



Call for Articles and Research Proposals for the Tzahar– Palm Beach Research Center for Judaism-Based Social Sciences for 2021

The Research Center was founded in 2020 as a collaboration between the Zefat Academic College and the Tzahar (Tzfat, Hazor Haglilit and Rosh Pina) – Palm Beach Partnership – a Jewish Agency program, the main aim of which is to deepen the connection and collaboration between the communities.

The primary goal of the Research Center is to create universal theoretical applied knowledge from a variety of social science fields based on the sacred writings of Judaism, i.e., rabbinical, Talmudic and Biblical literature (for example: the Tanach, Talmud, Mussar, Kabbalah, halakha, Hassidism or similar). The research literature on the subject of religion and spirituality has increased significantly in recent decades and many researchers describe the contribution of religion and spirituality to people's lives in a variety of fields, such as improving and maintaining mental and physical health, treating mental illnesses and disorders, rehabilitation of law breakers and crime prevention. These studies are rarely based on the religious spiritual paradigm – a unique paradigm that offers special meanings, understandings and perspectives on being in the world. It should be noted that the intention is not to deal with religiosity or spirituality, but with the ability of the knowledge that exists in the writings of Judaism to relate to the central themes discussed in the social sciences (see for example: Ben Yair, 2020, 2021; Ishon, 2009; Levenson, 2012; Schwartz & Kaplan, 2004).

The Research Center invites researchers from recognized academic institutions in Israel and abroad (with at least a PhD degree) to present research proposals or proposals for articles that are appropriate for the Research Center's aim. The work should deal with any one of the fields of social science including criminology, psychology, social work, education, law, public administration or similar.





Research grant and its purpose

Amount of the grant – up to \$2000 for each of the four winning proposals.

This grant is designated for research purposes only, including editing and translation (in any event, it will not be given as a prize for salary purposes).

Submission guidelines

An anonymous abstract for the research proposal is to be sent to the Research Center (up to 600 words, not including appendices and an up-to-date reference list) including:

1. The research topic (in Hebrew and English)
2. Theoretical background
3. Rationale
4. Research aim
5. Research method
6. The importance of the research
7. At least 5 up-to-date references
8. Approval of an ethics committee (if necessary)
9. Details of expected research expenses
10. CV with details of the researcher/s, their academic status and affiliation, phone number and email is to be sent in the same email but in a separate file.

The research abstract including all the above is to be sent as a PDF file by June 20, 2021, to this email address: Researchjbss@gmail.com





Procedure for processing research proposals

1. The research proposals will be discussed in the Center's steering committee within one month at the latest from the final presentation date.
2. The research proposals will be selected by a majority vote of the steering committee members.
3. The committee's decision will be sent to the researchers within one month at the latest from the day a decision is made.
4. Among the criteria that will be examined: The degree of relevance (significant expression of the Research Center's aims), originality, innovation, detailed planning, applied ramifications.

The researcher will receive the research grant upon conclusion of the research, on condition of publication of an article in a peer-reviewed journal noting the contribution of the Research Center under its full name, **within one year of the winning announcement.**

Sincerely,

Dr. Yitzhak Ben Yair – Chair of the Research Center, Department of Behavioral Sciences, Zefat Academic College

Members of the Research Center's steering committee

Prof. Rinat Kitai-Sangero – Department of Law, Zefat Academic College

Prof. Natti Ronel – Department of Criminology, Bar Ilan University

Prof. Stephen Sussman – Department of Public Administration, Barry University, Florida

Rabbi Dr. Bnayahu Bronner – Head of the Beit Midrash, Zefat Academic College

Dr. Ithamar Theodor – Department of Mysticism and Spirituality, Zefat Academic College

