deadlines for an individual call is also clearly advertised on the website and through our newsletter.

Can I submit more than one proposal to a funding call?

No person can be the principal investigator (PI) on two different proposals within the same BRG funding call. However, it is permitted for a person to be PI for one proposal while only being a co-investigator (Co-I) for another.

Should ReCIPE research proposals be based on a purely economic and quantitative approach, or is there scope for applications involving other methods and disciplines to be considered?

The programme is open to mixed/multidisciplinary approaches. However, the aim of the programme is to better understand the links between conflicts, economic growth, and public policies, so applications should be able to demonstrate a clear link or contribution to the literature on economic growth and policies.

What geographic focus can my application have?

ReCIPE has a list of Focus Countries. All applications will be evaluated based on their relevance to policy in one or more of those countries. Proposals outside the ReCIPE Focus Countries will need to make a strong and clear case for the relevance of the research to policy in one or more of the Focus Countries.

ReCIPE research proposals do not need to be focused at the national level. Please see our Research Strategy for more details.

Can I apply for funding to work on a theory paper?

It is possible, but you will need to very carefully justify why the project is relevant to policy in ReCIPE's Focus Countries.

What information should be included in the Policy Impact Plan section?

Please specify the following information relating to the policy impact of your proposal:

1. Potential users
2. Potential uses
3. Outreach strategy
4. Policy outputs
5. Relevance to low-income countries
6. Monitoring impact

More information on each of these sections is provided on the BRG Proposal Template.

When will applicants be notified of the call's results?

The aim is to notify applicants within four months of the proposal deadline.

Can a rejected proposal be resubmitted?

Only those who have been explicitly invited to do so may resubmit a previously unsuccessful proposal. The purpose of the 'by invitation' policy is to allow for amendments and/or improvements to proposals that the Evaluation Committee considers have the potential to be funded.

There is no guarantee that a resubmitted proposal will be successful.

Proposals must be resubmitted through the CEPR Hub online application portal identifying themselves as resubmissions during the process and detailing the changes that have been made in the relevant text box.

What are the preferred outputs for the Big Research Grants? Would it be in the form of a paper/report, policy briefing or academic journal article?

BRG projects are expected to produce multiple high-quality academic papers as the primary output. However, a research brief should also be produced, to highlight the policy-relevant results, and all grants are required to complete a Policy Impact Evaluation on year after their project is completed.

Budgets

What criteria should the project budget comply with?

The BRG Budget Guidelines are available at the bottom of this page.

Can I include a payment for myself in the budget?

Yes, but proposals will be judged on a 'value for money' criteria, therefore any payment should be adequately justified. As per the BRG Budget Guidelines, research personnel are eligible costs under ReCIPE to the extent that the research staff are directly involved in providing services to the project. Budgets that include significant costs for research staff need to be able to justify these costs and demonstrate the research value. The total allocated to PIs, co-PIs and other senior experts must not exceed £20,000 per project year. All research stipend costs will be evaluated for their value for money, and may require further justification or amendments before being approved by CEPR.

What can be included under equipment?

It is expected that researchers and institutions provide their own IT equipment such as tablets, mobile phones, laptops, and computers for the duration of the project. In exceptional circumstances these can be included in the budget, but strong justification will be required, and a maximum of £500 for items of equipment will be applied.

Can an institutional overhead or indirect cost be included?

As all BRGs must be contracted with an institution, the budgets can include an overhead or indirect cost for the institution. This overhead is capped at a maximum rate of 20% of total eligible direct costs. Please note that overheads or indirect costs cannot be charged on any subcontracted costs, external consultant costs, or on funds transferred to Budget Partner institutions, and that overheads or indirect costs must be included *within* the grant budget total.

Contracting

With whom are BRG contracts signed?

While individuals apply for BRGs, the grants are issued through a contract between CEPR and a coordinating institution. **The contracts are non-negotiable.**

What is the average contract length of a Big Research Grant?

Big Research Grants typically run for 24 months. Formal requests for extension can be submitted with sufficient justification, however they cannot be guaranteed.

Is the start date of the project negotiable? Is it possible to ask for a delayed start date?

We cannot guarantee that we can offer a delayed start to the contract. Where applicants have a sufficient justification, exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. However, consideration will be given to the extent of the delay, which may have a bearing on the decision.

What is the payment schedule for ReCIPE grants?

All ReCIPE Big Research Grants are paid 50% of the budget at contracting, 25% with the first interim report (seven months into the contract), 10% after the third interim report (nineteen months into the contract), and 15% after the approval of the final report. This final 15% payment is held by CEPR until the contract and expenditure for the project is completed and then researchers are reimbursed the final actual costs.

Please note that the second, third and final payments are contingent on the completion of the grant's reporting requirements, including the satisfactory demonstration of progress in the project.

What are the reporting requirements for ReCIPE grants?

All ReCIPE Big Research Grants are required to submit a first interim report seven months into the contract, a second interim report thirteen months into the contract, a third interim report nineteen months into the contract and a final report at the end of the contract. The reports consist of a written narrative section and a financial report. Example templates can be found below.

Annex

Templates, Useful Documents and Links:

[Big Research Grants Homepage](#)

[CEPR Hub Application Portal](#)

[ReCIPE Research Strategy](#)

[ReCIPE Focus Country List](#)

[BRG Proposal Template](#)

[BRG Budget Template](#)

[BRG Budget Guidelines](#)

[BRG Contract Template](#)

[BRG Declaration of Eligibility Form](#)

[BRG Legal Representative Form](#)

[BRG Financial Identification Form](#)

[BRG Interim Narrative Report Template](#)

[BRG Interim Financial Report Template](#)

[BRG Final Narrative Report Template](#)

[BRG Final Financial Report Template](#)

[ReCIPE Code of Conduct for Researchers](#)

[CEPR Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

[CEPR Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy](#)

[CEPR Privacy Policy](#)

[BRG Frequently Asked Questions](#)