



### **Competition notice**

Project title: „Universal Basic Income (UBI) - contemporary variety of „panem et circenses”?”

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### **Project description**

The crisis of liberal democracy made answers to questions about the obligations of the authorities towards society more and more desirable. It is impossible not to reflect on the reasons for the weakened interest in the liberal model of democracy in the context of unmet needs and social expectations. Contrary to the aforementioned system model, which focuses above-average attention on the implementation of the rule of law, illiberal democracies, most often characterized by a populist tinge, which are gaining attention today, try to implement the principles of social justice. As a result, they can be perceived as better reading social problems and more reasonably responding to them. In the light of the above, it is necessary to consider such elements of the political system, both formal and informal, which may decide about its petrification and modernization. It is obvious that the elements that may be considered the most important may, on the one hand, influence the maintenance of the current shape of the political system, and, on the other hand, be determinants of systemic transitions, while the direction of these transitions remains another subject of research. One of such elements is the universal basic income (UBI), which, being an element of the socio-economic system, is also an extremely important element of the political system. It can influence the shape of this system, as well as its duration and possible changes. Therefore, it is necessary to analyze in detail the constitutional possibilities of implementing the UBI concept, as well as the possible consequences of its introduction, and in particular its failure to implement it. Bearing in mind that UBI is an economic and social idea, and that the wellbeing of citizens is a key factor in their social activity and influences social satisfaction, this study aims to read the correlation between socio-economic changes and systemic changes. A systemic view of UBI will allow us to see not only its advantages, but also disadvantages, which may constitute a kind of constitutional challenge, as not all economic and sociological aspirations can be achieved with the use of classic legal tools. Moreover, the constitutional perspective will make it possible to understand the importance of implementing economic ideas aimed at improving the life situation of citizens in the context of the third wave of de-democratization. Thanks to this, the study in question will be a significant contribution to the discussion, not only scientific but also social, about the causes of the constitutional crisis or the crisis of democracy as such, as well as ways to counteract this crisis. Although this analysis will be primarily of a systemic nature, it will nevertheless be based on an ethical foundation, resulting from the importance of the UBI for individuals and the entire political community in terms of social, and not only systemic. The aim of this study will be to discover such premises, both constitutional, systemic and ethical, which would indicate the obligation to implement the concept of UBI. Moreover, the aim of the

study is also to show the constitutional limitations resulting from the principles of the democratic regime, which do not allow for full translation of economic ideas into the provisions of statute law. This, in turn, will help to understand how the UBI can be used in illiberal democracies. The subject of this study will also be an indication of the possibility of implementing UBI in illiberal democracies and the consequences of such implementation, taking into account the democratic nature of the UBI phenomenon itself, which is raised in science. The analysis will focus not only on the contemporary view of the problem, but also on the comparison of the UBI concept with historical concepts of social satisfaction. To sum up, the necessity to bear public burdens should be distinguished from the necessity to bear political burdens. The method of introducing the UBI and its shape - complementarity with the systemic rules of democracy and basic constitutional values - have an impact on whether this concept and its functioning will lead to the petrification of a specific political system, or whether they will facilitate or even trigger its modernization. Therefore, there is no doubt that this study is extremely up-to-date, as it addresses pressing social problems resulting from the need to weigh particular interests, social interests and the interest of the state, as well as pressing systemic problems related to the extent of the need to satisfy the economic demands of citizens. Achieving social peace has both social and political value, therefore precise and reliable description of its determinants is necessary, and in the case of growing interest in populism, even obligatory.

### **Requirement**

- The Candidate must have an educational background in the field of law and political sciences.
- The Candidate must have comprehensive knowledge of constitutional law, as well as be interested in socio-economic and political issues.
- The Candidate should have at least basic knowledge of the idea of the Universal Basic Income and be interested in deepening this knowledge.
- The Candidate must be fluent in English, working knowledge of another relevant language would be an asset.
- It would be an advantage if the candidate had already published at least once in the field of constitutional Law and/or political sciences.

**Discipline:** Law

**Admission limit:** 1

### **Recruitment schedule**

- registration in the Internet Registration of Candidates, referred to as "IRK", submitting an application to the IRK: 7 - 22.09.2022
- qualification procedure:
- substantive assessment of the documents: 26.09.2022
- interview: 27.09.2022
- announcement of the ranking list: until 28.09.2022

- accepting documents from qualified candidates: 29.09.2022 to 15.00
- announcement of the list of accepted candidates: until 30.09.2022

### **Recruitment fee**

200 PLN

### **Form of the qualification proceedings**

Qualification proceedings include the assessment of the following items:

- 1) the research project proposed by a candidate;
- 2) the candidate's scientific activity, based on their CV or Resume, documented by scans of materials attached to the application for admission to the School;
- 3) an interview with the candidate;
- 4) other achievements.

