

ORGANISMO | ART IN APPLIED CRITICAL ECOLOGIES TERMS & CONDITIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM & THE *SUSTRATO* SCHOLARSHIP

01. PRESENTATION

Organismo | Art in Applied Critical Ecologies (hereafter referred to as Organismo) is a platform of multiple collaborators dedicated to research, mediation, and co-creation of transformative actions in response to the challenges of the ecological crisis.

Organismo is an independent study program established as a joint initiative of Fundación TBA21 and the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza (hereinafter the Organizers), to explore other methodologies and configurations of actors in processes of ecological transformation.

The program is organized around a series of applied case studies, activated through partnerships with various agents and approached through artistic practices aligned with Organismo's objectives.

02. PURPOSE

The present open call, in line with the principles of transparency, equality, and fairness of the involved entities, aims to form a study group of up to 30 members to participate in the Year One of the independent study program with the following objectives:

- A) Promote research, reflection, and design of actors configurations that positions artistic practice as a driving force to foster new social visions for ecological regeneration.
- B) Encourage the inclusion of artistic practices in the negotiation, ideation, and design of initiatives aimed at sociocultural transformations, and advocate for policies that are demanded by current crises.
- C) Facilitate connections between actors from different disciplines and their associated contexts, developing practices aligned with those proposed by Organismo in response to the ecological crisis.
- D) Promote the connection between actors and related cases in different locations that can inform and mutually enrich each other.
- E) Provide participants with theoretical, creative, and relational support contexts, as well as educational resources to facilitate the creative process.
- F) Facilitate the conditions to enable complexity in processes of multiple voices and collective creation.

03. FOR WHOM IS INTENDED

This call is directed at individuals of legal age, with no requirement for formal qualifications or curriculum justification, who have an interest in the proposed interdisciplinary approach and/or experience related to the research lines and case studies to be developed.

Each candidate must select a single case study in their application, choosing it as their primary option, and a second choice from the 5 options listed in the call. Between 5 and 6 participants will be selected per case study, resulting

in a total of 25 to 30 spots for the Year One edition of the independent study program.

04. REQUIREMENTS

All participants must meet all requirements. Non-compliance implies the candidate's exclusion from the selection process:

- Applicants must be over 18 years of age.
- An effective comprehension of both Spanish and English, and proficiency in expression in at least one of both languages is required.
- Only individuals may apply; applications made by legal entities or other entities without legal personhood will not be considered.

05. DURATION, STRUCTURE, AND ATTENDANCE

This program has a duration of eight months, spanning from October 24, 2024, to June 20, 2025, in a hybrid format that combines online sessions with a series of in-person encounters. Participants must be committed to attend all of them following their particular specifications. In chronological order, these are:

The first in-person opening encounter of Organismo Year One is scheduled for October 25 and 26, 2024, from 10:00 to 19:00 CET, at the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza in Madrid. The potential expenses to cover the travels and accommodation to attend to this first in person encounter will not be covered by the Organizers.

The study and didactic exploration phase of the program's various research lines—Convivial Conservation, Ecologies of Peace, Ecologies of Technologies, Rights of the More-than-Human—, will consist of a series of online sessions driven by a selection of guest speakers. They will take place from October 29, 2024, to February 12, 2025, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 18:00-19:30 CET.

The site research, study and exploration phase will occur between February and April 2025, in online sessions held on Tuesday and/or Wednesday evenings from 18:00-19:30 CET. The sessions in February, named as case design phase, will be determinant for the definition of the dynamic agreements among the case members. Between February and March 2025, the case study trips will be made on dates agreed upon during the case design phase. The case study trip will be covered by the Organizers, following the travel guidelines which are referred to in Section 10: Travel Expenses Covered by Fundación TBA21. The autonomous case development phase, from April to June 2025, will conclude with a presentation session of the results and evaluation of the case studies in June 2025.

After the Year One of Organismo has come to an end, during the month of July 2025, an online selection of materials resulting from the research process carried out collectively by the participants of the different case studies will be prepared and delivered to the Organizers. After being reviewed by the Organizers, it will be subsequently showcased in an online platform hosted by Fundación TBA21. The Organizers keep the right not to publish the results in all or in part, at their own discretion.

