



## Call for Application

# GraSPP Policy Challenge 2024

### *Global Innovative Public Policy Solutions*

*Can you propose workable solutions to important public policy problems?  
Can you apply your analytical skills to solve a policy issue?  
Do you want to showcase your idea during an international conference?  
Do you want to meet creative students from all around the world?*

GraSPP Policy Challenge (GPC) offers a unique opportunity to students from diverse backgrounds to collaborate and seek to improve their teambuilding and policy-making skills. Participants are tasked with responding to pressing real-world policy challenges as a group, and with designing policies and proposals in response to those challenges.

**All Master students at GraSPP and/or STIG** are strongly encouraged to apply. Finalist groups will be ultimately invited to present at the GPPN 2025 Annual Conference hosted by SIPA, Columbia University in New York in March 2025.

#### ➤ Theme

As the world faces escalating climate change, biodiversity loss, poverty, social inequality, and other grand societal challenges, there is an urgent need for policies and innovations that foster sustainable (social, environmental, and economic) development.

***How can we create enabling environments for the development and financing of innovative solutions in climate tech, renewable energy, nature-based solutions, and social innovations, especially in vulnerable regions where we need them the most?***

We are looking for policy proposals that address this question and offer actionable solutions.

#### ➤ The Challenge

We invite students to work on an important policy challenge in any field in line with the chosen theme. Proposals can incorporate public, private or hybrid approaches. Please note that a maximum of 3 "app proposals" will be selected.

We are looking for student presentations on public policy proposals that demonstrate:

- **Argumentation** : A precise identification and analysis of the targeted population or territory; this precise analysis of the problem will need to be clear prior to discussion of any possible solutions

- **Figures** : A strong use of analytics and empirics and how these can be applied to inform a solution to the public policy problem identified
- **Implementation** : An astute understanding of how policy solutions can be implemented given the interests of the policy actors in the chosen context
- **Benchmarking** : A clear awareness of when similar solutions have been tried in the past, why they were successful or amended in order to be successful in the future.

To see examples of past proposals, you can watch the presentations on the GPPN website from the past conference:

<https://www.gppnetwork.org/2024-conference-paris>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1nVATvxgUjY>

➤ **Criteria**

Proposals will be assessed against the following criteria, which are equally weighted. These are the same criteria as will be used at the conference:

- A) Problem : policy analysis and strength of design (i.e. if it is based on sound analytical principles)
- B) Solution : implementation concerns including awareness of stakeholder interests (relevance of the solution)
- C) Implementation : Mechanisms for learning, self-correction and refinement over time (setting up the proposal over time : the proposal must include different scenarios)
- D) Presentation : Quality of presentation (clarity, legibility, compliance with instructions)

➤ **Format**

Selected teams and proposals selected to participate in the GPPN Conference at SIPA will each give a presentation on the first day of the conference of up to 3 minutes.

Up to 8 teams/proposals will be given detailed feedback by the Jury of Deans and selected to present on the second day of the conference. This second presentation will be for up to 5 minutes followed by questions from the Jury.

**Please note that attendance is mandatory during the 2 days of the Conference for all the students selected.**

➤ **To apply:**

Students should form teams and work together to develop their proposals. Each member can participate in one team only. The group must consist of **4 master's students who are currently enrolled in GraSPP and/or STIG** and apply via: <https://forms.gle/ibZpu15TZHTKqMDz5> **by noon, 21 October**. You may also apply individually and leave GraSPP to find your teammates. The groups and advisors will be announced **by 23 October**.



➤ **Schedule (TBC)**

**8 October:** Info Session @ Seminar Room E, 12F

**Noon, 21 October:** Application deadline

**23 October:** Briefing Session (mandatory for all participants) @ SMBC Hall

**24 November:** Submission of Research Proposals (Approx. 2,000 words)

**5-11 December:** A2 Course Registration

**11, 16, or 18 December (TBC):** Presentation Screening - Selection of the GPPN 2025 Conference teams

**26 January 2025:** Deadline for final PPT slides and a policy proposal (Approx. 5,000 words)

**Mid February (TBC):** Presentation Rehearsal (\*GPPN 2025 Conference participants only)

**5-7 March:** GPPN 2025 Conference in New York

➤ **Credits**

This project is conducted as Case Study "***GraSPP Policy Challenge – Global Innovative Public Policy Solutions***" (5140735) in A2. Those who complete all requirements will be able to earn 2 credits. (Grades: Pass/Fail)

Course registration is required separately to earn credits, which will be done by GraSPP Office, not via UTAS. Students willing to participate in the course must pre-register via online registration form. This course can be taken repeatedly and be counted as up to 4 credits.

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**GPPN 2025 Annual Conference  
Thursday 6 and Friday 7 March 2025  
Hosted by SIPA, Columbia University**

SIPA, Columbia University will host the 2025 international conference of the Global Public Policy Network (GPPN) on Thursday 6 and Friday 7 March 2025. **Students selected to participate will have the opportunity to present their projects to the Deans of eight of the most prestigious schools of public affairs as well as network with students from all over the world.**

➤ **Financial Support:**

GraSPP will fund up to JPY 150,000 toward travel expenses for student team members participating in the conference. (\*It will be reimbursed only after your return upon submission of all required documents.)

**Accommodation in New York City (up to 3 nights, check-in on Wednesday 5 March and check-out on Saturday 8 March) will be paid for and arranged by Columbia SIPA, with details provided to participants closer to the time.**

**\*Note:**

Students should be responsible for all expenses exceeded the above amount. Please ensure to have sufficient funding to self-pay all additional costs including meals, additional accommodation, visa, travel insurance and local transportation etc.

**-What is the GPPN?-**

Founded in 2005, the Global Public Policy Network is an international group of top public policy schools from around the world. GPPN members include:

- *School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University; New York, U.S.*
- *Institute of Public Affairs, London School of Economics and Political Science; London, UK*
- *School of Public Affairs, Sciences Po; Paris, France*
- *Hertie School; Berlin, Germany*
- *Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore; Singapore*
- *Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Tokyo; Tokyo, Japan*
- *Fundação Getulio Vargas, Escola de Administração de Empresas de São Paulo; São Paulo, Brazil*
- *Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto; Toronto, Canada*

To learn more about GPPN, please check:

<https://www.gppnetwork.org/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1nVATvxgUjY>

➤ **Inquiry**

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➤ **Related links:**

GPPN

<https://www.gppnetwork.org/>

<https://youtu.be/bBgbc8Zn70k?si=uTfOA2Mygbwwlfa>

GPPN Annual conferences (Reports and projects from the past conferences)

<https://www.pp.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/student-activities/gppn/annual-conferences/>

<https://www.gppnetwork.org/2024-conference-paris>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1nVATvxgUjY>

SIPA, Columbia

<https://www.sipa.columbia.edu/>