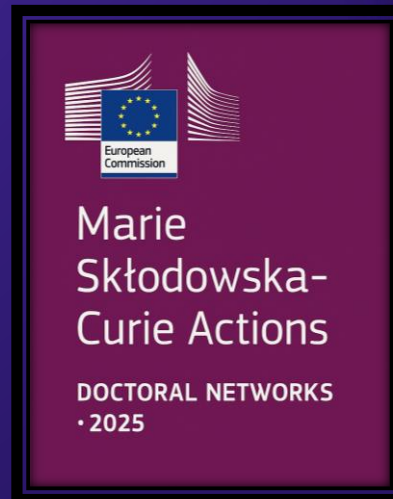


Navigating the MSCA Doctoral Networks: A PhD Candidate's Guide to Successful Application

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02 Understanding MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN)

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01 Introduction

- **Host:** Medical University of Gdansk
- **Funding:** Horizon 2020 research and innovation program--Innovative Training Networks (ITN)
- **PhD research:** Pancreatic cancer organoids, nanoparticle medicine
- **Master degree:** Pharmacology, China
- **Previous research:** Stem cells, Liver, Lung cancer, autoimmune disease (SLE)
- **Work:** Germany over 1 year



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement N° 861196.

[The PRECODE Project](#)

Workgroup consists of 15 beneficiaries and 7 partner organization (Germany, Sweden, Netherland, Scotland, Irland, Italy, Spain, Poland)

02

Understanding MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN)

- **Definition:**

MSCA Doctoral Networks are collaborative doctoral programs funded by the European Commission, aiming to train highly skilled doctoral candidates through international, interdisciplinary, and intersectoral partnerships.

- **Objectives:**

- Enhance research competencies and **innovation** skills.
- Promote **mobility** across countries and sectors.
- Improve **long-term employability** of researchers.

Types of Doctoral Networks

Standard Doctoral Networks



Focus on collaborative research training across various sectors and disciplines.

Industrial Doctorates



Combine academic research with industry exposure, requiring candidates to spend at least 50% of their time in the non-academic sector and receive joint supervision from both sectors.

Joint Doctorates



Offer integrated training programs leading to joint or multiple doctoral degrees, involving joint selection, supervision, and award processes among participating institutions.

Duration: Fellowships typically last between 3 and 36 months; for Joint Doctorates, up to 48 months, including secondment.

Eligibility Criteria for Applicants

- **Academic Qualifications:** Must not have been awarded a doctoral degree at the time of recruitment.
- **Mobility Rule:** Applicants **must not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting organization for **more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the recruitment date.**
- **Nationality:** Open to researchers of any nationality.

Financial Support

Living Allowance

Competitive salary to cover living expenses.

Mobility Allowance: Additional Support for Relocation and Travel

Mobility Allowance: Additional funds to support relocation and travel.

Family Allowance

Extra support for researchers with family obligations, if applicable.

Research and Training Support

Funding for research activities, training programs, and networking opportunities.

03

Finding MSCA DN Opportunities

EURAXESS Portal: Primary platform for MSCA DN vacancies.

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/search>

Find jobs and Opportunities

Explore thousands of job vacancies, funding opportunities, and hosting positions available across Europe and beyond. EURAXESS connects you with global opportunities to grow your career. Start browsing today and take the next step in your professional journey!

Field, subject, position, location, keyword Jobs, Funding, Hosting Search

Filter by

Offer Type Select

Country Select

Research Field Select

Researcher Profile Select

Search results (10428)

Showing results 1 to 10

Hide Filters Simple view Sort results

JOB SWEDEN

Uppsala Universitet via MyNetwork | Posted on: 6 April 2025

Assistant Professor in data-driven battery research

Uppsala University's tenure track system grants assistant professors the possibility to be assessed for promotion to the position as associate professor. The university provides support in various areas, such as scientific and educational development, leadership development as well as patent and...

Department: Uppsala University, Disciplinary Domain of Science and Technology, Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, Department of Information Technology

MSCA official website: doctoral networks, bottom [Doctoral Networks - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

About actions

Doctoral Networks

Overview

6 steps to prepare your application

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Staff Exchanges

COFUND

MSCA & Citizens

How to apply

Apply for PhD vacancies funded by MSCA Doctoral Networks projects

If you are a researcher looking for a PhD position funded by MSCA Doctoral Networks projects, take a look at the [list of vacancies published on EURAXESS](#) updated daily.