Commitment to participating in all the aforementioned sessions, as well as to the rest of activities and tasks mentioned above, is required of all participants of the program. Participation in the in-person workshop on October 25 and 26, 2024, in Madrid; the online case design workshops on

February 18, 19, 25, and 26, 2025; and the case study trip in February-March 2025, are mandatory. Absence from these sessions will imply the participant's termination, except for justified cause. Participants also commit to taking part in the public closing presentation of the program year in June 2025, either in person or online, on a date to be defined.

To participate in the program, continued attendance at Organismo's proposed sessions is necessary. In the case of continuous absence that prevents satisfying 70% attendance, the participant will be ceased from the program. A weekly commitment of 5 hours is estimated for proper follow-up of the study program.

The aforementioned sessions will be accompanied by Organismo's public program in person encounters that are open to a general public, as a way to generate spaces of exchange with an expanded audience. They will happen on Tuesdays or Wednesdays at 18.30-20.00h CET from November 2024 to June 2025 in the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza and at other locations in the city of Madrid. The in person assistance to the public program sessions of Organismo is optional, but the subsequent viewing of the recording of the sessions is necessary.

Participants of the independent study program will have access to audiovisual recordings of both the in person and online session in case they cannot attend.

The communication between the selected participants with the Organizers, case study promoters and collaborators, invited guests and artists, and any other figure involved in the program, as well as among the actual participants, will happen through the provided digital infrastructure of Synology, unless otherwise agreed in any particular case. The session recordings, bibliographical materials and any other type of content relevant to the program or to the case studies will be accessible through the Synology platform. The participants will receive their credentials at the beginning of the program.

All dates are subject to change for organizational reasons. If any changes occur, participants will be informed as soon as possible.

06. SELECTION PROCESS

A) Application Questionnaire and Deadline

All those interested in participating in the program and that meet the established requirements must submit their application to the open call before September 29, 2024, at 23:59h. Applicants must send a PDF of up to three pages to the email address organismo.info@tba21.org with all the required information and their answers to the questions found in the Annex at the end of this document. Additionally, they may share a presentation video of up to 2 minutes and/or an image-oriented document of up to 5 pages in order to present visual work. If applying for the *Sustrato* scholarship, applicants must include their responses to the corresponding additional questions, which may extend their application by one more page. All files' total weight should not exceed 15 MB in size. Responses may be provided in either Spanish or English.

B) Selection Process Stages

The selection process will consist of two stages:

Pre-selection: The Evaluation Committee (as described in the paragraph C of this point) will review the received applications and discard those that do not meet all the requirements. A pre-selection will be made from the remaining applications, and the pre-selected candidates will be contacted for an online interview. The unselected candidates will be equally contacted via email. Communication will be made via email by October 2, 2024.

Final Selection: After the interviews, which will take place on October 4, 7, 8 and 9, 2024, the Evaluation Committee will select the candidates that best meet the evaluation criteria established in this open call.

The Evaluation Committee will notify the finally selected candidates and the candidates who have received the *Sustrato* scholarship via email by October 14, 2024. The selected candidates are required to send a confirmation of their participation to the email address organismo.info@tba21.org before October 16, 2024. In case any selected candidate does not confirm the participation in the program by October 16, 2024, the Organizers reserve their right to find an alternative candidate for the program. This alternative candidate would be informed via email by October 17. The confirmation email would be required by October 18, 2024. Those candidates who after the selection process have finally not been selected for the program will be also contacted via mail to inform about this decision.

Once the selection is announced, participants must make the payment following the stipulations in section 7 of this document. Failure to make the payment by the specified date will be considered as the participant's rejection of their place in the program. The selection of the final participant group will be communicated privately to each participant via email.

The planned dates for the selection interviews or for notifying the selected candidates may change for organizational reasons. In such a case, candidates will be informed as soon as possible via email.

The decision of the Evaluation Committee will be final and non-appealable. The Organizers reserve the right not to award all the *Sustrato* scholarships announced, if recommended by the Evaluation Committee.

C) The Evaluation Committee

Fundación TBA21 and the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza will establish an Evaluation Committee whose objective will be to carry out the selection process detailed in this document. This Committee will consist of at least three members: at least two people from the Organismo governance structure and at least one person from the external collaborating entities for each case study. The acceptance of candidates, as well as their exclusion for non-compliance with requirements, is solely within the competence of the Evaluation Committee.

Each and every decision of the Evaluation Committee will be based solely on its discretion and cannot be appealed.