### **Language of the selection process, including the interview**

The interview shall be carried out in Polish or English – in accordance with the candidate's preferences presented in IRK. If the Polish language is selected, the interview may include parts in English.

### **Required documents**

The candidate shall submit a School admission application only through the IRK. The application shall include the following:

- 1) indication of the selected discipline in which the candidate plans to pursue education or in the case of applying for the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School – fields of science with the specification of the leading field (and where there is no leading field – at least two equivalent disciplines), PESEL number or passport number, nationality, contact information (residence address, e-mail address, telephone number), information whether the candidate agrees to receive administrative decisions by means of electronic communication, consent for processing of personal data for the purposes of the admissions procedure;
- 2) a scan of the graduation diploma of uniform master's degree or postgraduate studies or an equivalent diploma obtained under separate regulations or has been approved by the Director in consultation with the qualification team to be considered for admission due to their exceptional, superior scientific achievements demonstrated to date. In the case of a diploma equivalent to a uniform master's degree or postgraduate studies graduation diploma, a candidate shall justify such equivalence. In case the diploma was issued in a language other than Polish or English, the candidate shall attach its certified translation;
- 3) a description of the initial research project proposal with the title, the description should not exceed 4 pages, type style: New Times Roman size min. 11, single leading, top and bottom margins min. 1,5 cm, outside margins min. 2cm;
- 4) a resume or CV outlining the candidate's scientific activity, including scholarly interests and achievements during the five calendar years preceding the application (if a candidate became a parent during this time, as evidenced by a scan of the child's birth certificate attached to the application, this period shall be extended by two years for each child), including, but not limited to:
  - publications,

- research and organizational work at student research groups,
  - participation in scientific conferences,
  - participation in research projects,
  - awards and honorable mentions,
  - research internships,
  - research skills training programs completed,
  - activities promoting science,
  - activity in science movement representative bodies,
  - average of their university grades,
  - professional career,
  - level of proficiency in foreign languages;
- 5) scans of materials evidencing scientific activity mentioned in their CV and/or resume;
  - 6) a document confirming at least B2 proficiency level in English or a declaration of the level of proficiency in English allowing education at the School;
  - 7) the scan of a declaration by the planned supervisor, confirming their agreement to undertake the duties of a supervisor and of the number of doctoral students, for whom they perform the duties a designated supervisor, in accordance with the template constituting Appendix no.4 to the Resolution no. 17 of the Senate of the University of Warsaw of 20th January 2021 on rules of admission to doctoral schools at the University of Warsaw (the University of Warsaw Monitor of 2021, item 142), the candidate may also attach a scan of their planned supervisor's opinion and opinions of other academics about the candidate and their scientific activity and/or proposed research project;
  - 8) the photograph of a candidate's face that allows for their identification;
  - 9) a declaration confirming whether the candidate was or is a doctoral student or a participant of doctoral studies or whether they have initiated a doctoral dissertation process or whether proceedings to award them a doctoral degree have been initiated – and if yes, the title of their doctoral dissertation or the research project prepared by a candidate, including the name and last name of the candidate's tutor or supervisor;
  - 10) a declaration confirming that they have reviewed the Resolution no. 17 of the Senate of the University of Warsaw of 20th January 2021 on rules of admission to doctoral schools at the University of Warsaw (the University of Warsaw Monitor of 2021, item 142) and Articles 40 and 41 of the Code of Administrative Procedure;

### **Evaluation criteria**

The competition may be entered by a person who does not have a doctoral degree and is not a doctoral school participant. The competition is conducted by a commission appointed by the head of the applicant entity where the research project will be carried out, composed of the project manager as the chairman and at least two persons designated by him with appropriate scientific or professional qualifications. The Commission evaluates the candidates on a point scale, taking into account the competences to carry out specific tasks in the research project and the candidate's current scientific achievements, developing a ranking of candidates on this basis according to the following criteria:

▪ competences to carry out specific tasks in the research project (70% of the final grade):

3 points very good;

2 points good;

1 point weak;

0 points no competence.

▪ candidate's scientific achievements, including publications in reputable publishing houses / scientific journals (30% of the final grade):

4 points distinguishing;

3 points very good;

2 point good;

1 point weak;

0 points no academic achievements.

The results of the competition are submitted to the National Science Center.

**Education program**

The education lasts 4 years. It includes obligatory classes (no more than 300 hours in total during the whole period of education) and the implementation of an individual research program, carried out under the supervision of a supervisor. Beginning of education – October 1, 2022.

**Scholarships**

During the four years of study, the PhD student receives a scholarship in the amount of PLN 5000 gross per month before a PhD student's mid-term evaluation and PLN 6000 gross per month after the PhD student's mid-term evaluation.