

Daniel  
Carasso  
Fellowship  
call for  
nominations  
2023

# Daniel Carasso Fellowship for research committed to sustainable food systems and diets

## call for nominations 2023

The Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso awards the Daniel Carasso Fellowship to outstanding postdoctoral researchers engaged in the promotion of sustainable food systems. The Fellowship consists of a research career development grant to carry out a research project at a Spanish university or research centre, whether public or private non-profit, for a two-year period.

## Deadline 10 March 2023 14 h UTC+1

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# About the Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso

## Who we are

The Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso (hereafter the Foundation) is a family foundation established in 2010, placed under the aegis of the Fondation de France. The Foundation is active in two focus areas: Sustainable Food, for universal access to healthy food that is safe for people and ecosystems; and Art & Citizenship, to develop critical thinking and reinforce social bonds.

We aspire to a transformation for a greener, more inclusive and fulfilling society. We believe in a society where people and the Earth are the core focus, and where engagement and caring are encouraged. In our view, Art & Citizenship and Sustainable Food contribute to this desirable future by allowing everyone to take action at their own level and together, to bring about change.

The Foundation supports projects in France and Spain by providing financial resources (grants and impact investments); leveraging human resources (expertise, assistance, training, networking); and designing and developing actions (programmes, events and publications). To foster the emergence of innovative solutions, we support a broad diversity of people and projects along the transition pathway, thereby encouraging interaction between disciplines and approaches. Through our support for mediation and citizen participation, we build bridges between individuals to nurture curiosity and encourage engagement. Driven by social impact, we base our action on research, empirical knowledge, experimentation, evaluation and shared learning.

## Our vision of sustainable food systems

The Foundation is committed to the transition towards sustainable food systems to ensure healthy diets while safeguarding the planet's resources. Far from being a common good like any other, our diets lie at a crossroads of multiple (im)balances. Food-related decisions, from production to consumption, have an impact on our ecosystem as a whole, from the loss of biodiversity, to global warming and inequalities. Food is also a decisive factor on our health, marked by the persistence of malnutrition, the increase in obesity and the prevalence of non-communicable diseases linked to inadequate nutrition. Rethinking our food systems can enable us to design more diversified landscapes, capture carbon, forge social relationships and economic cooperation, promote healthy living and ensure well-being and improve employment.

Sustainable food systems build on more sustainable practices, from the farm or sea to fork, to provide universal access to sustainable food,

healthy for people and respectful of ecosystems. This requires a systemic approach towards the “food value chain” - the core element of all food systems - from the different dimensions of sustainability (environmental, social, economic and health). Our vision of food systems involves, therefore, interactions between all the elements (environment, people, inputs, processes, infrastructures and institutions) and activities related to the production, extraction, processing, distribution, preparation and consumption of food, and the outputs of these activities.

## supporting researchers at the forefront of the transition

The paradigm shift in food systems requires us to boost knowledge and to identify feasible solutions for feeding the world in the future, as well as calling for dialogue and collaboration between stakeholders and researchers from different backgrounds and academic disciplines. A better understanding of the ecological, socio-economic and nutritional challenges and mechanisms of food and agriculture, and the links between them, is essential to guide this transition. To this end, we support the generation and diffusion of knowledge promoting a global vision of how to guide the transition towards sustainable food, and enabling evidence-based advocacy. Examples of the Foundation’s support for research include IPES-Food, an international expert panel developing new ways of thinking about sustainable food systems; the UNESCO Chair in World Food Systems, run by a network of researchers in both France and across the globe to generate and disseminate knowledge on sustainable food systems; and Alimentta, a think-tank consisting of professionals from different disciplines, working together to generate expert knowledge that facilitates the transition to a more resilient and equitable food system in Spain.

In this framework, the Daniel Carasso Fellowship aims to encourage scientists to undertake research projects looking at food systems as a whole. Hence, there is a need to break down silos between disciplines and tackle the various dimensions of sustainability in a more holistic and integrated way, in order to help other stakeholders and decisionmakers develop pioneering solutions.

# About the Daniel Carasso Fellowship

The Fellowship bears the name of Daniel Carasso, a generous, imaginative, rigorous, and visionary person, concerned with the public's well-being throughout his life. Marina Nahmias, Daniel Carasso's daughter, created an award in his honour to distinguish scientists who reflect these values.

The spirit underlying the award is to encourage outstanding researchers dedicated to promoting sustainable food systems and diets through the application of interdisciplinary and multidimensional approaches. Their research should combine several of the environmental, economic, social and nutritional dimensions of sustainability, addressed together.