D) Evaluation Criteria

The applications submitted will be examined by the Evaluation Committee based on the following criteria:

- **Trajectory:** previous life and intellectual experiences of the applicants will be taken into account, particularly how these can contribute positively to the program's goals.
- **Diversity:** diversity of approaches, disciplines, and backgrounds will be valued, as well as their integration into the overall selection of candidates and the resulting composition of each case study group.
- **Group Compatibility:** efforts will be made to create a diverse workgroup, both in terms of disciplines and the particular contexts of the candidates, while considering and adapting to the characteristics of each case study.
- **Availability:** based on the information given by the candidates, the time availability of each candidate will be considered in the

selection process, to ensure the correct functioning of the case study group.

- **Group work:** willingness and experience in work group and collective processes.

07. PAYMENT

Once selected, participants must make a payment of 310 EUR as a registration fee. The payment can be made in full or in two installments. Full payment must be made between October 16 and 23, 2024. In the case of installment payments, the first installment corresponding to 50% of the payment must be made before October 23, 2024, and the second payment of the remaining 50% before February 21, 2025.

Participants must make these payments to the following account: Fundación TBA21, ES7600490263512711912368.

If participants do not make this payment under the conditions established in this document, it will be understood that they are renouncing their place, and it may be reassigned to another candidate.

No payment, whether total or partial, will be reimbursable.

08. SUSTRATO SCHOLARSHIP

Fundación TBA21 will grant five *Sustrato* scholarships to five participants, one per case study, in order to offer them the opportunity to take on the role of documenting the development of each case study, as well as exploring ways to report on the impact of the process.

In the associated document "Parameters and Configurations," candidates can find a detailed description of this role and the associated responsibilities. For the *Sustrato* scholarship, a weekly commitment of 7 hours is required to cover both the study program and the additional responsibilities associated with the role. To receive the full offered compensation, the scholarship recipient must attend at least 90% of the scheduled weekly meetings and ensure that all agreed deliverables are submitted in accordance with the established criteria. These deliverables consist of a documentation piece to be presented in a digital context at the end of the program, together with a proposal for an exercise in alternative indicators for implementation processes. The details of these deliverables will be given during the specific sessions with the *Sustrato* grantees during the program.

The *Sustrato* scholarship covers the full tuition of the program and provides a stipend of 1,500 EUR to the grantee. Fundación TBA21 will pay 50% of the amount at the beginning of the program and the remaining 50% upon its completion. The first payment will be made within 30 days of the selected participants' confirmation of acceptance of the scholarship. The second payment will be made within 30 days after the submission of the materials produced by the scholarship recipients to Fundación TBA21. Payment of this amount will be carried out through a bank transfer following the signing of a receipt by the scholarship recipient provided by Fundación TBA21. For this purpose, Fundación TBA21 will request the participant's information regarding the destination bank account. The participant's commitment must adhere to all the agreements established for the entire duration of this edition of the independent study program. To be eligible for the *Sustrato* scholarship, applicants must respond to the specific questions indicated in the annex at the end of this document.

09. PARTICIPANT OBLIGATIONS

Selected participants commit to fulfilling the following obligations:

- A) To attend at least 70% of the sessions indicated in Section 5 of this document. Failure to meet this minimum attendance requirement without a justifiable cause will result

in forfeiture of participation in the program. Additionally, if a participant withdraws from the project without a justified cause, they may be excluded from the program. In cases where attendance is not possible, participants commit to subsequently viewing the materials provided by the Organizers.

- B) Participants must adhere to the protocols listed in these terms and conditions for the use and behavior of the spaces and materials made available to them.

- C) At all times, act in full accordance with the values advocated by Fundación TBA21, as stipulated in its Code of Conduct, and in alignment with the principles of the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza and other collaborating entities, ensuring the exclusion of any discriminatory behavior.

- D) Provide the documentation requested by the Organizers.

In addition to these obligations, *Sustrato* scholarship recipients must fulfill the following commitments:

- A) Act as a representative of the case study team for communication with Organismo and other stakeholders.

- B) Document, measure, and evaluate the processes developed in the specific case in which they participate, generating the appropriate materials to meet the needs and specific agreements established in the case study. This documentation will be presented at the end of the program and is intended to serve as an evaluation and assessment tool.

