



LATVIAN STATE
INSTITUTE OF
WOOD CHEMISTRY

First steps in becoming a postdoctoral fellow host – action and introspection

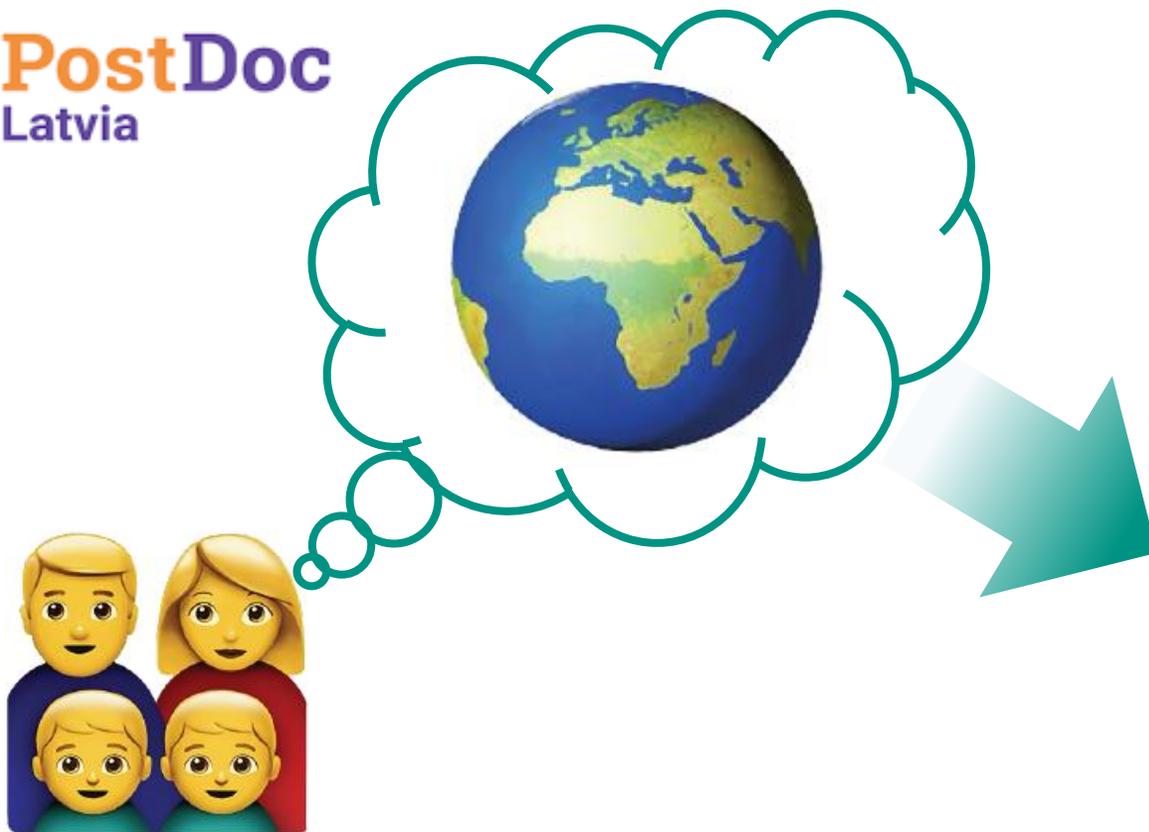
Kristīne Meile

28.02.2024.



How it began...

Training on the preparation of MSCA PF applications for **PostDoc Latvia fellows** – NCP on May 8-9, 2023



Progress in 2023

- Matchmaking information published in May
- 5 candidates expressing their interest in... August
- 0 submitted proposals
- 1 candidate maintained interest into 2024 😊

<https://msca.b2match.io/participations/252255/opportunities>

<https://msca-net.eu/job/available-opening-for-a-postdoctoral-fellowship-in-latvia-4/>



Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry

Research Centre | Riga, Latvia

OVERVIEW

MARKETPLACE

REQUEST

Invitation for MSCA Postdoctoral Fellows

The Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry would like to host an MSCA postdoctoral fellow in any of the areas of research covered by the institute - wood based materials and their properties; biorefinery of lignocellulosic biomass; "green" polymers and chemicals.

...



