

Public Grant Opportunity for Research and Publication on

The Consequences of Trade Wars: Western Economies Under Pressure — Implications for Economic Competition and Free Trade in Times of Geopolitical Shift To A New Global Order

Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office, Ottawa, May 2026

Purpose: Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office seeks to enhance cooperation and dialogue between Germany, Canada and Europe through innovation, civil science, as well as in the areas of security, technology, climate change and migration. As #KAS4Security&Democracy being a priority for 2026, Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office will fund security, technology and democracy related scientific research and publications to its strategic objectives as outlined in its [website](#).

Grants under #KAS4Security&Democracy are provided at the sole discretion of Konrad Adenauer Foundation. This document underlines the financial and administrative procedures for the management of the grant and sets the general terms and conditions governing grants made under #KAS4Security&Democracy.

Before an application is submitted, general questions about the #KAS4Security grant should be addressed to info.canada@kas.de.

Process:

1. What does #KAS4Security&Democracy Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office Offer?

Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office will fund several different research throughout 2026. The grant will support collaborative applied research and development projects which must:

- address one or more of the topics underlined in the document as priority
- demonstrate a clear link to economic security, straightening democracy on defence and emerging disruptive technologies, such as AI audits impact in times of uncertainty
- demonstrate perspectives of the new global order of the middle powers
- establish a research collaboration between a minimum of one Canadian expert and one eligible EU member expert

And show evidence of:

- high quality research and development with clear resources,
- realistic objectives and results

-solid timelines, and deliverables,

-fair budget distribution to the research that is made and reflects the nature of the work and guarantees substantial involvement of researchers from both Canada and one EU member state

-collaboration between researchers, regular updates about the research and potential end-users of the results.

2. Budget Range

While the hard limits for the budget of different research can be discussed with KAS Canada office, a typical 6-month research project are in the 10,000-20,000CAD range. If your project requires more than 20,000CAD, please write an additional one-page abstract of your proposal justifying how the funds would be used with an estimated budget, to evaluate whether such a project fits in the overall portfolio of #KAS4Security&Democracy before a full application is developed.

3. Who can apply?

#KAS4Security&Democracy Public Grant is open to any researcher, public institution, think tank or institute who are based in Canada, and willing to work with Canadian and EU Member State researchers.

The principal applicants shall be called the “Research Director” and have their own budget allocated in the application. An application shall have no more than one Research Director per institution. The Research Director is responsible for the planning and progress of the work performed at their institution and works with the other appointed researchers or experts to ensure the success of the project.

Topics, Benefits:

1. Application and Evaluation

The topics for the grant are chosen and prioritized as:

The Consequences of Trade Wars: The Social Market Under Pressure — Implications for Economic Competition and Free Trade

2. Project Plan

The project plan should be outlined in a clear, transparent manner with timelines of the date of research, visits, the chosen researcher justification and resources.

All interested parties should submit their proposal by 10 July 2026 to info.canada@kas.de.

Contract Award and Finances:

1. Approval and Award

The approval and the selection of the proposed research project is at the discretion of the Director of Konrad Adenauer Canada Office and Konrad Adenauer Foundation Headquarters in general.

All chosen projects will be notified by the end of July 2026 and contacted for further planning. The chosen research projects will be announced in KAS Canada website. At the end of the November 2026, all chosen research projects will be published and showcased by Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office.

2. Reporting

The chosen project's "Research Director" should report every month to Konrad Adenauer Foundation Kanada Office management regarding the improvement, development and research of the project.

If there is a force majeure such as natural disaster, death and unexpected circumstances, the event shall be immediately reported to Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office management.

3. Timeline assessment and payment

After the initial award of the contract and chosen research projects, there will be a 10% payment of advance payment to the respective institutions.

The rest of the funding will be allocated after the publication of the chosen and justified research.

4. Project close out / changes to the project plan

The expected project finish date and timeline is foreseen as 14 November 2026. If there are immediate changes to the chosen and proposed project plan, please immediately report back to info.canada@kas.de.

If there is a force majeure such as natural disaster, death and unexpected circumstances, the event shall be immediately reported to Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office management.

