

Research Methods Rendezvous (RMR): an NCRM capacity building action - Call for participation



Are you curious about how ideas become viable projects? Do you want to hear how others approach complex research puzzles, and help shape their development? These are some of the issues we will address at the Research Methods Rendezvous (RMR).

The RMR is a free, innovative, online initiative, designed to be a source of inspiration, a research incubator and a networking opportunity. Based on two half-day intensive sessions in autumn 2025, the RMR explores two parts of the research process:

- *I wonder*: the curiosity that sparks our research (10 September)
- *How can we*: the process of shaping those sparks into tangible projects (29 October)

Between the sessions, a seven-week collaboration period enables participants to co-shape the development of ideas.

During the RMR, participants will be able to:

- **Explore cutting-edge social science questions.** Hear about emerging puzzles that are shaping new research directions and gain insight into how these early-stage curiosities and challenges are translated into actionable research across various disciplines. Especially valuable for postgraduate researchers and early-career academics.
- **Be part of research developments.** If a topic or idea resonates, there's potential to collaborate, whether by contributing your thoughts in the interregnum or during the second session.
- **Connect with researchers within and outside your discipline.** Meet others working on similar topics or explore new areas through interdisciplinary exchange. An ideal opportunity for those looking to move to new methods or substantive field of research and develop new interdisciplinary collaborations.

Whether you're seeking inspiration, collaboration or simply want to observe how research is developed, the RMR offers a dynamic space to do so.

The structure of the rendezvous

Rendezvous One: I wonder...

10 September 2025

Rendezvous One concerns ideation, the ideas we have as we start to generate our research projects. These come from unfinished questions, empirical observations, theoretical intrigues or methodological curiosities. Attendees will get the chance to hear lightning talks from researchers outlining these early-stage ideas.

View the full list of sessions: [Link to list of Rendezvous One sessions.](#)

The researchers presenting their ideas were selected by NCRM following an application process earlier in 2025. All speakers are active researchers sharing their own early-stage work.

The interregnum

11 September 2025 – 28 October 2025

During this period, the ideas from Rendezvous One will be developed into sessions for Rendezvous Two. Discussion boards will be hosted on the RMR online platform for each idea presented. As a participant, you'll be invited to contribute thoughts, resources and suggestions. With the contributor's approval, you may also have the opportunity to take a more active role, potentially joining a team developing a Rendezvous Two session.

Rendezvous Two: how can we...

29 October 2025

Rendezvous Two concerns how we turn our wonderings into researchable questions. Through 80-minute parallel workshops, contributors and participants will discuss or co-develop ideas, exploring methods and next steps, whether that be developing bid applications, forming networks or submitting paper proposals.

Logistics

We will be using Whova to host the rendezvous. This is a dedicated online event platform that allows for networking, polls, gamification and one-to-one meetings. The platform will be available to participants for the duration of the event (including during the interregnum).

Both Rendezvous One and Two will take place in the afternoon on their respective days.

Expectations

By applying to the RMR, you commit to:

- Attending both sessions
- Actively engaging with the online discussions during the interregnum

How to apply to participate

The RMR is open to researchers at all career stages and from any sector, whether you're based in academia, government, industry, the voluntary sector or working in an interdisciplinary space with a social science angle.

Applications can be made by completing the following form: [Call for Participation - Application Link](#)

The deadline for application is Wednesday, 2 July 2025.