- C) Attend at least 90% of the scheduled weekly meetings.

10. TRAVEL EXPENSES COVERED BY FUNDACIÓN TBA21

Fundación TBA21 will reimburse the expenses related to travel, accommodation, and meals in connection with the case study trip scheduled in the program, from any point within Spain, up to a maximum of 500 EUR. The case study trip will consist of a trip to a particular location associated with a specific case study and proposed by the Organizers, of up to six days, in which they will take part with all the participants of a given case. Fundación TBA21 will only cover expenses related to the case study trip; it will not cover expenses related to any other travel arising from participation in the program. Fundación TBA21 will reimburse these amounts to the participants after the trip has taken place, and participants have provided justification for the expenses to Fundación TBA21. The participants shall justify the expenses with the invoices and tickets. Such expense justification must be submitted within 15 days of the end of the trip; otherwise, the reimbursement will not be provided.

All details of the travel policy and the protocol for accessing the travel funds are outlined in the Travel Policy document, which will be made available to participants at the beginning of the program. Participants must adhere to this Travel Policy, which Organismo will provide once they have been selected; Fundación TBA21 will not cover any expenses that do not comply with these guidelines.

11. INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

The ownership of any and all creations, conceived within the framework of the Organismo project, shall remain vested in their respective creators/authors, who will be considered equal co-authors, and will be subject to the Creative Commons CC BY-SA 4.0 license. Notwithstanding the above, the authors grant the Organizers the right to communicate to the public the creations and for educational purposes of the overall activities of the Organizers, always crediting the authors.

Any creation developed within the framework of Organismo must be credited in all public presentation, communication, or publication as: "A project created within the framework of the Organismo | Art in Applied Critical Ecologies independent study program, promoted by TBA21-Academy and the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza as part of the case study facilitated by X". In the case studies facilitated by TBA21-Academy or Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza, the formula to be used is: "A project created within the framework of the Organismo | Art in Applied Critical Ecologies independent study program, promoted by TBA21-Academy and the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza".

Participants must inform the Organizers of any creations resulting from the project before making them public in any format in case they may be subject to Industrial or Intellectual Property protection. Both TBA21-Academy and the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza reserve the right to be listed as collaborators or promoters of such creations for the purpose of communicating it to third parties.

The Organizers undertake to respect the moral rights of the participants, especially the right to be recognized as authors in the event of a creation subject to intellectual property protection.

Any conflict or dispute arising from this contract, whether regarding its interpretation, execution, validity, or fulfillment, will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Spanish courts.

12. CONFLICT RESOLUTION

In the event that a personal conflict arises between one or more participants, whether in the context of a case study or any other, the Organizers will not be responsible for the mediation or resolution of such conflict, limiting themselves to ensure the proper functioning of the program as well as the affected case study, always in accordance with the ethical precepts of the Organizers. In the event that the governance of Organismo considers that one or more participants violate the correct and ethical functioning of the program, it reserves the right to immediately terminate the participation of any participant in the program.

13. IMAGE RIGHTS

By accepting participation in the program, the Participants allow the Organizers to record their image and voice with both photos and/or video throughout the project's development. They expressly allow the Organizers to use, distribute, and publish said photographs or videos that feature participants' images and/or voices to publicize and promote the project Organismo or any other activities of the Organizers and if applicable those of its collaborators. These may include, but are not limited to, publication in newsletters, posting on the Organizers', sharing on social media platforms such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram, publication in print media, and dissemination to participants. The photographs and videos will be kept for as long as necessary to achieve the purposes for which they were collected or to fulfill legal obligations. These grants of rights are free of charge.

14. CONFIDENTIALITY

By accepting participation in the program, the Participants undertake not to disclose the materials offered by the Organizers or its speakers through the Synology platform or through any other means in the framework of their participation in Organismo. This commitment covers, among others, the recordings of the public sessions, the online sessions for the participants, the specific online sessions per case group, the case meeting sessions and any other type of audiovisual or textual materials shared by the collaborators of the program. Participants in the program agree not to record the participation of third parties, including their materials.

15. DATA PROTECTION

15.1 The processing of personal data is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 27, concerning the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data, and Organic Law 3/2018 of December 5, on the Protection of Personal Data and Guarantee of Digital Rights. The participant (Interested Party) is informed that by applying to the program, they consent to the processing of the personal data provided, and in compliance with the provisions of Article 13 of said Regulation, the following is informed:

Data controller:
Fundación TBA21
privacy@tba21.org

Purpose of processing:
To process the application for the participation in Organismo.