5. Communication, Outreach and Distribution

All the outreach, communication and distribution of the research project mainly will be covered by Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office. The partner/collaborating institute should contact KAS Canada Management for further inquiries regarding communication purposes.

Example Questions to elaborate on:

- 1) What is the understanding of the social market economy?
- 2) What are the causes of trade wars today?
- 3) What are the economic consequences of trade wars?
- 4) What are the causes of disruptions to global supply chain?
- 5) What are the implications for free trade?
- 6) Why do trade wars increase political and social tensions?

**Public Grant Opportunity for Research and Publication on
Platform Economies and Their Impact on the Stability of Democracy and the Social Market
Economy**

Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office, Ottawa, May 2026

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- establish a research collaboration between a minimum of one Canadian expert and one eligible EU member expert

And show evidence of:

- high quality research and development with clear resources,
- realistic objectives and results
- solid timelines, and deliverables,

-fair budget distribution to the research that is made and reflects the nature of the work and guarantees substantial involvement of researchers from both Canada and one EU member state

-collaboration between researchers, regular updates about the research and potential end-users of the results.

2. Budget Range

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Topics, Benefits:

1. Application and Evaluation

The topics for the grant are chosen and prioritized as:

Platform Economies and Their Impact on the Stability of Democracy and the Social Market Economy

2. Project Plan

The project plan should be outlined in a clear, transparent manner with timelines of the date of research, visits, the chosen researcher justification and resources.

All interested parties should submit their proposal by 10 July 2026 to info.canada@kas.de.

Contract Award and Finances:

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5. Communication, Outreach and Distribution

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Example Questions to elaborate on:

- 1) What is platform economy, and how does it differ from traditional economic models?
- 2) How do platform economies challenge the principles of the social market economy?
- 3) Can small businesses compete fairly within platform economies?
- 4) Can digital platforms manipulate public opinion or elections?
- 5) How do global platform companies influence national sovereignty?
- 6) Are platform economies a threat to democracy?

Public Grant Opportunity for Research and Publication on

**Economic Resilience for the *Global West*: Canada's Role in Energy Security and Ensuring
Prosperity for Europe and North America**

Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office, Ottawa, May 2026

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And show evidence of:

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- realistic objectives and results
- solid timelines, and deliverables,

-fair budget distribution to the research that is made and reflects the nature of the work and guarantees substantial involvement of researchers from both Canada and one EU member state

-collaboration between researchers, regular updates about the research and potential end-users of the results.

2. Budget Range

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3. Who can apply?

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Topics, Benefits:

1. Application and Evaluation

The topics for the grant are chosen and prioritized as:

Economic Resilience for the *Global West*: Canada's Role in Energy Security and Ensuring Prosperity for Europe and North America

2. Project Plan

The project plan should be outlined in a clear, transparent manner with timelines of the date of research, visits, the chosen researcher justification and resources.

All interested parties should submit their proposal by 10 July 2026 to info.canada@kas.de.

Contract Award and Finances:

1. Approval and Award

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2. Reporting

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3. Timeline assessment and payment

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4. Project close out / changes to the project plan

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5. Communication, Outreach and Distribution

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Example Questions to elaborate on:

- 1) What is economic resilience, and why is it important for modern economies?
- 2) Why is energy security considered essential for economic stability?
- 3) How does Canada contribute to energy security in North America and Europe?
- 4) What are Canada's major energy resources?
- 5) What challenges limit Canada's ability to export more energy to Europe?
- 6) Can Canada balance energy expansion with climate goals?
- 7) How do global conflicts affect energy markets and economic resilience?

Public Grant Opportunity for Research and Publication on
The Future of the USMCA Agreement: Implications for Germany and Europe
Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office, Ottawa, May 2026

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- establish a research collaboration between a minimum of one Canadian expert and one eligible EU member expert
- demonstrate perspectives of the new global order of the middle powers.

And show evidence of:

- high quality research and development with clear resources,
- realistic objectives and results
- solid timelines, and deliverables,

-fair budget distribution to the research that is made and reflects the nature of the work and guarantees substantial involvement of researchers from both Canada and one EU member state

-collaboration between researchers, regular updates about the research and potential end-users of the results.

2. Budget Range

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3. Who can apply?

