

Kone – Fudan Nordic Centre Scholarships for travel and research cooperation in Shanghai during the year 2024

Kone – Fudan Nordic Centre Scholarships for Research in Shanghai are open for applications until 15 April 2024. Nordic Centre at Fudan University was established in 1995 through a collaborative effort between 14 Nordic universities and Fudan University. Today the network consists of 22 member institutions in China, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Nordic Centre seeks to be an essential hub for cutting-edge Sino-Nordic research, research-based education and outreach activities. For more information, please refer to <http://www.nordiccentre.net/> and documents there. This scholarship programme is a specific project coordinated by the University of Turku and funded by the Kone Foundation. The funding is only granted for applicants for activities carried out and reported in 2024.

Criteria for applying

All researchers and academic staff affiliated in one of the Nordic Centre's Finnish member university: University of Turku, University of Helsinki, University of Tampere, University of Eastern Finland and University of Lapland and fulfilling the criteria of this call are eligible for these scholarships. The scholarship programme is intended to support and expand research conducted in the Finnish member universities, therefore the affiliation with the Finnish member university during and after the research period is relevant. The Nordic Centre at Fudan University, Shanghai can function as a base for the grantees.

- Applications are considered from doctoral researchers post-doctoral researchers and teachers affiliated with the Finnish member universities and doing research or cooperation in the Kone Foundation's *priority fields of the humanities, social sciences or environmental sciences as well as multidisciplinary work that involves the academic fields mentioned above are eligible for this scholarship*.
- Moreover, enforcing the Sino-Nordic research cooperation is part of the strategy of the Nordic Centre which encourages new cooperation especially, but not only, in four interdisciplinary focus areas: *Sino-Nordic perspectives; Sustainable development; Digitalisation and technology as well as Health and welfare*. The multidisciplinary approach together with the Kone Foundations' priority fields, give opportunities for interesting new initiatives linked to these topics as well.
- The knowledge of Chinese is not necessary, depending on the research topic.

The project can offer scholarship for the following purposes:

1. Monthly research grant for carrying out research in China and where the contact point is the Fudan Nordic Centre. The granted period can be from one to three months. **The grantee must find out the insurance policy in the specific case from themselves or with the help of own their own Finnish host university.** Nordic Centre at Fudan University, Shanghai can offer the grantees a desk space. The amount of the research grant is 2700 euros/month for doctoral researchers or 3000 - 3600 euros/month for post docs and advanced researchers. Please see also the section *Conditions for grantees receiving the scholarship for monthly research grants for period in Shanghai* below for other matters the applicant of the monthly scholarship must take into consideration. The payment of the monthly scholarship is usually made directly by the Kone Foundation, but due to limited amount of funds at this stage of the project, the scholarship can also be payable by the University of Turku from this project.
2. Travel grants for shorter visits and when the research or activity is connected to the following cooperation:
 - ✓ a) primary to the Fudan University or where the Fudan Nordic Centre is the base for the visit. You can also familiarise yourself with the possibilities incl. funding of the Nordic Centre e.g. for organising event, research visit etc., and possibly combine these with your visit when relevant: [Nordic Centre: https://www.nordiccentre.net/research](https://www.nordiccentre.net/research).
 - ✓ b) secondarily to the other Chinese cooperators in the Shanghai region (the Chinese affiliated members in Shanghai region are the Ocean University of China and Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University) or elsewhere in China with good justifications.

The amount of the travel grant is usually 1000 – 1800 euros, but the granted sum depends on the planned travel as well as availability of the funds in this category. It is in the essence planned to cover the flight tickets to and from China. The grantee must arrange all the travel arrangements themselves.

3. Research support grants for the additional research costs related to the longer research stay in China at the Fudan Nordic Centre, (not for living costs, visa cost nor travel cost to and from China). The amount of support grant can be up to 1000 euros.

Considering these grants, please note the following:

Applicants can apply scholarship in several categories, and may receive more than one grant, if applicable. The amount of granted scholarships depends on the suitability and quality of the application as well as availability of funded grants in different categories.

Please note that it is expected that the scholarship grantees will pay their accommodation, visa and other travel costs themselves in case the travel grant is not enough to cover these or if they are not granted the travel grant. Grantee will always arrange these themselves.

The travels or research period at the Nordic Centre in Shanghai must be carried out in 2024. No costs or grants can be paid after November 2024. There is a reporting responsibility for

the grant receivers. After the research period, the grantee is required to write a report to the project committee and to the Kone Foundation.

The grantees of this scholarship are obligated to take care of all legal obligations and consequences concerning e. g. taxation, possible statutory insurance and retirement plan fees as well as personal insurances.