EURAXESS is the EU's portal for researchers. You will

- find the full requirements of the position you are interested in
- be able to apply directly to the institution or project of your choice
- find advice about visas, pensions, taxation, recognition of qualifications and other issues related to working as a researcher abroad

For more information [visit our page on how to apply](#).

Last updated: 2 April 2025

Filter by

Offer Type Select

Country Select

Research Field Select

Researcher Profile Select

Sector Select

Search results (648)

Showing results 1 to 10

Save Search

H2020 / Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions H2020 / Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions COFUND

Horizon Europe - MSCA Horizon Europe - COFUND

Hide Filters Simple view Sort results

JOB BELGIUM

KU Leuven | Posted on: 5 April 2025

Geartrain dynamic simulation under root crack degradation & surface pitting propagation

This PhD is part of the Horizon Europe MSCA Doctoral Network PATRON. European manufacturing is at the centre of a twin ecological and digital transition, being both driver and subject to these changes. At the same time, manufacturing companies must maintain technological leadership and stay...

JOB

BELGIUM

Ghent University

Posted on: 19 March 2025

PhD position | MSCA Doctoral Network | Data2Action Increasing the magnitude of the impact of social innovation for active ageing.

We offer two PhD projects, both aiming to contribute to active ageing by boosting the impact of social innovation. Project 1: The main objective of the research project is to scale and increase the magnitude of the impact of social innovation for active ageing through data science. The findings will...

Department:

Movement and Sports Sciences

Work Locations:

Number of offers: 2, Belgium, Ghent University, Ghent, 9000, Watersportlaan 2

Research Field:

Communication sciences » Science communication
Psychological sciences » Behavioural sciences
Medical sciences » Health sciences
Anthropology » Social anthropology
Other

Researcher Profile:

First Stage Researcher (R1)

Funding Programme:

Horizon Europe - MSCA

Application Deadline:

18 May 2025 - 23:59 (Europe/Brussels)

Share



JOB

BELGIUM

Ghent University

Posted on: 19 March 2025

PhD position | MSCA Doctoral Network | Data2Action Increasing the magnitude of the impact of social innovation for active ageing.

Apply now

Share

PAGE CONTENTS

Job Information

Offer Description

Where to apply

Requirements

Additional Information

Work Location(s)

Contact

19 MAR 2025

Job Information

Organisation/Company

Ghent University

Department

Movement and Sports Sciences

Research Field

Communication sciences » Science communication
Psychological sciences » Behavioural sciences
Medical sciences » Health sciences
Anthropology » Social anthropology
Other

Researcher Profile

First Stage Researcher (R1)



The five host institutions

Apply for a PhD position now

Help make data science and AI more meaningful for humanity – find out more and apply for a fellowship on the Data2Action doctoral network.

To be eligible, applicants must not already have a doctoral degree, nor have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of recruitment for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the recruitment date.

The positions

Fellowship 1

Embedding Data Science and AI in Social Innovation practice.

Apply Now

Fellowship 2

AI tool for best practice in social innovation with large language models.

Apply Now

Fellowship 3

Developing Data for Social Economy Investment Model and practice.

Apply Now

Fellowship 4

Scaling and increasing the magnitude of the impact of social innovation for active ageing through data.

Apply Now

Fellowship 5

Public sector actors as users and enablers of artificial intelligence to promote social innovation.

Apply Now

Fellowship 6

Novel participation opportunities and social inclusion enabled through social innovation, data science and artificial intelligence in the welfare sector.

Apply Now

Fellowship 7

Innovative trustworthy tools for increasing society's political participation.

Apply Now

Fellowship 8

Data exploitation as an incentive for participatory social and sustainable innovations for enhancing crowd engagement in transformative ecosystems.

Apply Now

Fellowship 9

Forecasting for social innovation using language technologies.

Apply Now

Fellowship 10

Using a citizen science approach to increase the magnitude of the impact of social innovation for active ageing.

Apply Now

Fellowship 11

Co-creating the future of data and AI for good: social innovation, careers, and collective intelligence.