During the first three editions the initiative entailed a prize. The Premio Daniel Carasso was aimed at mid-career researchers, to help them inspire junior researchers to undertake transdisciplinary approaches to the study of food systems' sustainability. The awardees were:

- **Jessica Fanzo** (2012), Professor of Global Food and Agricultural Policy and Ethics at the Johns Hopkins University (USA).
- **Tara Garnett** (2015), Researcher from the Food Climate Research Network at the University of Oxford (United Kingdom).
- **Jane Battersby** (2017), Researcher at the African Centre for Cities and African Food Security Urban Network at the University of Cape Town (South Africa).

The award has been reformulated to focus on young researchers in the form of a fellowship. The Daniel Carasso Fellowship is aimed at early-stage researchers to support the consolidation of their experience and the development of their scientific careers. In particular, the Fellowship targets excellent young researchers who wish to carry out their research project at a Spanish university or research centre, whether public or private non-profit. It provides a research career development grant that comprises funding for salary and research activities by the awardee for a two-year period. The Fellowship will be granted on a competitive basis through a two-stage selection process.

In addition to supporting talented early-stage researchers in their scientific careers, the ultimate objective of this fellowship programme is to develop a community of researchers over the years that jointly commits to efforts to lead the transition towards sustainable food systems.

The call for nominations for the Daniel Carasso Fellowship will be issued every two years. This edition the Foundation will award two fellowships.

In the first edition of the Daniel Carasso Fellowship, held in 2021, the two selected researchers were:

- **Raquel Ajates:** Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and PhD studies in Food Policy, she joined the National University of Distance Education (UNED) as a researcher to carry out a project on seed policies, focusing on their sustainability and the impact of the digitisation of

phylogenetic resources.

- **Daniel Gaitán:** Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Ecology and PhD studies in Sustainability metrics for agri-food supply chains, he continued his work as a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology of the Autonomous University of Barcelona (ICTA-UAB) with a project on sustainable public food procurement.

The Fellowship is granted by the Fundació Delegació de la Fondation de France en España, which represents the Fundació Daniel y Nina Carasso in Spain. The Fellowship's secretariat is located in Madrid (Spain).

## call for nominations

### Eligibility

The Daniel Carasso Fellowship targets talented early-career researchers committed to sustainable food systems and diets. Nominees to the Fellowship must fulfil the following criteria:

- Researchers of any nationality with 2 - 7 years of research experience after completing their PhD. This means that the date of their doctoral thesis defences should fall between 18 January, 2016 and 18 January, 2021. Notwithstanding the above, nominees whose date of PhD completion is outside this timeframe, due to justified reasons, will be also considered:
  - Birth, adoption or permanent foster care: extension of one year per child.
  - Temporary incapacity of at least three months due to illness, accident or other justified causes: extension of the number of months of medical leave.
  - Leave of absence of at least three months to care for dependent persons: extension of the justified period.
- Researchers from any area of study with an outstanding track record and who are contributing actively to the transition to the sustainability of food systems through the application of interdisciplinary and multi-dimensional approaches (e.g., agronomy, biology, health sciences, social sciences, art, engineering, architecture, etc.).

### Nomination process

The Fundació Daniel y Nina Carasso invites established researchers (i.e., tenured professor, full professor, tenured scientist or equivalents) at Spanish universities or research centres (public or private non-profit) to nominate candidates. Nominators undertake to provide the necessary means for the awardee's integration into a research group.

The rules establish that a nominator can only nominate one candidate,

and each candidate can only be nominated by one nominator. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

The application may be submitted until 10 March, 2023 (14:00h UTC+1) on the [online platform](#). Nominators must register on the online platform and submit the following information:

- A) The online application form
- B) The following documents:
  1. Curriculum vitae of the nominee (free format in Word or PDF).
  2. Document certifying approval of the nominee's doctoral thesis.
  3. A list and brief summary (Word or PDF) of between 5 and 10 publications, whether printed (books, scientific reviews, journal articles, and general interest magazine) or electronic (web-based, audio, video, multimedia, etc.).
  4. A PDF copy of each publication (3MB maximum per file). If it is not possible to upload your publications via the Internet, for technical reasons, please send them by email to the secretariat before the application deadline.
  5. Research project (maximum 4 pages)
  6. A nomination letter written and signed by the nominator stating the grounds on which the nomination is based and explaining how the scientific and academic career development of the fellow will be supported and enhanced (i.e., teaching tasks, ongoing and planned research projects within the group, etc.), as well as the synergies of his/her lines of research with those of the group he/she joins.
  7. Two letters of recommendation from researchers with whom the nominee has worked or collaborated on a professional level.

