

SCGA CALL FOR FUNDING PROPOSALS, 2024-2025

The Scottish Council on Global Affairs ([SCGA](#)) is the first all-Scotland international relations institute providing a hub for collaborative policy-relevant research and a home for informed, non-partisan debate on all areas of global affairs, broadly defined.

SCGA provides a forum to bring together the public, private and not-for-profit sectors with civil society and academic expertise to encourage dialogue, debate and the dissemination of expertise on issues of global importance. SCGA forges new relationships and deepens existing ties with universities and civil society in the rest of the United Kingdom as well as with centres of expertise in Europe and across the world.

SCGA's core mission is threefold:

1. to provide a much-needed institutional framework to facilitate and amplify multi-disciplinary research and to link this expertise with policy stakeholders in Scotland, the UK and beyond.
2. to promote informed discourse and debate on international affairs within Scotland through informed commentary and an exciting series of public-facing events.
3. to forge partnerships with cognate civil society and research institutions in the UK, Europe and beyond to amplify the global reach of Scottish expertise.

In pursuit of this mission, each year, SCGA makes a call for proposals for projects to be funded both within Scotland's universities and beyond. Applicants are encouraged to consider proposals with researchers across universities and/or work with external bodies such as NGOs.

Applications across different disciplines are encouraged; but the research and networks supported need to be able to demonstrate broader policy relevance.

AVAILABLE FUNDING: Three types of funding awards are available: **Insight Awards** (up to £7500), **Connections Awards** (up to £2500), and **Engagement Awards** (up to £2500).

INSIGHT AWARDS

Insight Awards (up to £7500 but smaller projects are also welcomed to apply) fund research activities that will produce new policy-relevant insight on an aspect of global affairs. This may be a stand-alone project or part of a larger, ongoing research project. The Insight Award scheme can be used for seed corn funding in pursuit of a larger funding bid. If successful, the applicant will need to obtain ethics approval prior to commencing research.

All funds must be spent on activities that occur before **30 September 2025** and all expenditures must therefore be completed by this date. Examples of activities for funding include: research assistance,



initial project planning and development, travel for research, workshops, public events, and seminars. Funding cannot be used to cover replacement teaching, replacement salary or computer equipment.

Criteria:

- Quality of planned research
- Clearly defined goals to produce new policy-relevant insight
- Identifiable outcomes, including knowledge exchange and impact outcomes
- Identifiable and feasible timeline for completion
- Research connects to one or more of SCGA's themes:
 - Human Rights, Immigration, Migration, Refugees
 - Foreign Policy, Peace Building, Conflict Resolution
 - International Law, Trade and Global Governance
 - Defence and Security
 - Global Public Health, International Development
 - Sustainability, Fisheries, Climate Change, Energy
- Priority will be given to projects involving researchers from more than one organisation or institution in Scotland
- Priority will be given to projects that are interdisciplinary and policy relevant in nature

Awarded projects must produce at least two outputs (e.g., event, blog, working paper) for SCGA's website, according to SCGA guidelines, and be willing to promote their research in an SCGA podcast.

Eligibility Funding is open to researchers based in Scotland. The principal investigator should include an email from their line manager supporting the application. Independent researchers not affiliated with any particular higher education institution may apply. Funding involving researchers from outside Scotland is encouraged, but the Principal Applicant must be ordinarily resident in Scotland.

CONNECTIONS AWARDS

Connections Awards (up to £2500) fund activities designed to establish new and lasting connections and networks across global affairs researchers and analysts primarily based in Scotland, including across Scottish universities.

All funds must be spent on activities that occur before **30 September 2025** and all expenditures must therefore be completed by this date. Examples of activities for funding include: research assistance, initial project planning and development, travel for research, workshops, public events, and seminars. Funding cannot be used to cover replacement teaching, replacement salary or computer equipment.