Apply Now

Fellowship 12

Scaling and increasing the magnitude of the impact of social innovation for active ageing through data science and AI.

Apply Now

Fellowship 13

Forecasting trustworthy tools to make nature-based solutions to climate change more sustainable and socially acceptable.

Apply Now



About Data2Action

MSCA fellowship opportunities

What fellows say

Data2Action

The MSCA doctoral network uniting social innovation with data science & AI for common good

Offer Description

We offer two PhD projects, both aiming to contribute to active ageing by boosting the impact of social innovation.

Project 1: The main objective of the research project is to scale and increase the magnitude of the impact of social innovation for active ageing through data science. The findings will provide a knowledge base for social innovation in active ageing, including models of effective services in terms of their health impact, understand how large reach can be achieved and what business models work sustainably. The map will allow social entrepreneurs to identify areas of need and opportunities to scale up and grow.

Project 2: The project will use a citizen science approach to increase the magnitude of the impact of social innovation for active ageing. An existing citizen science tool will be adapted and tested in older adults in order to create a knowledge base to inform business and social enterprise for scaling-up social innovation in the scope of active ageing. The map will allow social entrepreneurs to identify areas of need and opportunities to scale up and grow. Recommendations will include example data stories for business planning.

The Doctoral Candidate will be expected to:

- Report on findings by publishing scientific articles, resulting in a PhD dissertation;
- Present findings at (inter)national meetings/conferences;
- Contribute to the wider work of the Data2Action project
- Contribute to educational activities of the department and within the consortium.

The MSCA programme offers competitive and attractive working conditions. You will have an employment contract from the recruiting beneficiary. You will benefit from a competitive salary, annual leave, social security coverage. The salary will be composed of:

- A living allowance (3400 euros per month – gross salary) which is adjusted by applying a country correction coefficient to the living allowance of the country in which the researcher is recruited. The country correction coefficients are indicated in [Table 1 of the MSCA Work Programme](#)
- Monthly mobility allowance: 600 euro/month
- Monthly family allowance, if applicable and depending on the family situation: 660 euro/month

For additional information see [EU MSCA website](#). Please be aware that these amounts are subject to taxes and the exact salary will be confirmed upon appointment. The research project should result in a PhD thesis.

All information: <https://www.data2action.eu>

Where to apply

Website <https://www.data2action.eu>

Finding MSCA DN Opportunities

- **Job searching Websites:**

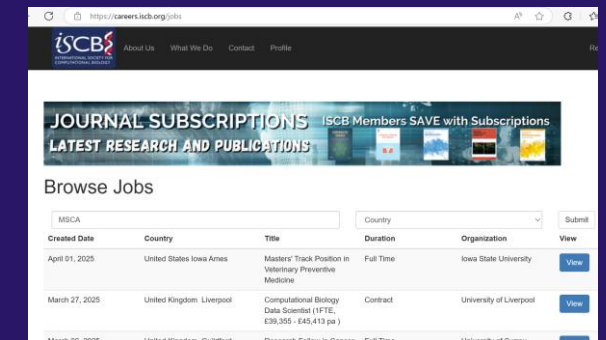
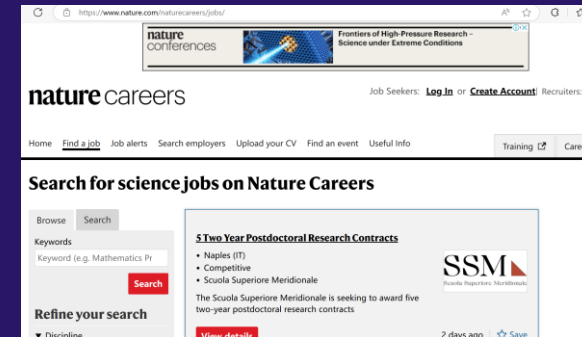
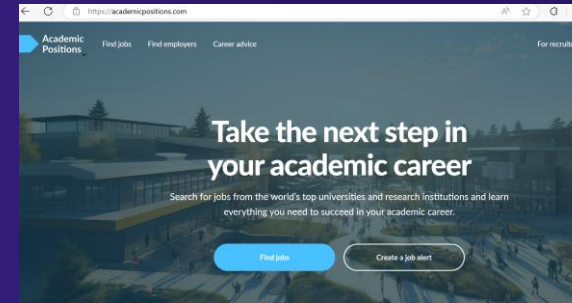
<https://academicpositions.com/>