Kristine Meile

Leading researcher at Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry (Riga, Latvia)

Available opening for a postdoctoral fellowship in Latvia

📁 Chemistry (CHE), Environment and Geosciences (ENV), Information Science and Engineering (ENG)

🕒 11 May 2023

📍 Latvia

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Progress in 2024

- Matchmaking information on the platforms
- Call for expressing interest via NCPs
- LinkedIn activities
- Webinar on MSCA PF cooperation opportunities on March 14
- Matchmaking evening as a satellite event to the International Conference for Young Scientists on Biorefinery Technologies and Products on April 24

BTechPro!
2024

- Dozens of e-mails enquiring about a PF position at LSIWC
- 20+ registered participants for the webinar on March 14
- 0 attendees to the onsite matchmaking event, nevertheless...
Plenary lecture «What is there for Young Researchers? In a Spotlight Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions and European Research Council», Liene Kairiša at BTechPro2024
- 5 on-line meetings between potential PFs and their LSIWC supervisors



On-line meetings March, 2024
On-site meetings April 24, 2024 in Riga, Latvia

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Invitation to Open Days for MSCA Postdoctoral Fellow applicants

Excellent postdoctoral researchers are invited to express their interest to team up with research supervisors from the Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry for the **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship call (MSCA-PF-2025)**. The Open Days will be a chance to get acquainted with available supervisors and to learn about the advantages to choosing LSIWC as your host institution.

To express your interest contact the LSIWC contact person Kristine Meile by e-mail: kristine.meile@kki.lv
On-line meetings with consultants and supervisors will be organised in March, but in-person meetings are especially encouraged during the BTechPro2024 conference www.btechpro.lv

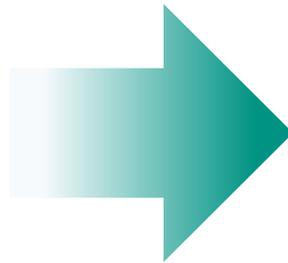
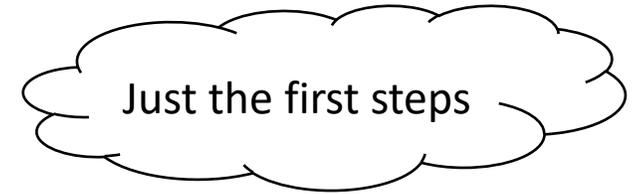
The **Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry (LSIWC)** is one of the leading lignocellulosic biomass research centers in the Baltic region. The institute combines long-standing scientific traditions and modern approaches to studies of wood and other biomass conversion. The three main research directions of LSIWC are wood materials, biorefinery, and green chemicals.

 **LATVIAN STATE INSTITUTE OF WOOD CHEMISTRY**
www.kki.lv

Any struggles? Yes, of course!

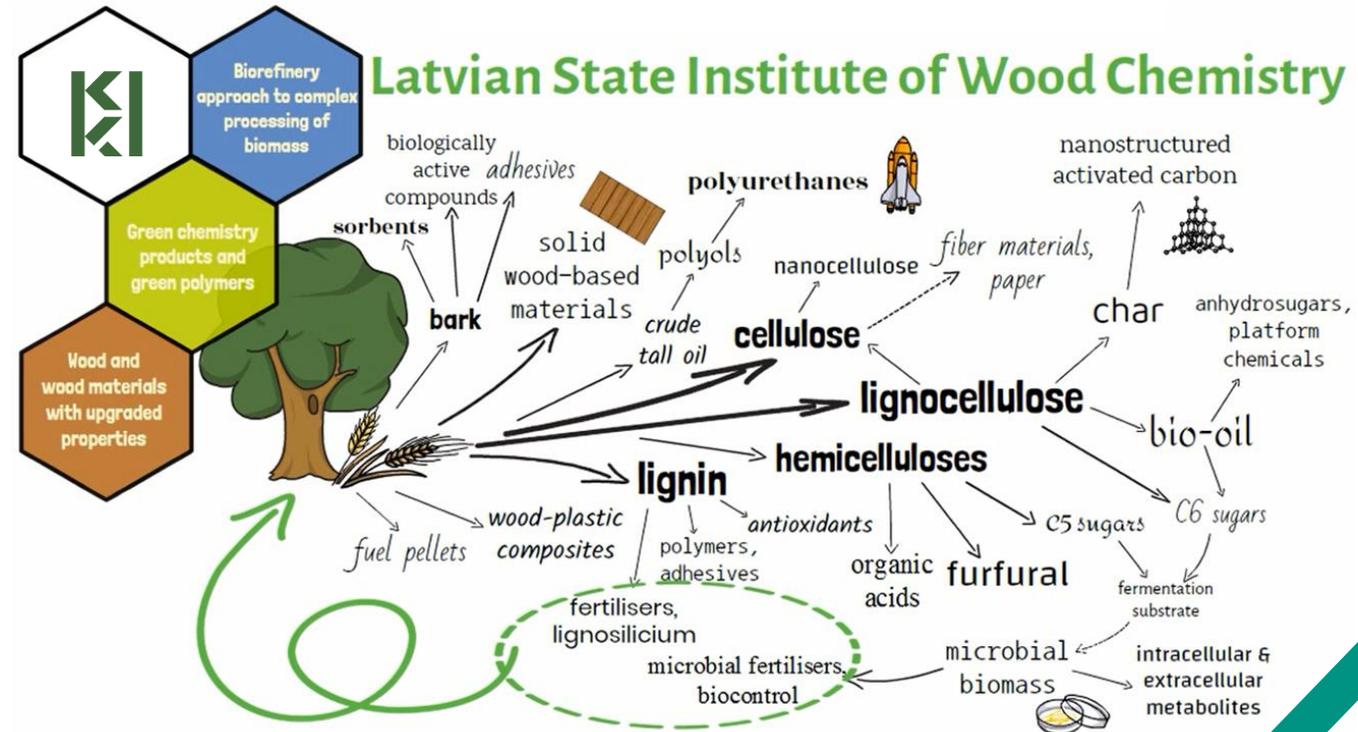
- How much time and attention the e-mailing takes
- Knowledge gaps related to the specific call
- Frustration with low visibility on social networks...

