

Call for Expressions of Interest: Marie Skłodowska Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships

The School of International Studies (SIS - www.sis.unitn.it) at the University of Trento (Italy) encourages expressions of interest from excellent postdoctoral researchers to apply alongside a research supervisor from SIS to the Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme (MSCA PF) financed by the European Commission.

Selected candidates will be offered both academic and administrative support from SIS faculty and the University Research Support Office with regards to proposal development.

The Marie Skłodowska Curie Action Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme

The Marie Skłodowska Curie Action is a funding scheme that supports researcher mobility: European Postdoctoral Fellowships may last 12-24 months to pursue a research project, advanced training and knowledge exchange at the host institution (University of Trento- SIS). It offers a competitive salary, mobility and family allowances, plus a research budget.

Applicants are expected to have an excellent CV and a promising publication record. They must hold a PhD at the Horizon Europe MSCA PF Call deadline, have a maximum of 8 years full-time equivalent experience in research after the PhD and must not have spent (or carried out their main activities for) more than 12 months in Italy in the three years prior to the call deadline. No nationality requirements apply. For the final eligibility criteria please refer to the [official call](#) documents, including the Work Programme 2023-2025.

Full details on the funding scheme and the application process will be available starting from the launch of the call for proposals, whose indicative date is **08 May 2025**. The indicative deadline for the MSCA PF 2025 call is **10 September 2025**. Please note that resubmission restrictions will apply for applications that scored below 70% in the previous year.

The School of International Studies

The School of International Studies (SIS) was established in 2001 at the University of Trento as an advanced institute of interdisciplinary studies and has become a leading institution for research and graduate teaching in international studies. Its faculty members bring together expertise from disciplines such as economics, geography, history, law, philosophy, politics and sociology. SIS offers three Master's degrees (European and International Studies; International Security Studies, Security, Intelligence & Strategic Studies) and a Ph.D. program in International Studies.

IMPORTANT: In view of the current rules on post-doctoral contracts in Italian universities, SIS can only consider applications that are for 24-month projects.

Main Research Areas at the SIS

The School of International Studies draws on the diverse disciplinary backgrounds of its faculty to develop a broad portfolio of multidisciplinary research programs that address the challenges posed by the long-term processes of globalisation and European integration, as well as by the rising geo-political tensions. The complexity of modern societies means that no single disciplinary approach is sufficient to understand the

rapid social, political, economic and institutional changes taking place in Europe and around the world. The School therefore particularly welcomes proposals that are able to cross disciplinary boundaries and build on existing research by faculty members.

Specifically, research interests at the School aggregate around four main **research clusters**:

- Environment
- Europe
- Human rights
- International security

Potential applicants are encouraged to browse the [SIS website](#) to get a sense of the full range of [research activities](#) and topics on which the [faculty members](#) are currently working.

Steps to Follow and Important Dates

- Prospective applicants are encouraged to identify a potential supervisor and get in touch with them as soon as possible in order to discuss their research plans/ideas.
- by **25 April 2025** please express your interest by sending: i) the **application form** containing a 2page summary of your research proposal; ii) a **CV** (max. 2 pages plus full list of publications); iii) a **cover letter**; iv) a copy of a valid ID or passport. Please submit your candidature to msca.sis@unitn.it, specifying '**MSCA at SIS**' in the subject of your e-mail;
- **selected applicants** will be **notified by 05 May 2025** and invited to develop their full proposal in collaboration with a SIS supervisor;
- a **complete draft** of the application must be ready by **30 June 2025**;
- the **final version** of the project **MUST** be completed by **01 September 2025**. If this is not the case, the SIS retains the right to withdraw its support for the proposal.

Additional information

Applicants will have the opportunity to participate in an online training session with personnel from the Agency for the Promotion of Research in Europe (APRE), scheduled on **08 May 2025**. The University of Trento will also organise an internal online training session on **14 May 2025** to provide interested applicants with guidelines on how to prepare a successful proposal: further details are available at the [dedicated webpage](#). Selected applicants will have the chance to visit the SIS facilities and to meet with their potential supervisors.

Moreover, depending on availability of funds and internal decisions, selected applicants that will submit the proposal to the MSCA PF call together with SIS might have the possibility to participate in two additional programmes funded by the University of Trento: i) applications that are awarded the Seal of Excellence by the European Commission (not funded but scoring 85% or above) and that meet the additional criteria established internally may apply for a fellowship aimed at carrying out their MSCA project; ii) MSCA fellows funded by the European Commission with SIS as Host Institution may apply for a one-year extension of their fellowship to further develop their project in view of an ERC application with the University of Trento as Host Institution.