

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE OF THE RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE NATIONAL SYNCHROTRON RADIATION CENTRE SOLARIS

02/03/2022

§1

General Provisions

1. The present detailed terms and conditions of use of the research infrastructure define a set of standards and good practices to be obligatorily followed by all Users of the National Synchrotron Radiation Centre SOLARIS (hereinafter: SOLARIS).
2. Selecting the option "I accept Terms and Conditions" while creating an account on the User Platform – Digital User Office SOLARIS (DUO) is equivalent to declaring oneself familiar with the terms and conditions of use of the research infrastructure.
3. While accepting the present terms and conditions of use of the research infrastructure, the User declares that all his/her scientific and research activities comply with the generally accepted principles of good scientific practice.
4. SOLARIS is entitled to change these rules and conditions. The User is obliged to make himself/herself familiar with the current release of the document every time he/she submits an experimental time proposal.
5. Please, share all your comments and doubts concerning the rules and terms of access to SOLARIS with us by sending an e-mail to user.solaris@uj.edu.pl.

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Research Infrastructure

1. The research infrastructure covered by these conditions and rules of access includes:
 - a. PEEM end station,
 - b. XAS end station,
 - c. UARPES end station,
 - d. PHELIX end station,
 - e. STXM end station,
 - f. SOLABS end station,
 - g. Cryo-EM microscope.

2. The detailed manuals and rules of operating the end-stations can be provided by the beamline managers:

PEEM end station	Anna Mandziak, EngD.	+48 12 664 41 03 anna.mandziak@uj.edu.pl
XAS end station	Marcin Zajac, PhD.	+48 12 664 41 59 mar.zajac@uj.edu.pl
UARPEs end station	Natalia Olszowska, PhD.	+ 48 12 664 41 72 natalia.olszowska@uj.edu.pl
PHELIX end station	Magdalena Szczepanik, EngD.	+ 48 519 307 867 m.m.szczepanik@uj.edu.pl
STXM end station	Krzysztof Matlak, EngD.	+48 12 664 41 24 krzysztof.matlak@uj.edu.pl
SOLABS end station	Alexey Maximenko, PhD.	+48 12 664 41 09 alexey.maximenko@uj.edu.pl
Cryo-EM microscope	Michał Rawski, PhD.	+48 12 664 61 06 michal.rawski@uj.edu.pl

3. SOLARIS offers **free access to the research infrastructure** to the Users whose proposals, filled out in DUO, have been positively evaluated by the Scientific Committee (see the paragraph "Open Call for Proposals and Evaluation of Proposals"). The actual results of the call are registered and published by SOLARIS.

4. To get more detailed information about the research infrastructure accessibility, please contact:

SOLARIS User Office	+48 12 664 41 99 +48 571 445 045 user.solaris@uj.edu.pl
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5. SOLARIS offers also the possibility to make available the scientific infrastructure apart from the open calls (paid research). Details of cooperation are available at: <https://synchrotron.uj.edu.pl/industry> In order to find out about the available offer, please contact:

SOLARIS Industry Liaison Officer	Piotr Ciochoń tel.: 12 664 41 93 industry.solaris@uj.edu.pl piotr.ciochon@uj.edu.pl
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Call for Proposals

1. SOLARIS announces an open call for proposals twice a year:

- The spring call (deadline for proposal submission 1st of April) is for experiments to be performed from September till February the following year.
- The autumn call, (deadline for proposal submission 1st of October) is for experiments to be performed from March till August.

2. The Director of SOLARIS may take a decision to change the open call dates.

3. The information about an on-going call for proposals shall be published on the SOLARIS website: www.synchrotron.pl.

4. The open call for proposals is addressed to everyone who meets the following conditions:

- have created an account on the DUO platform (<https://duo.synchrotron.pl>),
- have their affiliation verified by the SOLARIS User Office,
- have accepted the present terms and conditions.

5. By creating an account in the DUO system, the User acknowledges that his/her e-mail address will be visible to other Users who want to co-create an experiment with him/her.

6. The proposals for the grant of experimental time may be sent through the DUO platform only while the call for the proposals is open. The option to create an account on the DUO platform, edit the account and edit the proposal in DUO is available regardless of the open call dates.