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Topics, Benefits:

1. Application and Evaluation

The topics for the grant are chosen and prioritized as:

The Future of the USMCA Agreement: Implications for Germany and Europe

2. Project Plan

The project plan should be outlined in a clear, transparent manner with timelines of the date of research, visits, the chosen researcher justification and resources.

All interested parties should submit their proposal by 10 July 2026 to info.canada@kas.de.

Contract Award and Finances:

1. Approval and Award

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3. Timeline assessment and payment

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The rest of the funding will be allocated after the publication of the chosen and justified research.

4. Project close out / changes to the project plan

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5. Communication, Outreach and Distribution

All the outreach, communication and distribution of the research project mainly will be covered by Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office. The partner/collaborating institute should contact KAS Canada Management for further inquiries regarding communication purposes.

Example Questions to elaborate on:

- 1) What is the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA), and why was it created?
- 2) How does the USMCA affect global trade patterns?
- 3) What economic opportunities does the USMCA create for North America?
- 4) Does the USMCA create challenges for European manufacturers?
- 5) How important are stable transatlantic relations for Germany and Europe?
- 6) How does the USMCA address digital trade and e-commerce?
- 7) What are the biggest challenges facing the future of the USMCA?
- 8) Is the USMCA beneficial for the global economy?

**Public Grant Opportunity for Research and Publication on
Partnership with the EU or Membership? Future Options for Canada
Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office, Ottawa, May 2026**

Purpose: Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office seeks to enhance cooperation and dialogue between Germany, Canada and Europe through innovation, civil science, as well as in the areas of security, technology, climate change and migration. As #KAS4Security&Democracy being a priority for 2026, Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office will fund security, technology and democracy related scientific research and publications to its strategic objectives as outlined in its [website](#).

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- demonstrate a clear link to security, defence and emerging disruptive technologies
- establish a research collaboration between a minimum of one Canadian expert and one eligible EU member expert

And show evidence of:

- high quality research and development with clear resources,
- realistic objectives and results
- solid timelines, and deliverables,
- fair budget distribution to the research that is made and reflects the nature of the work and guarantees substantial involvement of researchers from both Canada and one EU member state

-collaboration between researchers, regular updates about the research and potential end-users of the results.

2. Budget Range

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3. Who can apply?

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Topics, Benefits:

1. Application and Evaluation

The topics for the grant are chosen and prioritized as:

Partnership with the EU or Membership? Future Options for Canada

2. Project Plan

The project plan should be outlined in a clear, transparent manner with timelines of the date of research, visits, the chosen researcher justification and resources.

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Contract Award and Finances:

1. Approval and Award

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2 Timeline assessment and payment

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3 Project close out / changes to the project plan

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4 Communication, Outreach and Distribution

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Example Questions to elaborate on:

- 1) What would a closer partnership between European Union and Canada look like beyond current trade agreements?
- 2) Could Canada realistically become a member of the EU despite being geographically outside Europe?
- 3) How compatible are Canadian political values with EU institutions and governance?
- 4) What global trends might push Canada closer to Europe in the coming decades?
- 5) Would Canadians support deeper political integration with Europe?

Public Grant Opportunity for Research and Publication on

“Agenda 2026: What challenges does Canadian politics face, and what role does Europe play in this context?”

Konrad Adenauer Foundation Canada Office, Ottawa, May 2026

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Topics, Benefits:

1. Application and Evaluation

The topics for the grant are chosen and prioritized as:

“Agenda 2026: What challenges does Canadian politics face, and what role does Europe play in this context?”

2. Project Plan

The project plan should be outlined in a clear, transparent manner with timelines of the date of research, visits, the chosen researcher justification and resources.

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5. Communication, Outreach and Distribution

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Example Questions to elaborate on:

- 1) How are economic pressures shaping Canadian political priorities?
- 2) How is political polarization affecting democratic debate in Canada?
- 3) What challenges does Canada face in balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability?
- 4) How has the trade agreement between Canada and the European Union influenced Canadian politics and business?
- 5) How important is NATO cooperation for Canada's security strategy?
- 6) What political challenges arise from balancing climate goals with resource-based industries?