

Mr. Kevin Arceneaux
Mr. Martial Foucault
CEVIPOF

Paris 6 January 2022

Dear Kevin,
Dear Martial,

Thank you for your submission to the call for expressions of interest of the Sciences Po – McCourt Institute funding scheme. We have received a rich selection of thirty-one stimulating projects that the steering committee has discussed during two virtual meetings on 1 December and 14 December 2021. We were thoroughly impressed by the scientific expertise, the multidisciplinary perspectives, the innovative angles, and the potential impact outlined in the submissions.

We are very happy to announce that your project “Incentivizing Good Digital Governance: Toward a Healthier and More Ethical Online Public Sphere” is among those selected for funding.

The selection procedure was based on three different criteria, all weighted equally: (1) scientific excellence, (2) subject alignment and (3) applicability and impact of expected results. You will find some further details on these selection criteria at the end of this letter. Prior to the meeting, the members of the steering committee read all proposals and indicated how much they were convinced of the proposal on all three counts. This allowed us to elaborate a first ranking to structure the collective discussion, check first impressions and confront insights with other members of the committee. The budgets of projects identified as high priority in the first virtual meeting were further analyzed with respect to the available funding to identify the most reasonable amount of projects that could be selected in this initial call.

To prepare the launch of activities outlined in your project, we ask that you set up a meeting between the principal investigators, the administration of the research unit that will host the program and the Research Division to review the budget plans and determine the conditions and dates necessary for successful implementation.

With best wishes from Sciences Po and the McCourt Institute,

on behalf of the Steering Committee,



Cornelia Woll
President of the Academic Board
Sciences Po



Guillaume Plantin
Vice-President for Research
Sciences Po

Selection criteria

Scientific Excellence

- Projects should address important research questions, demonstrate their command of existing approaches and the ability to explore innovative directions.
- Methodological rigor and a clear research design that feasible within the given time frame are important features.
- It should be clear that the principal investigators and/or the team contributing to the project are well equipped to provide the necessary intellectual leadership.

Subject Alignment

- Projects should focus on the impact of technological innovation on society, the economy and politics and the challenges it creates for digital governance.
- Research will explore the mechanisms underlying fundamental transformations triggered by the use of digital technologies and provide innovative ideas for improving social cohesion, political institutions and ultimately, the common good.

Applicability and Impact

- The dissemination strategy of each proposal will outline concrete measure to connect scientific insights to action-oriented audiences: policy-makers, decision-makers from the private sector or civil society organizations or the general public.
- Projects will aim to contribute to discussion in the most interdisciplinary and intersectoral manner, by providing concrete answers to real life questions.
- A well-structured connection between research projects and the learning experience of students is a welcome contribution to a broader dissemination strategy.

Tentative Budget

Personnel costs	Running costs	IT & Softwares	Total 2022
75 000	262 000		337 000

Personnel costs	Running costs	IT & Softwares	Total 2023
75 000	18 000		93 000

TOTAL ALLOWANCE : 430.000 €