

Call for Expression of Interest

Please note that all indications made in this Call for EoI are preliminary and are to be confirmed by the Work Programme which is expected to be published approx. 15 April 2021!

Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship –
Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space - Call for Expressions
of Interest (EoI)

Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space

Location: Erkner, near Berlin (Germany)

Disciplines: economic and social geography, urban and regional sociology, political science, urban and regional planning, and contemporary history

Introduction & Research themes:

The Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space is conducting problem-oriented basic research on development capacity, versatility and adaptability of space and thus the spatial dimension of social action in local, national and international relations. Research at IRS is conducted in five research departments (<https://leibniz-irs.de/en/research/research-departments/>):

- Dynamics of Economic Spaces
- Institutional Change and Regional Public Goods
- Dynamics of Communication, Knowledge and Spatial Development
- Regeneration of Cities and Towns
- Department for Historical Research / Scientific Collections for the History of Building and Planning in the GDR

Proposed research projects are expected to contribute to the institute's research on society and space. Please see current research programme: https://leibniz-irs.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Forschung_Downloads/IRS_Research_Programme_2019-2021.pdf

The Marie Curie fellow will be hosted by the research department best fitted to the research topic of the application. Cooperation between research departments is possible.

The IRS welcomes Expression of Interests of **excellent postdoctoral researchers** with an **outstanding academic track record** and a background in one of the following disciplines as mentioned above: **economic and social geography, urban and regional sociology, political science, urban and regional planning, and contemporary history**. The successful candidate will apply jointly with a supervisor from IRS to the European Commission Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme.

The selected candidate will receive **dedicated support from a senior researcher**, as well as IRS Research Management and Communication office to develop their proposal and application for submission to the European Commission by 15th of September 2021 (**to be confirmed by the Work Programme**).

The successful candidate will benefit from travel funding provided by IRS to visit the host researcher for 1-2 days in July/August 2021 (if circumstances given COVID-19 allow) to discuss and plan the full proposal for submission to the European Commission.

The Fellowship:

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships (MSCA-PF) are **prestigious fellowships funded by the European Commission**. They offer a generous allowance for 12-24 months including mobility, family and research allowance. Applicants can be from **any country**, must **hold a PhD** (or equivalent), and must **not have resided or carried out their main activity in Germany for more than 12 months in the past 3 years immediately prior** to the MSCA-PF deadline on 15 September 2021 (tbc).

At the call deadline, supported researchers must have **a maximum of 8 years full-time equivalent experience in research**, measured from the date that the researcher was in a possession of a doctoral degree and certified by appropriate documents. Years of experience outside research and career breaks (e.g. due to parental leave), will not be taken into account.

Researchers who are refugees in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country according to the Geneva Convention may also apply to both European and Global Postdoctoral Fellowships, irrespective of whether they are long-term residents or not, if they fulfil the other eligibility conditions.

MSCA-PF's follow a bottom-up approach, which means that the research fields and topics are chosen freely by the applicants in collaboration with their prospective hosts. More information on the Fellowship scheme and the application process can be found below.

Contract type: Fixed term for 1-2 years, starting approx. May 2022.

If requested and justified in the proposal, an **additional period of up to six months** can be awarded to researchers who will spend that period in a non-academic organisation established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.

Hours: Full-time

Salary: The present salary rate for a MSCA grant in Germany will be confirmed by the Work Programme to be published by 15 April 2021.

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The grant is expected to follow the composition as in the previous years: a living allowance plus mobility allowance and possibly a family allowance.

Closing date for Expressions of Interest with IRS: 01/03/2021

Closing date for submission of final applications: 15/09/2021 (tbc)

How to express your interest:

An Expression of Interest should include:

1. Your CV including a full list of your publications, research grants and projects.
2. A max 2-3 page Research Proposal Summary aligned with one or more of the themes of the IRS research programme.

Please send your Expression of Interest to Sarah Brechmann (sarah.brechmann@leibniz-irs.de) with an indication of **your preferred supervisor** at the IRS. IRS staff profiles can be found at: <https://leibniz-irs.de/en/people-careers/staff/>

Applications must reach us the latest by **March 1st 2021**.

Expressions of interests will be selected based on the quality of the research idea and the candidate's track record. Successful candidates will be informed by April 2021 (after the publication of the Work Programme) when they will be invited to make a formal application to the European Commission with their **IRS host**.

To allow sufficient time for institutional approvals, a draft of the full proposal is expected to be ready for internal review by the IRS-host by August 15th, 2021.

For further information please send an email to sarah.brechmann@leibniz-irs.de.

Closing date: 01/03/2021.

[1] The researcher is eligible for family allowance in case they have family obligations. Family is defined as persons linked to the researcher either: (i) by marriage; (ii) by a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognised by the legislation of the country or region where this relationship was formalised; or (iii) as dependent children who are actually being cared for by the researcher. (Tbc with new Work Programme)