Introduction

The NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme (SPS) seeks to enhance cooperation and dialogue with all partners through civil science and innovation. The SPS Programme offers grants for Advanced Research Workshops (ARWs) which contribute to the assessment of existing knowledge on important topics in security-related civil science and technology and serve to build networks among scientists from NATO and its Partner countries.

A NATO ARW is a two to three day meeting that in general engages between 20 and 50 participants, providing a forum for advanced-level, intensive discussions among qualified experienced scientists from NATO countries and Partner countries. Grants are available for organizing ARWs only in the SPS Key Priority areas.

This document provides guidelines for applicants seeking SPS sponsorship of ARWs including details of the application process, the criteria by which applications are judged, and application forms.

These Guidelines are also available on the NATO website: www.nato.int/science along with separate guidelines for SPS Project, Advanced Study Institute, and Advanced Training Course grant applicants.

Who Can Apply?

Applications must be submitted jointly by an organizer residing and working in a NATO country and one residing and working in a Partner country. Individuals from for-profit private companies are not eligible. Both must be fully involved in workshop organization and the selection of participants. These Co-Directors prepare the scientific programme, select participants, organize workshop practicalities, administer the NATO funds, and report to NATO. The Co-Directors should be assisted by a small Organizing Committee of scientists from at least three different countries, who are selected from amongst the Speakers. The Organizing Committee should also include at least one scientist located near the ARW site.

Applicants should note that they cannot have more than one SPS activity running simultaneously. Prospective Co-Directors should ensure that the file on any previous SPS activity directed by either of them is closed before applying to direct another.

Location

An ARW should preferably be held in a Partner country

Participation

Participation in an ARW is at the discretion of the Co-Directors and at their invitation; some space should be kept available for particularly well-qualified scientists who apply to the Co-Directors for attendance. Participants should be invited by the Co-Directors for their ability to contribute to the topic of the meeting and to achieve the appropriate blend of expertise and variety of viewpoints to stimulate discussion and promote the exchange of ideas.

Attendance should be balanced between participants from NATO countries and those from Partner countries. Applicants are encouraged to include attendees from a wide variety of Partner countries; no single country should contribute more than 25% of the attendees .In order to augment the available expertise, outstanding Speakers from other countries (i.e. neither NATO nor Partner) may be considered for participation, but they should be specifically noted in the application and their participation must have the prior approval of NATO. Non-Speakers from any other countries are not permitted to attend.

Prospective Speakers should be contacted in the course of preparing the application, and their degree of commitment to speaking noted. Applications with low Speaker commitment stand a reduced chance of being awarded.

Funding

The NATO grant pays for direct organizational expenses of the ARW as well as the travel and living expenses of Speakers, and to subsidize the attendance of Non-Speakers from NATO countries and from Partner countries eligible to receive NATO funding who are unable to obtain financial support from other sources. The organizers are expected to minimise costs by efficient organization of the workshop and the choice of location. Organizational expenses should not exceed 25% of overall NATO funding.

The funding awarded for each ARW is determined by NATO, taking into account the number of participants, and the size, duration and location of the meeting; typical meetings average €30–40,000. The NATO grant will be awarded in Euro, but may be made in any currency desired by the Co-Directors. For administrative reasons, the award is made to the NATO country Co-Director who is responsible for coordinating expenditures with the Partner country Co-Director and providing financial reporting to NATO[*].

Many organizers find that the NATO grant attracts wider support, and joint sponsorship and support are welcome, provided that the meeting conforms to the ARW format and is designated a "NATO Advanced Research Workshop".

Reporting

The NATO country Co-Director, in consultation with the Partner country Co-Director, must submit a General Report to NATO within 30 days of the end of the ARW, and a Financial Report within 120 days. Specific forms for these reports can be found at the SPS website under 'How to report?'.

Publication

Publication of the results of the ARW as a book in the NATO science series is recommended. Once it has been accepted by the NATO science series publisher, an additional grant may be made available for the preparation of the manuscript; publication outside the NATO science series is not eligible for this additional grant. Co-ordination of the publication is the responsibility of the NATO Co-Director.