Applying & dead-line

There are two separate electronic application forms which should be filled accordingly:

- A) Application for Kone - Fudan Nordic Centre monthly scholarships:
<https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/C93CFF32BD1F15BF>
- B) Application for Kone - Fudan Nordic Centre travel and research support grants:
<https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/CCCF49B851DE16>

Application time ends in 15 April 2024.

Be prepared to include the following attachments in the application via the electronic form:

- A. All applicants:
 - 1. CV with a list of publications
 - 2. Research plan for the research period or plan related to your travel to China (travel grant) with a description of the possibly planned co-operation with Fudan University and/or possibly with other Chinese partners relevant to this research and cooperation; the relevance of the research for the applicant's own research and possibly also for the cooperation of the home university.
- B. Applicants applying for the travel grant or the and the research support grant:
 - 3.a Budget justifying the amount applied
- C. Applicants applying for the monthly research grant (1 to 3 months):
 - 3.b Doctoral researchers applying 1-3 months' research period in Shanghai: research plan for the doctoral thesis. Please also state your status during the planned research period (doctoral researcher/ post doc. If you will be a post-doc during the actual research period, your affiliation status to the member university during the research period will be relevant for the scholarship payments. For planned post-doc period please see also requirement 5 below.
 - 4. Doctoral researchers: recommendation by the supervisor.
 - 5. Post doc applicants working with a scholarship (normally not salaried during the period) in a member university please attach the project leader's letter of confirmation or similar of the affiliation to the member university or other prove of the status during the planned research period.
 - 6. Any other recommendations are voluntary.

Nordic Centre's role and support

The role of the Nordic Centre is to help grantees with practical issues at the Nordic Centre and when settling in Shanghai and writing invitations for visa. The Centre can also help to make contacts between the grantees and relevant academics at Fudan University, when possible. This availability of the cooperators will depend on the mutual interest. Therefore, it may be beneficial if you already have some contacts yourself. In some cases, the grantees who are doctoral candidates can attend courses or other educational events offered by the Nordic Centre.

Please note the Chinese affiliated members in Shanghai region are the Ocean University of China and Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University.

You can also familiarise yourself with the possibilities incl. funding possibilities of the Nordic Centre e.g. organising event, research visit and possibly combine these with your visit: [Nordic Centre: https://www.nordiccentre.net/research](https://www.nordiccentre.net/research).

Programme Manager of the Nordic Centre at Fudan University: Veli-Matti Palomäki: [veli-matti.palomaki\(at\)nordiccentre.net](mailto:veli-matti.palomaki@nordiccentre.net). Please contact him with additional enquiries concerning especially the Nordic Centre and Fudan University <http://www.nordiccentre.net/>. There you can also find the Handbook for visiting scholars which will help you when planning your visit.

Further information about applying from your own university's contact person

For further information about the call is given by the candidate's home university (choose your own university):

University of Turku: Kirsi Korpela ([kirsi.korpela\(at\)utu.fi](mailto:kirsi.korpela@utu.fi)) (Coordinator)
University of Tampere: Ilkka Virtanen ([ilkka.virtanen\(at\)tuni.fi](mailto:ilkka.virtanen@tuni.fi))
University of Eastern Finland: Minchun Ryhänen ([minchun.ryhanen\(at\)uef.fi](mailto:minchun.ryhanen@uef.fi))
University of Helsinki: Sami Honkasalo ([sami.honkasalo\(at\)helsinki.fi](mailto:sami.honkasalo@helsinki.fi))
University of Lapland: Matti Nojonen ([matti.nojonen\(at\)ulapland.fi](mailto:matti.nojonen@ulapland.fi))

The decision will be made by project's external evaluation team with members from several participating universities

Conditions for grantees receiving the scholarship for monthly research grants for period in Shanghai

When applying for the monthly scholarship, please note the following:

- applicants and receivers of this scholarship should proof to be affiliated with a Finnish member university during the research period or travel to China. The aim is also that the grant receiver will also return to the Finnish member university to continue their research there after the research period and benefit the Finnish research community with the possibly new contacts and networks.