<https://www.nature.com/naturecareers/jobs/>

<https://careers.iscb.org/jobs>

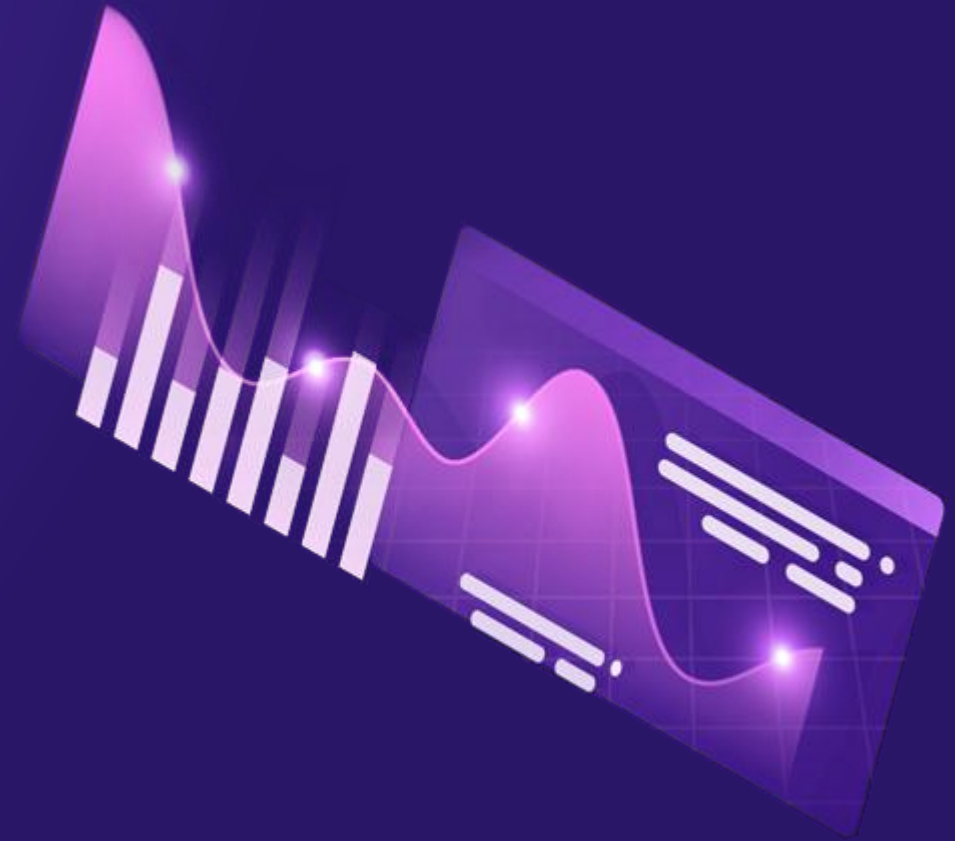
- **Institutional Websites:** University and research institution career pages.

- **Professional Networks:** Platforms like LinkedIn and ResearchGate for networking and opportunity discovery.



04

Application Process



Application Components

- **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** Detailed overview of academic achievements, research experience, and relevant skills.
- **Motivation Letter:** Personal statement outlining research interests, reasons for applying, and alignment with the DN's objectives.
- **Research Proposal:** If required, a concise plan detailing proposed research objectives, methodology, and expected outcomes.
- **Recommendation Letters:** Typically two or three letters from academic or professional referees attesting to the applicant's qualifications and potential.
- **Academic Transcripts:** Official records of academic performance.
- **Proof of English Proficiency:** Standardized test scores (e.g., TOEFL, IELTS) if applicable.



Basic documents



A few recruitments



Most of them



Eligible documents

Application Process

01

Submit Application

Follow the submission guidelines meticulously, ensuring all components are complete.

02

Interview Process

Be prepared for interviews focusing on research competencies, motivation, and fit with the program.

03

Await Decision

Selection timelines may vary; maintain communication with the recruiting organization for updates.

Selection process

Our selection procedure is open, transparent, merit-based, impartial, and equitable, in line with the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers ([link](#)).