Legal basis for processing:
Necessary processing for the selection process of the candidates. The personal data of the candidates will be shared in TBA21's online platforms, as well as tangible mediums for promotional, educational, archive or informative goals.

Retention period:
Data will be retained for as long as necessary to fulfill the purpose for which they were collected and to determine any possible liabilities that may arise from that purpose and the processing of the data.

Data transfer:
Fundación TBA21 will transfer the strictly necessary information to its Collaborators (the entities that promote the study cases) for the selection process.

Rights you may exercise:
Regarding the personal data collected for processing, you have the possibility to exercise the rights of access, rectification, cancellation, limitation of processing, opposition, and data portability, by making a written request to the data controller at the address provided above, in the terms stipulated by current regulations.

If you believe your data protection rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the Spanish Agency for Data Protection. (<https://www.aepd.es/> (External link)).

15.2 The participants authorize Fundación TBA21 to collect their image and/or voice in photos and/or videos and to potentially share it in their current or future online and tangible platforms, for promotional purposes, free of charge. This use of personal data is subject to the point 15.1.

16. OBSERVATIONS

16.1 All deadlines and times specified in these terms are understood to be in the time zone of mainland Spain.

16.2 The submission of an application for this call implies, on the part of the candidate, the explicit acceptance of both these guidelines and the criteria and decisions that the Organizers may make regarding any interpretation doubts about the requirements and conditions stated up to this point.

16.3 The detection of a violation of these terms, regardless of when it occurs and irrespective of the stage of the application process, whether during pre-selection, selection, or acceptance of the application, will result in the automatic cancellation of the candidate's participation in the project, as well as the scholarship if it has already been awarded.

16.4 If the participant fails to fulfill the commitments derived from these terms—or any other that is communicated later by Organismo—the Organizers reserve the right to proceed as it deems appropriate and may even request the return of any amounts received if the participant was awarded a scholarship. In such a case, the participant will not be eligible to participate in future calls for the project.

17. RIGHT TO MODIFY THE TERMS

The Organizers reserve the right to modify, amend, or update the terms of this program, either partially or entirely, at any time and at its own discretion. Any modifications will be promptly communicated to the participants and will take effect from the date of publication.

In the case of substantial modifications, participants will be given the option to accept the new terms or withdraw from the program, with the corresponding refund of the registration fee, if applicable.

ANNEX: OPEN CALL QUESTIONNAIRE

To apply to the program, submit a PDF file of up to three pages answering the questions provided below to organismo.info@tba21.org. If you are also applying for the *Sustrato* scholarship, you may include an additional page and/or an image-oriented document of up to 5 pages in order to present visual work. Additionally, you have the option to share a video presentation of up to two minutes. Please ensure that the total file size does not exceed 15MB. Applications must be received by September 29, 2024, at 23:59, and should include:

1. Name(s) and Last Name(s)

2. Telephone number

3. Age

4. Place of residence

5.

A) About yourself:

Tell us about some significant elements or features of your life and intellectual trajectory. Which are some experiences that have defined your way of thinking? How do you imagine yourself developing your practice in the future?

B) About the program, expectations and commitment:

What learnings or experience would you like to gather from the program? What topics and research lines interest you? Which issues would you like to work on, and why? According to both approaches that will be addressed, study and studio, do you have a willingness to undertake both the immersion in the contents and the development of the proposal during the program? What does collective intelligence mean to you? Could you describe your experience working collectively? What tools and dynamics could you bring to the group?

C) About the case study:

Which case study would you like to join and why? Alternatively, is there any other case you would like to take part in? Which knowledge, skills, perspectives, ways of doing and/or sensitivities will you bring to this research group?

D) About the language (short answers):

This program will combine contents in Spanish and English. Are you able to comprehend both languages? Do you feel comfortable expressing and articulating your thoughts in at least one of those languages? Which one?

6.

If you would like to apply for the *Sustrato* grant:

What would you like to explore through this role? What tools or skills do you have to carry out this task? What does 'evaluating' and 'documenting' mean to you? In which ways would you propose to evaluate and document the case study you have selected? Are you able to commit to the extra time demanded to the fulfillment of this task?