7. Rapid Access applications may be submitted regardless of the open call dates. However, carrying out of those proposals depends on a previously determined schedule of chosen infrastructure. To apply for Rapid Access, download the application template from the NSRC SOLARIS website (https://synchrotron.uj.edu.pl/en_GB/uzytkownicy/szybki-dostep), fill it in and send it as a PDF file to SOLARIS User Offices and the manager of a chosen research infrastructure. The DUO system does not support the Rapid Access applications.

8. There is also a possibility to submit an application within the CERIC-ERIC Consortium using the platform operated by the Italian synchrotron Elettra (<https://vuo.elettra.trieste.it>). Information about calls organisation and instructions for submitting applications can be found on the website: <https://www.ceric-eric.eu>. The CERIC-ERIC consortium is reimbursing the cost of travel and stay in Krakow for the duration of the experiment.

9. We suggest that you should consult your project with the Research Infrastructure Manager before sending a proposal.

§4

Evaluation of Proposals

1. Only the proposals which have been sent to SOLARIS through the DUO platform during the open call for proposals may be evaluated.
2. The proposals shall be subject to:
 - a. Technical evaluation – it defines whether the experiment may be performed using the accessible research infrastructure – Beamline Manager;
 - b. (Sample) safety evaluation – it defines whether the sample being the object of the experiment meets the JU safety criteria - the JU Safety Inspectorate;
 - c. Substantive evaluation – this determines the scientific value of the experiment and determines the amount of beamtime to be allocated – the International Review Panel.
3. However, only those proposals for which the outcome of the technical and safety evaluation has been positive shall qualify for the substantive evaluation.
4. The proposals shall be substantively evaluated by the International Scientific Commission, members of which are appointed by the NSRC SOLARIS Director.
5. Proposal substantive evaluation criteria:
 - An innovative range of research areas,
 - Precise scientific hypotheses,
 - Clearly defined methodology and anticipated research results,
 - Convincing grounds for purposefully using the synchrotron radiation,
 - Proposer’s scientific achievements,
 - Timely presentation of reports on the earlier measurements performed at SOLARIS.

6. The user may obtain the following substantive evaluation of the proposal:

Description	Rank
<p>Outstanding Proposal</p> <p>The proposal is outstanding: well-written, involving innovative research into exciting science, the scientific case is compelling and the proposal is timely. A successful outcome would have a significant impact on the research field in question and will be done at the SOLARIS during the current proposal round.</p>	<p>A*</p>
<p>Excellent Proposal</p> <p>The excellent proposal which is complete, scientifically compelling and timely, and should be done at the SOLARIS during the current proposal round.</p>	<p>A</p>

<p>Good Proposal</p> <p>Good Proposal. A good proposal with a relevant scientific case which fully deserves beam time but is of lower priority in a competitive environment, or a potentially excellent proposal which is lacking some information, e.g. preliminary results, further explanations. In this case, the Panel should specify the additional information required in the comment. Those proposals can be allocated according to beamtime availability based on the ranking list.</p>	<p>B</p>
<p>Sound Proposal</p> <p>The proposal is based on a sound scientific case but is considered scientifically less compelling or less timely than competing proposals, or the need for SOLARIS is not obvious.</p>	<p>C</p>
<p>Rejected Proposal</p> <p>The proposal is technically or scientifically flawed and cannot be done, or the scientific case is not worthy of synchrotron time, or the scientific case cannot be evaluated due to poor writing of the proposal.</p>	<p>X</p>

7. SOLARIS reserves the right to refuse the access to the research infrastructure to a User if the information contained in the proposal or a sample form turns out to be outdated or untrue (including a change of the sample, research team or scientific objective).

§8

Co-financing of Research

1. SOLARIS shall undertake constant efforts to arrange co-financing for the travel and accommodation of the Users coming to the centre to carry out their research. The information about available support is accessible on the website of SOLARIS and shall be announced during every open call for proposals.
2. The possibilities of co-financing experiments may differ depending on the chosen research infrastructure (beamline or Cryo-EM microscope). We suggest following the details on the SOLARIS NSRC website.

