Short proposal

NEXT – Rethink Neurodegeneration!

< These grey text passages are explanations for you, and you should delete them before submitting your short proposal. Please adhere to the following guidelines when preparing and submitting your short proposal:

* This short proposal must be submitted **anonymously**. Please avoid any direct or indirect references that could reveal your identity (e.g., names, institutions, specific publications, funding sources, locations, logos, or acknowledgments).
* Retain the standard **formatting** of this document and ensure it does not exceed **four pages** including optional figures and references.
* All other project specific information (e.g. abstract, keywords) should be entered directly into the corresponding fields on the funding platform.>

Title

Your title

The Idea in a Nutshell

<Summarize the idea of the project in no more than 50 words.>

Your text

Brief Project Description (~1 page)

<Briefly describe your project including objectives, key hypotheses, methodology, and implementation. Keep the anonymity in mind and avoid citing your own work if it clearly identifies you. If necessary, use neutral phrasing or mark with "[reference omitted for anonymity]”.>

Your text

Fit to the Funding Initiative (~1 page)

<Explain why your project aligns with this funding initiative by addressing the following aspects:

* **Exploratory nature:** Which uncharted path are you taking in your project (conceptually and methodologically)? How does your research position itself within the current state-of-the-art, and how does it rethink established paradigms?
* **Impact:** What is the potential impact of your project and where does it go beyond incremental advances? What paradigm shift do you expect?
* **Risk:** What makes your approach high-risk (conceptually or methodologically)? What are the factors beyond your control that could lead to failure?

Keep the anonymity in mind and avoid citing your own work if it clearly identifies you. If necessary, use neutral phrasing or mark with "[reference omitted for anonymity]”.>

Your text

Research Team (max. 0.5 pages)

<Explain why your team is uniquely qualified to carry out this project. What relevant expertise does the team offer? What motivates you to pursue high-risk, interdisciplinary research? What past experiences (in general terms) support your capacity to rethink established paradigms? Do not include names, affiliations, or detailed CV-like information. Use **anonymized**, general descriptions (e.g., “the team includes expertise in xyz”).>

Your text

Brief Expenditure Plan

<Provide a brief overview of the required funding for the whole project (PI and Co-PIs), broken down by the categories in the table. Overheads do not need to be included, as they are not relevant at this stage. Please ensure that your description remains anonymous. Do not include any institutional names or personal identifiers.>

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Brief description** | **Required funding (EUR)** |
| Research staff | <e.g. 2 Postdocs, 2 PhDs> Your text |  |
| Other staff | <e.g. 1 technician> Your text |  |
| Travel costs | <e.g. 3 conferences, 2 workshops> Your text |  |
| Equipment/instrumentation | <e.g. 1 microscope> Your text |  |
| Other research funds | <e.g. consumables, analyses> Your text |  |
| Publication costs | <e.g. 5 open access publications> Your text |  |
| **Total required funds** |  |

References (max. 0.5 pages)

<Cite a few selected key publications (any style is fine). Please avoid self-citations that would reveal your identity. If referencing your own work is essential, anonymize with “[reference omitted for anonymity]”.>

Your text