Criteria:

- Clearly defined goals and strategies to produce new and lasting connections across and among Scottish-based research
- Identifiable outcomes, including knowledge exchange and impact outcomes



- Identifiable and feasible timeline for completion
- Connections relate to one or more of SCGA's themes:
 - Human Rights, Immigration, Migration, Refugees
 - Foreign Policy, Peace Building, Conflict Resolution
 - International Law, Trade and Global Governance
 - Defence and Security
 - Global Public Health, International Development
 - Sustainability, Fisheries, Climate Change, Energy
- Projects must involve researchers from more than one organisation or institution in Scotland

Awarded projects must produce at least a written product (e.g., blog, working paper) for SCGA's website, according to SCGA guidelines, an event if appropriate, and be willing to promote their research in an SCGA podcast

Eligibility Funding is open to researchers and policy analysts based in Scotland. Approval of applicant's employing institution is required. Independent researchers not affiliated with any particular higher education institution may apply. Funding involving researchers from outside Scotland is encouraged, but the Principal Applicant and a majority of participants must be ordinarily based in an institution in Scotland.

ENGAGEMENT AWARDS

Engagement Awards (up to £2500) fund global affairs-related activities designed to engage policy, community, and industry audiences and actors with academic researchers. Projects may be linked to existing research or organisational activities or design new research, policy priorities, products or services through mutual exchange. All projects should establish new or strengthen existing engagement between academic researchers and non-academic organisations and communities. Academic researchers are strongly encouraged to seek advice from their impact offices.

All funds must be spent on activities that occur before **30 September 2025** and all expenditures must therefore be completed by this date. Engagement Awards primarily cover costs associated with disseminating results arising from existing research in policy circles or through public events (such as travel, research support, workshop costs) or costs arising from developing a new policy-relevant project in collaboration with non-academic organisations (meeting costs, development of new partnerships). Funding cannot be used to cover replacement teaching, replacement salary, conference attendance, or standard computer equipment.

Criteria:

- Clearly defined strategies to produce and sustain engagement across academic and non-academic communities
- Identifiable outcomes, including knowledge exchange and impact outcomes



- Identifiable and feasible timeline for completion
- Engagement focus relates to one or more of SCGA's themes:

**Human Rights, Immigration, Migration, Refugees; Foreign Policy, Peace Building, Conflict Resolution;
International Law, Trade and Global Governance; Defence and Security;
Global Public Health, International Development;
Sustainability, Fisheries, Climate Change, Energy**

- Projects must involve researchers from more than one organisation or institution in Scotland

Awarded projects must produce a written product (e.g., blog, working paper) for SCGA's website, according to SCGA guidelines, an event if appropriate, and be willing to promote their research in an SCGA podcast.

Eligibility Funding is open to researchers and policy analysts based in Scotland. Approval of applicant's employing institution is required. Independent researchers and organisations may apply. Funding involving researchers from outside Scotland is encouraged, but the Principal Applicant must be ordinarily resident in Scotland.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should send proposals and accompanying documents to awards@scga.scot. Proposals must be received by midnight (BST) on **15 November 2024**.

For the Awards (Insight, Connections, and Engagement), all applicants must supply the following:

- Abstract for proposal – No more than 100 words; the Abstract must clearly identify which award (Insight, Connections, OR Engagement) the proposal is for.
- Proposal for Award – see Award description for goals and criteria that each proposal must address. Proposal must include all intended participants/groups. Proposal must be no longer than 3 pages. Proposal must address the following: rationale/justification for the activities; objectives of the project; milestones and outputs; role and contribution of participants; which award (Insight, Connections, OR Engagement) the proposal is for.
- Budget – itemised budget for activities, with justification for each item. See Award description for suggested activities to include and activities that are excluded.
- CV/Resumé – include a brief CV (no more than 2 pages) of the Principal Applicant and Co-Applicant(s).
- Institutional Approval (for Insight Awards only) – the principal investigator should include an email from their line manager supporting the application.

Award Decisions and Reporting Requirements



Awards will be decided and announced within two months following the application deadline. Proposals will be assessed by a multi-university, multi-disciplinary SCGA assessment panel with at least one non-academic member.

Acceptance of awards must be completed as requested by the award letter.

Beyond the outputs described above in each award category, all funded projects must submit a report of completion within two months of the final funding received. The report must describe the benefits of the funding, detail how the funds were used, list all completed or planned outputs, and include a lay 200-300-word executive summary.

All research and other outputs generated by SCGA funds must acknowledge SCGA as the funder and the SCGA should be informed of any additional activities and outputs connected to the award after the funding period. Additional Terms of Conditions may be included in award letters. All terms and conditions are designed to ensure funds are spent for the purpose requested, that SCGA is informed of any significant changes to the project and permission is given where necessary, and that all outcomes are properly accounted for to SCGA.