The selection procedure will consist of the following steps:

- Eligibility check: The Recruitment Committee will check each application is complete and that applicants fulfil the eligibility criteria described in the previous section.
- Screening: Applications will be reviewed for eligibility and suitability based on the criteria listed for each position.
- Online interviews: The short-listed candidates will be interviewed by a Selection Committee that will include the recruiting Principal Investigators. Selection committees will bring together diverse expertise and competencies and have an adequate gender balance.
- The recruiting institution will notify the selection outcome after the interview.

05 Tips for Applicants

- ◆ **Align with Program Objectives:** Demonstrate how your research interests and career goals align with the DN's aims. (key words)
- ◆ **Highlight Relevant Experience:** Emphasize previous research projects, publications, and collaborations.
- ◆ **Showcase Mobility and Adaptability:** Provide examples of international experience or interdisciplinary work.
- ◆ **Seek Feedback:** Have mentors or peers review application materials for clarity and impact.
- ◆ **Adhere to Guidelines:** Strictly follow application instructions and eligibility criteria.

06

Personal Experience and Insights

Supervisor:

Prof. Iwona Inkielewicz-Stępnia, Medical University of Gdańsk, Poland

Co-Mentors:

Prof. Christain Pilarsky, Universitätsklinikums Erlangen, Germany

Prof. Rainer Heuchel, Karolinska Institute, Sweden



Secondment: 2021.09- 2022.01, Universitätsklinikums Erlangen



PRECODE Meeting (Germany, 2021.09)



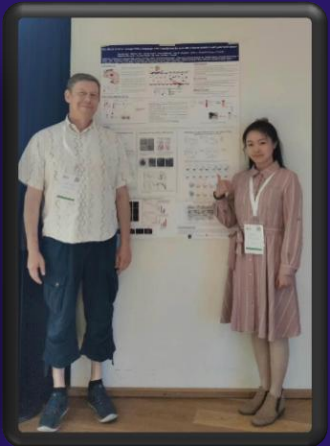
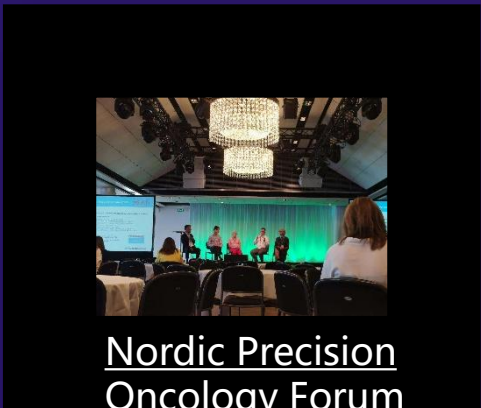
PRECODE Meeting (Spain, 2022.07)



IESE Business School



PRECODE Meeting (Sweden, 2023.06)



PRECODE Meeting (Netherlands, 2024.04)



Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA)



A GLOBAL NETWORK OF MSCA ALUMNI

MCAA is an international non-profit organization established and supported by the European Commission but entirely run by volunteer members and with a bottom-up approach at its core.

The MCAA is not a simple researchers' association but an alumni community beyond research. MCAA members have in common to benefit or have benefitted from MSCA funding, therefore sharing a strong background in research. But while at some point in our careers, we were all researchers benefiting from MSCA funding, logically fellows' careers evolve in various directions, and very often beyond research. At the MCAA we praise this diversity and the potential positive impact we can spread as a community in all areas of society. Regardless of a member's career path, MCAA offers lifelong career development support, networking, and advocacy, effectively extending the once-obtained MSCA support into a benefit for the entire career of former fellows with the aim of benefiting the whole society.

Therefore, the vibrant MCAA community brings together all career stages from all disciplines, encouraging networking and cooperation, making the MCAA a forum of debate between researchers, former researchers, and with the society. The MCAA is a major platform for MSCA alumni to contribute to shaping science policy in Europe, providing career development opportunities, and supporting the wider research community on topics affecting research and researchers' lives, inclusive of all derived career



2025 Annual Conference and General Assembly Krakow, Poland



ESOF 2022 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Satellite Event
Leiden, Netherlands.



2023 MCAA Annual Conference
Cordoba, Spain



ESOF 2024 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Satellite Event
Katowice, Poland





“

Thank you

GOOD LUCK

For your application !