



## Call for Research and Study Group Convenors

The Executive Committee of the European Society for Rural Sociology (ESRS) formally invites applications from its membership to serve as **Convenors** for new or existing **Research and Study Groups (RSGs)**. The establishment of these groups is a strategic priority to foster continuous, focused scholarly collaboration on pivotal thematic or regional issues within rural sociology between the biennial ESRS conferences.

## Financial Subvention and Eligibility

The ESRS has provisioned an initial subvention fund of **€3000** dedicated to supporting the establishment and initial operational needs of the RSGs.

- **Anticipated Allocation:** We currently anticipate awarding an annual budget of **€750** to approximately four (4) successfully proposed groups. This disbursement is contingent upon the Executive Committee's annual fiscal review, the demonstrated scholarly necessity, and the total number of approved RSGs.
- **Non-Funded Applications:** We strongly welcome proposals to establish RSGs that do not require external financial support from the Society, thereby demonstrating robust self-sufficiency.

## Submission Requirements and Process

We encourage members to formalize existing scholarly activities or initiate new collaborative forums by applying to convene an RSG.

Interested applicants are required to submit the following documentation:

1. **Prospectus of Scholarly Activity:** A concise, **single-page prospectus** detailing the proposed thematic or regional focus, the group's objectives, and its anticipated scholarly activities for the initial two-year term. This document should be sent via email to Fatmanil Doner at [fdoner@poli.uned.es](mailto:fdoner@poli.uned.es).
2. **Budgetary Justification (For Funded Proposals Only):** Applicants seeking the annual subvention must include a **supplementary page** outlining the specific budgetary requirements and providing a clear justification for how the requested funds will be strategically utilized to advance the research agenda and activities of the group.

All proponents must ensure comprehensive compliance with the **formally mandated "Protocol of ESRS Research and Study Groups (2025)"** prior to submission.

## Key Dates for the Inaugural Call

| <b>Action</b>                                                      | <b>Deadline/ Date</b>   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Proposal submission</b>                                         | <b>30 January 2026</b>  |
| <b>Notification of decision</b>                                    | <b>23 February 2026</b> |
| <b>Second call for proposals (contingent on available funding)</b> | <b>JULY 2026</b>        |

The Executive Committee looks forward to reviewing your proposals and expanding the scholarly capacity of the Society.

Fatmanil Doner, On behalf of the ESRS Executive Committee