

GenAI in Research Futures @ EUR

A Call for Learning and Experimentation Proposals

Purpose

The *GenerativeAI4Research* programme of Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) invites applications for the **GenAI in Research Futures Fund**, supporting small-scale projects that explore how Generative AI (GenAI) can enhance research activities and practices across the Social Science & Humanities disciplines.

The fund aims to stimulate experimentation, build institutional knowledge, and contribute to a responsible integration of GenAI into the research cycle, when this is suitable. **We welcome proposals that use GenAI as a tool to potentially improve or transform their research workflows. Proposals focusing on GenAI as a research topic will not be considered.**

Scope

Projects may address any stage of the research cycle and any disciplinary domain at EUR. We particularly welcome proposal that aim to:

- **Enhance or transform research tasks**, including literature review, software development, data-driven modelling and forecasting, qualitative and survey research methods and outputs, preregistration, publication, AI-optimized datasets, etc.
- **Support legally compliant and fair GenAI use** in real projects, for example around intellectual property and data regulation, as well as bias and fairness in models and data.
- **Build GenAI capabilities among academic and professional staff**, for instance through micro-trainings, hackathons, or hands-on peer-learning networks that foster AI literacy and critical engagement.

Proposal types

- **Proof-of-Concept (€1,500–€2,500)**

Supports exploratory projects testing a specific GenAI approach that addresses a testable question within a defined research context.

Expected output: documented learning, including successes, limitations, and recommendations for future use.

- **Adaptation & Scaling (€5,000–€7,000)**

Supports the adaptation, extension, or scaling of an existing GenAI approach that has already demonstrated feasibility.

Expected output: a validated workflow, tool, or implementation that can be reused, replicated, or adapted by others.

Proposals with a budget exceeding the indicative funding ranges must provide a clear justification.

Eligibility

Applications are open to:

- Researchers and Professional Support Staff (PSS) at EUR
- Individual or collaborative teams
- Collaborative proposals across faculties or disciplines as well as between academics and PSS staff are encouraged.
- PhD candidates and early-career researchers are especially encouraged to apply.

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Eligible costs

Funding may be used for:

- **Personnel costs** (e.g., software engineer support, research assistant)
- **Software/Hardware and tooling** (e.g., software or data licenses, compute costs, specialized hardware)
- **Community and Dissemination** (Training or workshop organisation and related material costs)

Assessment Criteria

Proposals will be assessed on:

- Innovation and originality, and feasibility within the proposed timeline and budget
- Wider relevance to EUR's research community
- Expected impact on research practices
- Responsible and ethical use of AI
- Alignment with Strategy 2030

Conditions

Funded projects are expected to:

- Participate in a peer-feedback process during proposal evaluation (max 3 other project ideas)
- Respect EUR policies on Open Science, Research Data Management, Privacy and Security
- Being able to share outputs and lessons learned in accordance with FAIR principles
- Present results at a GenAI in Research community event
- Contribute to institutional knowledge sharing and good practice development

Submission and Timeline

This is the first round of applications. If successful, the programme will continue through subsequent calls launched on a rolling basis.

Applicants can submit their proposal by filling this [Microsoft Form](#) by **15 September**.

Application deadline	15 September 2026
Peer feedback round (mandatory)	22 September 2026
Funding decisions	30 September 2026
Project start	October 2026
Project duration	3–6 months

Contact

For general questions regarding the call, please contact the Programme Manager GenAI4Research dr. Alexia Athanasopoulou (alexia.athanasopoulou@eur.nl).

For questions related to the application procedure, or if you are unsure whether your idea is technically or procedurally feasible, please contact the Work Group Lead - Research Practices, Bora Lushaj (bora.lushaj@eur.nl).

We particularly encourage proposals that generate transferable knowledge, strengthen responsible AI practices, and contribute to the future of research at EUR.