Please note that the form and the documents must be submitted in English.

Incomplete applications or documents received after the deadline will not be considered.

## Evaluation criteria

The evaluation criteria will take into account the background and profile of the researcher, as well as the proposed research project, which is to involve a systemic approach to sustainable food systems and diets.

### For the candidate

- The originality and relevance of his or her scientific contribution to the topics studied and the approaches applied in the field of sustainable food systems and diets.
- Scientific publications (i.e., peer review articles, book chapters, etc.) and presentations in international conferences related to sustainability of food systems.
- Pre- and / or post-doctoral research experience in countries other than the candidate's country of origin.
- Previous experience on research projects carried out in France and Spain.
- Proven leadership skills, capacity for networking, and collective

- work (contribution to creating, organizing, leading and developing researchers' communities around important topics.)
- Capacity for dissemination and advocacy outside the scientific sphere contributing to the transition towards sustainable food systems (i.e., participation as an expert on committees, etc.).
- Advocacy, mobilization and commitment to human well-being. Proven interest and ability to engage with and spread messages to other actors, including, specifically, policymakers.
- Knowledge transfer generating social value (i.e., collaboration with non-profit entities or public administrations).
- Recognitions and awards.

### **For the research project**

- Impact on the transition towards sustainable food systems overall and with a special focus in Spain.
- The application of systemic, interdisciplinary and participatory approaches.
- The generation of new approaches and ways of thinking.
- Contribution to science and society through the generation of new approaches and ways of thinking.

## selection process

Applications will be reviewed by the Fellowship Secretariat to verify compliance with the eligibility criteria. In the event of rejection, nominators will be notified via email of the grounds for the refusal.

Eligible candidatures will be incorporated into the selection process, which involves two steps: the pre-selection of candidates by a committee of experts (Fellowship Committee), and the selection of the awardee by a jury. The selection process will take into account gender and diversity criteria.

### **1 Preselection of candidates**

A Fellowship Committee will complete the pre-selection of six candidates based on the abovementioned evaluation criteria. The Fellowship Committee shall include six to eight international researchers from different fields and Foundation representatives. The number of members can be increased depending on the number of the proposals to be evaluated, but shall be no less than six. The preselection will be made in accordance to the following marking scheme:

- Curriculum Vitae of the nominee (up to 60 points)
- Research project (up to 40 points)

### **2 Selection of the awardees**

A Jury will select the two awardees from amongst the candidates preselected.

The selection process is based on individual interviews (online or face-to-face) in which each candidate presents their motivation and research project, and then answers questions from the members of the jury. The objective of the interviews is to assess the candidates' communication,

critical thinking and leadership skills. In particular, interpersonal and inter-organizational cooperation skills, and the ability to motivate and speak in favour of sustainable food and diets, to promote a network of ambassadors on the topic, will be valued.

Should the interview be conducted face-to-face in Madrid, pre-selected candidates will be informed well in advance. The Foundation would bear the costs of transport and accommodation.

The Jury is comprised of:

- A member of the Foundation's board
- The Executive Director of the Foundation
- Five experts from different disciplines

Both Fellowship Committee and Jury members will clearly express any links to applicants at the beginning of the process, and potential conflicts of interests will be dealt with appropriately by the Presidents of the Committee and Jury.

## Award

The award is comprised of a unique piece of artwork, created by Jaume Plensa just for this purpose, and funding in the amount of 160,000 euros, distributed as follows:

- 120,000 euros to cover the salary of the awardee over a period of 24 months. This amount includes gross salary, labour costs and other potential indirect costs.
- 40,000 euros to support research activities (i.e., equipment, research support staff, travel costs, registration fees and other costs related to the project). If part of this budget is used to hire a research assistant, the Foundation would like to participate in the selection process.

The grant will be transferred to the host university / research centre through an agreement between the centre and the Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso.

## Terms and conditions

The Daniel Carasso Fellowship is incompatible with any other fellowship or job position covering the fellow's salary costs.

The host institution undertakes to hire the awardee in accordance with the conditions defined by the relevant legislation. The awardee will carry out the research activities full time at the host centre as principal investigator of the project financed under this grant. Without prejudice to the research activity, the awardee may carry out teaching tasks, with the approval of the centre and after duly notifying the Foundation.

The deadline for the incorporation of the Daniel Carasso Fellow at the host institution is flexible and will be agreed to between the parties.

All publications derived from the activities of the research project will mention the Daniel Carasso Fellowship and the Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso in their acknowledgments.

The awardee must draft an intermediate and final scientific technical and financial report to facilitate the monitoring of his or her activities by the Foundation.