- In addition to carrying out research, an asset to the application is the added relevance for of the Nordic Centre context e.g. in the forms of the possibility and visions to create long-term links, plan research projects and joint articles. Also, cooperation with additional Nordic member institutions and their researchers can be involved.
- The funding decisions are guided by the same fields and central values that are defined in the Kone Foundation's own strategy, such as: academic freedom and the intrinsic value of research, a plurality of voice, boldness (for the full information, please see <https://koneensaatio.fi/en/grants/grantapplicants/for-what-purposes-does-the-kone-foundation-grant-funding/>). Kone Foundation's *priority fields are the humanities, social sciences and environmental sciences as well as multidisciplinary work that involves the academic fields mentioned above.*

After receiving the monthly scholarship

- The grantees of this scholarship are obligated to take care of all legal obligations and consequences concerning e. g. taxation, possible statutory insurance and retirement plan fees as well as personal insurances. Please note that research grants for work lasting less than four months are usually not insured by Mela insurance ([Grant and scholarship recipients | Maatalousyrittäjien eläkelaitos Mela: https://www.mela.fi/en/grant-and-scholarship-recipients/](#)). However, if you already have an existing insurance policy with Mela, under certain conditions it is possible to insure your short-term grant or scholarship by adding it to your current policy. Please note that if you are not currently under Mela insurance, 1-3 months period is not enough for this insurance and you need to consult your own university to find out the options and instructions to be covered during you stay.
- The project follows the rules and instructions given by Kone Foundation for all its grantees. The following sections are the most important for an individual grantee: social security; taxation; research funding, ethical considerations, reuse of research material and open access. Individual grantee should also see in the section Grant payment the following points: changes, suspension of payment and cancellation. The coordinator (University of Turku) is however, the leader of the project and the primary contact point in any questions concerning the granted scholarship or matters related to the research period. This project is responsible of all the coordination towards Kone Foundation is issues like grant payments and project's own reporting.
- In the essence, the monthly research scholarship is meant to cover most of expenses in China including the accommodation costs. Therefore, in general those scholarship receivers who are employed should normally be on leave from their salary work for that period. The grantees holding also another scholarship need to follow the rules of both financing parties. However, especially post-doc researchers and senior researchers may in some cases discuss with their employer on whether they could also be paid part of their salary. The purpose would be then to compensate a possible reduction of the income level during the research period in China. In general, the grantees could obtain 25 % of their salary at the maximum, and the research conducted in China should be related to the researcher's general research

profile. Especially if the paid salary is higher than 25 %, it can reduce the amount of the payable grant and needs to be negotiated. Also, another scholarship may have an effect to the amount of this grant. It is recommended that another income (partial salary or another scholarship) is mentioned already in the application. In case this is not possible or known at that point, the contact person at the University of Turku needs to be informed of any such arrangements prior to the payment of the actual grant. The Kone Foundation will make the final decision on the amount of the payable grant in such occasions. Anyone employed in the Finnish University when receiving a scholarship at the same time, should contact their own HR and travel experts, to find out obligations from the employers' side.

Handling of your Data – Privacy Notices related to the project

The coordinating university and Kone Foundation will handle the applicants and scholarship receivers' personal data according to their respective data protection rules.

Application phase: your information given in this application will be handled in the application phase by the coordinator (University of Turku) of the project and also the project committee who makes the decisions (consisting of representatives from several Finnish Universities). The data is kept at the University of Turku according to regulations of the University of Turku and funding organisation (Kone Foundation) as well as handled by the project committee's members' universities' regulations. The project coordinator, University of Turku takes into consideration of the projects' requirements for the archiving and archiving periods of the applications and decisions. The privacy notice of the University of Turku: <https://www.utu.fi/en/privacy/notice> and in Finnish: <https://www.utu.fi/fi/tietosuoja>.

The grantees: the grantees' information will be delivered to Kone Foundation for the payments of the monthly scholarships (payment request and register for the scholarships). They have their own Privacy notices for handling the data: [Kone Foundation: https://koneensaatio.fi/en/about-us/kone-foundations-privacy-policy-statement/](https://koneensaatio.fi/en/about-us/kone-foundations-privacy-policy-statement/), in Finnish: https://koneensaatio.fi/meista/koneen-saation-saannot_tietosuojaelosteet/

The grantees' data will be handled at the University of Turku for the payment of travel grant and for the running of the project with Kone Foundation. This includes e.g. reporting responsibility to Kone Foundation and the necessary PR and communication activities (e.g. news about results).

Furthermore, only limited information such as the grantees name, field of research and research topic will be distributed to Fudan Nordic Centre in Shanghai, China when the decision has been made and the grantee has accepted the grant. University of Turku and other Finnish member universities, Kone Foundation and Nordic Centre may publish the grantee's name and field of study and research topic in their websites.

Please note that the grantees themselves will deal directly with the Nordic Centre and Fudan University for invitation purposes as well as with other relevant authorities in Finland and China who might need some information related to grantees' travel and research in China. This is not responsibility of the project nor part of the data handling notice of the University of Turku.

Further information about data handling can be obtained from the project leadership:
kkorpela(at)utu.fi

This project is supported by



In cooperation with the Finnish members of the Nordic Centre