Preparation for Experiment

1. The User Office shall provide the experiment organisation process with administrative support. The Office can also provide you with information about accommodation and catering available in Krakow. To get more information about the arrangement of your stay, visit the "Users" section at https://synchrotron.uj.edu.pl/en_GB/start
2. If there are any questions or doubts related to the way in which the User's arrival is arranged, the User is requested to contact the User Office by e-mail. The response waiting time shall not exceed two working days.
3. Before coming to SOLARIS, the User shall be obliged to get familiar with *the Safety Training* accessible on the DUO platform.
4. The User acknowledges that SOLARIS shall not be liable for any likely technical problems.
5. When unexpected technical problems occur, SOLARIS shall have the right to change the time of using the research infrastructure. SOLARIS shall be obliged to immediately inform the User about changes in the way the experimental time is arranged.
6. If the User is not able to use the experimental time granted to him/her, he/she shall be obliged to inform the User Office about this fact as soon as possible. The User acknowledges that, in such circumstances, his/her time may be shifted but it may also be deleted from the relevant call schedule.
7. If the User has frequently cancelled his/her arrival or failed to observe the mandatory rules while staying at SOLARIS, SOLARIS has the right to deny him/her further access to the research infrastructure.
8. The User should inform the beamline manager sufficiently in advance about which configuration of the accessible research infrastructure he/she needs in order to carry out the experiment.
9. If the User needs to use liquid helium or liquid nitrogen as the cryogenic liquid to perform the experiment properly, he/she should put this information in the proposal. SOLARIS provides maximum 100 litres of liquid helium per experiment. For liquid nitrogen, there is no limited volume.
10. Once you have begun using the research infrastructure, it means that you have accepted the initial configuration of the beamline.
11. There is a possibility of inviting observers of the experiment (students or doctoral students):
 - User is responsible for their guests;
 - User is obliged to include their guests in *Final Declaration*;
 - all of the guests need to create an account in our Digital User Office (DUO): <https://duo.synchrotron.pl/> and read carefully the presentation about Safety and Health rules and procedures, which are obligatory at SOLARIS (Safety Training).
 - User can invite two guests per experiment.

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Arrival at SOLARIS

1. The User shall be obliged to inform the User Office about the planned time of arrival at SOLARIS at least a week before the arrival. The User needs to use the Final Declaration template (that can be found here: https://synchrotron.uj.edu.pl/en_GB/uzytkownicy/eksperyment) The document needs to be sent to SOLARIS User Office – user.solaris@uj.edu.pl
2. Before launching an experiment in SOLARIS, the User shall be obliged to:
 - register himself/herself at the SOLARIS main building reception desk and present an identification document or a passport in order to get an access card to access the building;
 - complete a beamline operation training supervised by the beamline manager.
3. Due to the pandemic situation user is obliged to:
 - have a valid Covid passport or a negative test and agrees to present it to the SOLARIS staff;
 - compliance with all safety procedures obligatory at the SOLARIS.

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Experiment

1. The User shall be subject to the administrative and technical supervision and control of SOLARIS.
2. The User shall follow the SOLARIS personnel's instructions and the research apparatus operation manuals available from the research station supervisors.
3. The User shall have the right to use the research infrastructure only within the time window granted to him/her by SOLARIS and according to the pre-determined schedule.
4. The User shall be obliged to keep the beamline supervisor informed about any failures and disorders of the apparatus.
5. The beamline staff will help you to perform your experiment. However, the scientists at the beamline are not there to perform the complete experiment for you. It is your obligation to provide sufficient staff to operate the experiment 24 hours a day. Because of pandemic situation we need to reduce the number of Users no more than 3 persons that work at the beamline/microscope at the same time. Before your departure, you are asked to leave the beamline control and experimental areas in the same condition as when you arrived. If necessary, your departure time may be delayed to allow for 'clean up' time.
6. The User of the research infrastructure must not use it for a purpose that is contrary to the present terms and conditions, particularly:

- a. use the infrastructure in a way which might damage or destroy the equipment,
- b. make changes to the research infrastructure configuration that have not been approved by the beamline supervisor; this also includes installing software that is different from the pre-installed software,
- c. repair damaged research infrastructure in any way on one's own.

7. The User must not use the research infrastructure for a purpose other than intended.

8. The User should have appropriate knowledge and should have been trained to carry out measurements using synchrotron radiation. If this condition cannot be fulfilled, you should inform about this in the proposal for the grant of research time.

