

## Call for Expressions of Interest: Marie Skłodowska Curie Action (MSCA) Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026 European Postdoctoral Fellowships

The School of International Studies (SIS - [www.sis.unitn.it](http://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 MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships scheme financed by the European Commission (HORIZON-MSCA-2026-PF-01). We consider expression of interests only for the sub-scheme European Postdoctoral Fellowships.

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

### The MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

The **European Postdoctoral Fellowships** is one of the sub-schemes through which the MSCA supports researcher mobility. It is open to researchers of any nationality who wish to engage in research projects by either coming to Europe (to University of Trento-SIS in this case) from any country in the world or moving within Europe.

The European Postdoctoral Fellowships allow young scholars to pursue their research interests, while gaining advanced training, international and interdisciplinary mobility, as well as knowledge exchange at the host institution. The scheme offers a competitive salary, mobility and family allowances, plus a research budget.

Interested 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 (probably 09 September 2026), 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. For the final eligibility criteria please refer to the [official call](#) documents, including the [Work Programme 2026-2027](#).

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 **09 April 2026**. The indicative deadline for completing the whole MSCA PF 2026 application process is **09 September 2026**. 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; and Security, Intelligence & Strategic Studies) and a Ph.D. program in International Studies.

## 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. Therefore, the School 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

Interested researchers 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

- If you are a researcher interested in the MSCA PF scheme and meet all the eligibility criteria, you are encouraged to identify potential supervisors and get in touch with them as soon as possible in order to discuss converging interests on research plans.
- by **20 April 2026** you must express your interest to the SIS by sending: i) the **expression of interest 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](mailto:msca.sis@unitn.it), specifying '**MSCA at SIS**' in the subject of your e-mail;
- selected applicants will be notified by **04 May 2026** 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 2026**;
- the **final version** of the project **MUST** be completed by **31 August 2026**. If this is not the case, the SIS retains the right to withdraw its support for the proposal.

## Additional information

The University of Trento will organise an internal training session (online and in presence) on **27 May 2026** to provide interested applicants with guidelines on how to prepare a successful proposal: further details will be made available at the [dedicated webpage](#) (click on 'Research Training'). If participating in presence, the prospective applicants will have the chance to visit the SIS facilities and to meet with their potential supervisors. A further training session will be arranged (date tbc) by the Italian Agency for the Promotion of European Research (APRE).