## Commitments of the awardees

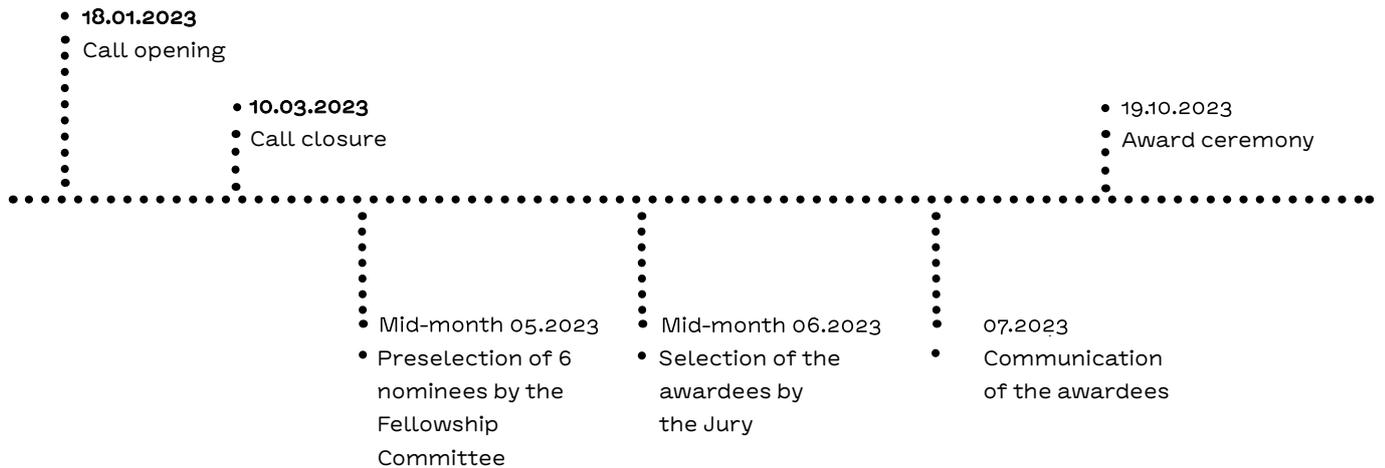
Award ceremony and communication:

- The awardees must commit to participate in the award ceremony and to speak briefly about his/her research work.
- The winners of the 2023 Daniel Carasso Fellowship will be announced to the scientific and general-interest media so as to publicize the Fellowship. The Foundation retains full copyright and ownership rights over all the public relations materials it produces (audio-video recordings, publications, on-line conferences, web site content, etc.). The awardees authorize the foundation to communicate, for non-profit purposes, regarding his / her research on sustainable food systems. Before publishing any document related to public relations, the Foundation will submit it to the awardee for prior approval.

Collaboration with the Foundation:

- The awardees are to become ambassadors for the Foundation and sustainable food systems, and will be invited to participate in the Foundation's activities: taking part in events organized or supported by the Foundation as a speaker or moderator; participating in the Foundation's public relations activities related to sustainable food systems, the Daniel Carasso Fellowship and, to a lesser extent, the Foundation's other projects (press relations, reports, public relations, etc.). The awardees will be asked to participate up to three times a year, with prior notice of at least two months. The Foundation will pay for all expenses the fellow may incur while fulfilling his role as ambassadors.
- The Daniel Carasso Fellows undertakes to help build and to become part of a community of young researchers that guide the transition towards sustainable food systems. The Foundation will encourage the awardees from the Premio Daniel Carasso and the Daniel Carasso Fellowship to collaborate to develop this community.

# Timeline



## Data protection

In accordance with Organic Law 3/2018 of 5 December on the Protection of Personal Data and the Safeguarding of Digital Rights, and (EU) Regulation 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, your personal data will be processed by Fundación Delegación de la Fondation de France en España, with tax identification number W0017074F, for the purpose of evaluating the application for the Daniel Carasso Fellowship, as well as sending you information about the Foundation that may be of interest to you, provided that you expressly authorise it.

You may exercise your access, rectification, suppression and other rights set out in the abovementioned regulations by sending a written request to: C/ Piamonte 23, 28004, Madrid, or to the e-mail address [contacto@fundacioncarasso.org](mailto:contacto@fundacioncarasso.org), attaching a photocopy of your national ID or equivalent document. You can request additional information about how we process your data by writing to the abovementioned e-mail address.

# Contact Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso

The present rules can be downloaded

from the [Foundation's website](#)

## For further information

Please contact the Foundation  
by phone or e-mail, specifying in the subject  
“Daniel Carasso Fellowship 2023”

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