Application and Review Process

After having contacted potential Speakers to gauge their interest and commitment to the proposed ARW, prospective Co-Directors submit the ARW application, available on the SPS website, to the SPS Programme office at sps.applications@hq.nato.int, in Microsoft Word format if at all possible. This application is reviewed by the SPS staff and by the Independent Scientific Evaluation Group (ISEG) convened by NATO based on:

- scientific and technical quality of the proposed meeting
- qualifications and level of commitment of the proposed participants
- appropriateness of the meeting format
- relevance to the SPS Key Priorities

Applications recommended by the ISEG will then be reviewed by NATO which makes the final decision to fund or reject a proposed ARW.

Applications may be submitted at any time and will be evaluated twice annually by the Independent Scientific Evaluation Group with deadlines for each cycle posted on the SPS website. The overall process for a successful application, from the deadline to confirmation of funding can take up to nine months. Please plan the dates of your proposed ARW accordingly.

List of Annexes

Annex 1:   SPS Key Priorities
Annex 2:   Eligible Countries

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[*] Award payments can be withheld if it becomes known that irregularities have been committed during the organisation of the ARW.

Emerging Security Challenges Division

Science for Peace and Security Programme

Guidelines for Applicants
ANNEX 1: SPS Key Priorities

NATO Emerging Security Challenges Division, SPS Programme, Bd. Léopold III, B-1110 Brussels, Belgium

All activities funded under the SPS Programme must address the SPS Key Priorities listed below and must have a clear link to security and to NATO's strategic objectives.

1) **Facilitate mutually beneficial cooperation on issues of common interest, including international efforts to meet emerging security challenges**
   a) *Counter-Terrorism*
      i) Methods for the protection of critical infrastructure, supplies and personnel
      ii) Human factors in the defence against terrorism
      iii) Detection technologies against the terrorist threat for explosive devices and other illicit activities
      iv) Risk management, best practices and technologies in response to terrorism.
   b) *Energy Security*
      i) Innovative energy solutions for the military; battlefield energy solutions; renewable energy solutions with military applications;
      ii) Energy infrastructure security;
      iii) Maritime aspects of energy security;
      iv) Technological aspects of energy security.
   c) *Cyber Defence*
      i) Critical infrastructure protection, including sharing of best practices, capacity building and policies;
      ii) Support in developing cyber defence capabilities, including new technologies and support to the construction of information technology infrastructure;
      iii) Cyber defence situation awareness.
   d) *Defence against CBRN Agents*
      i) Methods and technology regarding the protection against, diagnosing effects, detection, decontamination, destruction, disposal and containment of CBRN agents;
      ii) Risk management and recovery strategies and technologies;
      iii) Medical countermeasures against CBRN agents.
   e) *Environmental Security*
      i) Security issues arising from key environmental and resource constraints, including health risks, climate change, water scarcity and increasing energy needs, which have the potential to significantly affect NATO's planning and operations;
      ii) Disaster forecast and prevention of natural catastrophes;
      iii) Defence-related environmental issues.

2) **Enhance support for NATO-led operations and missions**
   a) Provision of civilian support through SPS Key Priorities;
   b) Provision of access to information through internet connectivity as in the SILK-Afghanistan Programme;
   c) Cultural and social aspects in military operations and missions;
   d) Enhancing cooperation with other international actors.

3) **Enhance awareness on security developments including through early warning, with a view to preventing crises**
   a) *Security-related Advanced Technology:*
      Emerging technologies including nanotechnology, optical technology, micro satellites, metallurgy and the development of UAV platforms.
   b) *Border and Port Security*
      i) Border and port security technology;
      ii) Cross border communication systems and data fusion;
      iii) Expert advice and assessments of border security needs and best practice.
   c) *Mine and Unexploded Ordnance Detection and Clearance*
      i) Development and provision of advanced technologies, methodologies and best practice;
      ii) Solutions to counter improvised explosive devices (IED).
   d) Human and Social Aspects of Security related to NATO's strategic objectives

4) **Any project related clearly linked to a threat to security not otherwise defined in these priorities may also be considered for funding under the SPS Programme. Such proposals will be examined for links to NATO's Strategic Objectives.**

Science for Peace and Security Programme

Guidelines for Applicants
ANNEX 2: Eligible Countries

NATO Countries

Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States

Partner Countries   *all are eligible to participate as Speakers or Non-Speakers*

Non-speaking participants eligible for up to 100% NATO subsidy

Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mauritania, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Non-speaking participants eligible for up to 80% NATO subsidy

Belarus, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia[*],

Non-speaking participants not eligible for NATO subsidy

Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Finland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Malta, New Zealand, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates

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[*] Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.