9. Users may obtain permission to use their own equipment, materials and auxiliary research instruments while carrying out an experiment at SOLARIS:

- a. A request of such nature can be submitted in the DUO system while submitting a proposal for the grant of experimental time.
- b. Instruments brought by the User must comply with the safety requirements that are applicable in SOLARIS; they must be formally registered and accepted by the research station supervisor. It particularly concerns the devices powered from the electric grid and connected to the IT system.
- c. Additional equipment shall be transported at the User's cost and through his/her efforts.
- d. The User shall be obliged to remove his/her equipment from SOLARIS at the latest within 14 days following the day when the experiment was ended.

10. SOLARIS shall not be liable for any property of the User, including its loss or damage.

11. Before finishing to use the research infrastructure, the User should save the obtained results on his/her own carriers, particularly data files which he/she has created, and collect other materials produced while using the research infrastructure.

12. Time and rules for the storage of data on carriers belonging to SOLARIS:

- a. The data related to the experiment performed on the beamline are stored in the centre for 6 months following the experiment completion day and 30 days for experiments performed on Cryo-EM microscope.
- b. SOLARIS shall not be liable for keeping the User's results and data.
- c. The User may save the data to his/her own carrier or download them from his/her own account during 6 months/30 days following the experiment completion day.

13. SOLARIS allows the User to connect with the Internet by means of a Wi-Fi network.

14. The User must not reveal his/her login and password to third persons.
15. The access can be blocked if the IT infrastructure of SOLARIS is used illegally.
16. SOLARIS shall have the right to stop an on-going experiment if the User has violated any of the rules which are obligatorily applicable in the facility.
17. Within the area of the SOLARIS building, waste is obligatorily segregated into the following type categories:
 - mixed
 - plastic
 - glass
 - paper
 - metal
 - alkaline batteries.

To remove other types of waste and contamination produced during the experiment, ask the User Office for help.

§12 After the Experiment

1. On the day of the User's departure, the User is obliged to return the access card to the SOLARIS building reception desk.
2. The User is asked to fill out the evaluation questionnaire on the DUO platform. It will support SOLARIS in the process of technical, administrative and scientific self-improvement.
3. The User is asked to fill out the post-experiment report available on the DUO platform. The report must be delivered to SOLARIS at the latest within 3 months following the day when the experiment was finished.
4. Reports for experiments carried out under the Rapid Access should be delivered no later than 6 weeks following the day when the experiment was finished. The report should be delivered by the e-mail directly to the beamline/microscope manager. The report template can be found on the SOLARIS website in the *Rapid Access* section.
5. Failure to deliver the report may result in that the next proposal may not even be released for substantive evaluation.
6. The User shall be obliged to publish the results of his/her research and inform the User Office about this fact.
7. Every publication must contain the following sentence:

- a. In Polish: „Publikacja powstała w ramach przedsięwzięcia Ministra Edukacji i Nauki „Wsparcie prowadzenia badań naukowych i prac rozwojowych z wykorzystaniem infrastruktury badawczej Narodowego Centrum Promieniowania Synchrotronowego SOLARIS” na podstawie umowy nr 1/SOL/2021/2.”
Prezentowane w niej badania zostały wykonane w Centrum SOLARIS na linii badawczej [xxxx].”
- b. In English: “This publication was developed under the provision of the Polish Ministry and Higher Education project Support for research and development with the use of research infra-structure of the National Synchrotron Radiation Centre SOLARIS” under contract nr 1/SOL/2021/2. We acknowledge SOLARIS Centre for the access to the Beamline [xxxx], where the measurements were performed.”
- c. If the members of the beamline Team are co-authors of the publication, the User is released from the obligation to add the above annotation.

8. Following the good international practice, we encourage the Users to offer co-authorship of the publication to the SOLARIS employees who have contributed to the achieved results of the experiment through their work.

§13 Documents

SOLARIS shall provide the User with the following documents:

- 1) Detailed conditions of use of the research infrastructure,
- 2) Operation manual for the accessible research infrastructure,
- 3) Safety rules to be followed while using the research infrastructure (*Safety Training*).