

Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center Call for Research Proposals, 2019

The Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center (Blavatnik ICRC) at [Tel Aviv University](#) (TAU) solicits research proposals on digital transformation and cybersecurity. Faculty in any research university or research institution worldwide can apply, as long as the research proposal incorporates at least one Tel Aviv University Professor.

BLAVATNIK INTERDISCIPLINARY CYBER RESEARCH CENTER

The Blavatnik ICRC at Tel Aviv University [fosters](#) interdisciplinary scientific research on digital transformation and cybersecurity through operating a sizable research fund and organizing [Cyber Week](#).

The 74 basic and applied research [grants we awarded](#) across Exact, Social, Behavioral and Health Sciences, Engineering, Mathematics, Law, Business Management have been supporting over 250 researchers worldwide. The Blavatnik ICRC continues to draw on:

- Dedicated research fund, sourced from the [Israel National Cyber Directorate \(INCD\)](#) and the [Blavatnik Family Foundation](#).
- The [Cyber Week](#), a major international conference that attracts 8,000 participants to TAU. The 10th annual Cyber Week will be held June 28 – July 2, 2020.
- Extensive intellectual networks within Tel Aviv University and internationally.
- Strong, lasting bonds with public and private stakeholders in Israel and worldwide,

The Blavatnik ICRC research and policy impacts continue to bolster Tel Aviv University as the global cyber innovation spearhead.

EVALUATION

The Blavatnik ICRC evaluates research proposals that demonstrate potential contribution to digital transformation and cybersecurity in particular in two stages.

- 1) Applicants submit a **Research Proposal Abstract**. The **Abstract** should state the potential for the proposed scientific research to advance the desired societal outcomes: cybersecurity and digital transformation, in Israel and globally.
- 2) The selected applicants submit a **Detailed Research Proposal**, accompanied by the filled budget request form. The scientific review evaluates intellectual merit (within a single field

or across different fields), feasibility and impact. The Blavatnik ICRC Scientific Committee may:

- ④ Prefer interdisciplinary proposals that conjoin PIs from different schools and subjects,
- ④ Send proposals for external peer-reviews,
- ④ Invite PI(s) for interviews.

SUBMISSION & DEADLINES

Please submit your proposal online <https://icrc.tau.ac.il/research/call-for-proposals-2019> and include all of the following elements:

1. **Research Proposal Abstract** (2-5 pages), including:
 - a. The research problem, context, plan, methodology and team.
 - b. Expected scientific contributions of the research.
 - c. Expected policy relevance of the research. We advise to refer to stakeholders (e.g. civil society, government, business;) field of practice (e.g. security operations, education, societal resilience, socio-economic development, systems engineering;) scope (e.g. domestic or other) timeframe.
 - d. The Research Track (see [Table 1.](#)) For the Exploratory track (I): a letter of support by a TAU faculty member.
 - e. **Budget request** made on the budget appendix template.
 - f. CV and publications for each Principal Investigator.

Submit online by 17:00 **02/09/2019**.

Abstract acceptance notification: by 17:00 **16/09/2019**.

2. Stage 2: **Detailed Research Proposal** (10-25 pages, upon acceptance of the Abstract)
 - a. Updated **Budget request** made on the budget appendix template. Ensure that budget items correspond to the guidelines (see [Table 2.](#))

Submit [online](#) by 17:00 **28/10/2019**.

Grant award notification: by **19/12/2019**.

TABLE 1 ELIGIBILITY, RESEARCH TRACKS, FUNDING TERMS

Track	Principal Investigator(s) (PI)	Number of PIs	Max. Budget (ILS)	Max. Duration
I. Exploratory	Any expert, under TAU faculty mentorship.	Single PI	80,000 ₪ total	One year
II. Individual	TAU academic staff.	Single PI	220,000 ₪ per year	Two years
III. Collaborative	At least one TAU academic staff.	Two PIs or more	600,000 ₪ per year	Two years
IV. Interdisciplinary	From two or more <u>different</u> faculties. At least one TAU academic staff.	Three PIs or more	900,000 ₪ per year	Two years
V. Industry collaboration	At least one TAU academic staff. At least one from the firm.	Two PIs or more	1,200,000 ₪ per year (<i>Industry funds ≥ 50%</i>)	Two years

- ⊗ PIs in Tracks I-IV: Tel Aviv University faculty. Co-PIs in Tracks III-IV: Faculty in any recognized University worldwide.
- ⊗ PIs that conduct similar simultaneous research must declare the research name, grant name and budget.
- ⊗ An applicant can serve as a PI in up to two concurrent proposals.
- ⊗ Past recipients of Blavatnik ICRC funding are eligible as long as they have completed their previous research.

TABLE 2: BUDGET GUIDELINES

Budget item	% of budget
Scholarships, stipends, fellowships for students (PIs are not eligible)	minimum 35%-100%
Scientific and technical staff wages (PIs are not eligible)	0-65%
Travel	0-10%
Equipment	0-10%
Miscellaneous	0-5%

ⓘ The TAU Research Authority operates the Blavatnik ICRC budget.

GRANT RECIPIENTS' OBLIGATIONS

- Participate in Blavatnik ICRC activities in Tel Aviv University, including the annual [Cyber Week](#), conferences, meeting dignitaries and delegations, etc. Team members and students may substitute for the PIs for these events.
- Acknowledge the [Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center at Tel-Aviv University](#) and [Israel National Cyber Directorate \(INCD\)](#) in all resulting publications.
- Submit accurate and timely activity reports to the Blavatnik ICRC.

For further information, contact Dr. Lior Tabansky LiorT@tauex.tau.ac.il