- Polished image of the institute
- Motivation of supervisors



Introspection – what are we and what are we capable of?

- One of the oldest research institutes in Latvia (1946)
- Independent from universities
- Interdisciplinarity – chemists, engineers, microbiologists...
- A vast array of scientific infrastructure
- Growing scientific excellence
- Sufficient experience with various projects, incl. Horizon2020, HE
 - *No project department*
- Communication, organisational and educational activities – transferable skills
- Lack of international staff, but...
- Available partners locally and abroad



Current status

- Sharing information about the webinar
- Hopefully, matching new pairs of PFs and supervisors
- Supporting the candidates in writing a great project proposal

Informative webinar for MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship 2024 applicants

The Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry invites postdoctoral level researchers to participate in a Zoom webinar about the up-coming call for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships. LSIWC is one of the leading research centres in the Baltic region and we are open to hosting talented postdocs who are interested in carrying out their wood and other biomass-related postdoctoral research projects.

March 14, 2024 from 10:00 to 15:00 (EET; UTC+02:00)

10:00 What are MSCA PF grants and how to write a successful project proposal? (Liene Kairiša, Horizon Europe National Contact Point)

12:10 The advantages of choosing the Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry as your MSCA PF host (Kristīne Meile, LSIWC)

12:50 Break

13:00 Presentations on specific project proposal topics – expertise, infrastructure, opportunities:

- **Birch bark suberinic acids as a natural polymer for wood protection: coatings and impregnation** (Dr.sc.ing. Jānis Rižikovs, Biorefinery Laboratory)
- **Biomass-based carbon materials for the development of heterogenous catalysts** (Dr.chem. Kristīne Meile, Biorefinery Laboratory)
- **Steam explosion pretreatment of lignocellulosic biomass for development of bio-based products** (Dr.sc.ing. Ramūnas Tupčiauskas, Biorefinery Laboratory)
- **Development of mycelium composite materials** (Dr.biol. Ilze Irbe, Cellulose Laboratory)
- **Biomass-based polymer synthesis *via* the Michail addition reaction** (Ph.D. Miķelis Kirpluks, Polymer Laboratory)
- **Cryogenic polyurethane materials from renewable and recycled materials** (Dr.sc.ing. Uģis Cābulis, Polymer Laboratory)
- **Electrospun materials from natural polymers** (Dr.sc.ing. Inese Fiļipova, Cellulose Laboratory)
- **Scale-up of bioprocess production for plant biostimulant and biocontrol preparations based on bacteria and fungi** (Dr.sc.ing. Oskars Grīgs, Bioengineering Laboratory)
- **Extracts of various plants, their extraction with emphasis on "green" chemistry, analysis and potential application** (Dr.chem. Māris Lauberts, Lignin Laboratory)
- **Analytical chemistry of lignin and lignin-based materials** (Dr.chem. Māris Lauberts, Lignin Laboratory)

To register for the webinar and receive the Zoom link, please, contact the organiser Kristīne Meile by e-mail kristine.meile@kki.lv, and follow us on LinkedIn to stay up-d-



LATVIJAS VALSTS
KOKSNES ĶĪMIJAS
INSTITŪTS

Thank you!

Kristīne Meile
kristine.meile@kki.lv
[linkedin.com/in/kristine-meile](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristine-meile)

