

YUFE Postdoctoral Programme Call “Citizens’ Wellbeing” Guideline for Applicants

I. FORMAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Please note that your application documents must be in English.
2. A PhD degree is required for the position. You must have completed your PhD no earlier than 3 years before the start of the programme. Thus, the PhD must have been completed on or after 1 September, 2019.
3. Before you proceed with your application, we urge you to check the national and institutional regulations of the particular contract university to which you are applying. Check below for the legally binding employment conditions and requirements for postdoctoral researchers at individual contract institutions:
 - [Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain](#)
 - [University of Antwerp, Belgium](#)
 - [University of Bremen, Germany](#)
 - [University of Cyprus, Cyprus](#)
 - [University of Eastern Finland, Finland](#)
 - [University of Essex, the United Kingdom](#)
 - [University of Rijeka, Croatia](#)
 - [Tor Vergata University of Rome, Italy](#)
4. The Postdoc Scheme foresees each postdoc researcher to be mentored by at least 2 faculty members: one at the contract university and one at the main partner university. Mentors support the implementation of the proposed research project and the mobility plan. They also ensure the integration of postdocs into the research groups and access to academic infrastructure at the respective institutions.
5. Prior to your application, please contact your prospective mentors at both contract and partner institutions to clarify whether she/he is willing to mentor you. Ask for confirmation letters that give evidence of their commitment. We ask you to first contact the potential mentor at the contract university (and discuss the potential mentors at the main partner university, whom you will approach subsequent to the first inquiry, jointly with the contract university mentor). Please note that the mentors at the contract institution should be senior academic staff members (researchers R4 according to the *European Framework for Research Careers*). All faculty members at the partner institutions can act as mentors (R3-R4).

II. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Please upload the following documents in one pdf-file:

1. Motivation letter (1 page¹): Please describe your motivation to become a postdoctoral researcher within the YUFE Alliance. The following questions might help you:
 - To what extent does your research interest relate to the questions of and concerns with *Citizens' Wellbeing*?
 - Why are you interested in a postdoc programme that explicitly fosters European research collaboration and mobility?
 - YUFE values the public dissemination of research. How would you make your research visible to the broader public (e.g., communicating research to the public via blogs, media articles, etc.)?
 - YUFE supports community-engagement based research. Does your research proposal contain elements of community engagement (e.g., projects with schools/citizens/other relevant stakeholders)?
 - YUFE supports research collaboration and mobility. Moreover, the YUFE universities support early career researchers in their career and offer a staff development programme to help acquire a broad set of skills necessary for collaborative research to address societal challenges. What is the envisaged impact of a YUFE postdoc position on your professional and personal development?
2. CV, including the list of publications (max 5 pages)
3. PhD Certificate (or proof of completion)
4. Research Project outline (max 5 pages): Please describe the research project you would like to pursue as a YUFE postdoc researcher and include the following information:
 - Research question
 - Scientific and societal relevance of project
 - Relevance of proposed research to envisaged YUFE contract university (and partner university)
 - Project timeline
 - Short literature review
 - Data and methods of data collection (if applicable)
 - Methods of data analysis (if applicable)
 - Expected outcome and impact

¹ Font and Size: Please choose a font size of 11 (1.5 spaced) and one of the standard options (Times New Roman, Arial or Calibri).

5. Mobility plan (max 2 pages): The mobility plan should outline the mobility scheme that fits your project. Please bear in mind that mobility and collaboration are key components of this postdoctoral scheme. Mobility within your project can take various forms: you might choose to spend a long period of time at your main YUFE partner institution, or you might choose to break up this period into a number of shorter stays. You might also plan visits to other YUFE partner institutions as befitting your project. Please provide a timetable (e.g., Gantt Chart) and describe the relevance of your planned mobility scheme. The description shall answer the following questions:

- Why is the suggested partner university a good partner for your research interest (e.g. specific expertise, different theoretical perspectives, access to new or different data, new or complementary methods of data collection or data analysis etc.) and for your contract university?
- To what extent will your mobility scheme contribute to new research collaborations and/or strengthen existing research collaborations among the YUFE universities?

NB. Please note that the successful applicant's mobility plan will be approved by the contract university prior to hiring and may therefore be subject to changes, for instance in the length of planned stay at other institutions.

6. Confirmation of mentors at contract and main partner institutions

III. CRITERIA FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

The YUFE expert committee makes recommendations to individual institutional committees. Final decisions will be made locally based on the recommendations of the YUFE expert committee. The latter are based on the following criteria.

1. Qualifications of the applicant

- Your research activities demonstrate a high level of **scientific impact** (number and quality of publication, taking peer reviewed publications into account as well as sole and first authorship; number and quality of presentations at international conferences; “openness of research” – how much of your research has been published in open science journals or made available via green open access);
- Your research activities demonstrate a high level of **societal impact** (level of research dissemination and engagement with stakeholders, e.g., communicating the research to the broader public via blogs, videos, media articles etc., and other forms of social engagement and communications with the wider public such as talks, projects with schools, citizens, teaching in university programmes);
- Your research activities demonstrate a high level of **networking and (international) collaboration** (organization of panels or conferences, co-authorship of publications, sitting on juries, research sojourns abroad, editorial work).

2. Quality of the project (incl. mobility plan)

- Originality of the proposed project

- Convincing account of the “state of the art” in the research area
- Convincing argumentation for the line of research/rationale
- Purposeful selection of methods/procedures and feasibility
- Plausible work and time schedule
- Research data management plan (one short paragraph, indicate knowledge and support of FAIR data principles, if applicable)
- Adequate mobility plan
- Added value for the YUFE network
- If applicable, special significance of the project (e.g., socio-political, regional, relevance of transferability)

3. Prospective integration within the research environment of the contract and partner university

- Integration in the research group, i.e., thematic fit with the research conducted at the prospective contract institution;
- Innovative content and individuality of the project idea within the context of the receiving research group;
- Potential for the development of cooperation;
- Enhancement of the research networks and working group.

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Maastricht University ↔ Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun ↔ Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
University of Antwerp ↔ University of Bremen ↔ University of Cyprus ↔ University of Eastern Finland
University of Essex ↔ University of Rijeka ↔ Tor Vergata University of Rome ↔ ETS Global
European Entrepreneurs CEA-PME ↔ Kiron Open Higher Education gGmbH ↔ The Adecco Group