



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

VORTEX PhD program in Political Science 2023-2026

BASIC INFORMATION

Position available within the research project entitled Horizon Europe MSCA 101073440 'Coping with Varieties of Radicalization into Terrorism and Extremism' (VORTEX).

VORTEX's overarching aim is to develop new evidence-based innovative strategies to countering and preventing ideological and behavioural radicalization. The project, which is divided into 10 individual research projects, one for each doctoral student, includes Malmö University (Sweden), Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (Germany), the University of Marburg (Germany), the University of Helsinki (Finland), the University of Turin (Italy), the Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), the University of Oslo (Norway), and Babeş-Bolyai University (Romania). The general project coordinator is Dr Kristian Steiner, Malmö University. The general project coordinator at Babeş-Bolyai University is Prof. Sergiu Mişcoiu

Title: *Early Stage Researcher (ESR)*

Offer Description:

Babeş-Bolyai University, Faculty of European Studies/Department of International Relations and German Studies, is seeking a highly motivated and mobile candidate with a strong academic record holding at least a Master's Degree in Political Science/ other fields of Social Sciences, fluency in English and some subject knowledge of political and social mobilization theories and analysis.

The ESR will work within the Faculty of European Studies/Department of International Relations and German Studies/ European Paradigm Doctoral School on the PhD research project "Radicalization and the politics and social dynamics of populism and protest".

The ESR will work under the supervision of Prof. Sergiu Mişcoiu and with the secondment of Prof. Kristian Steiner (Malmö University), will be offered an international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral training.

Entitled "Radicalization and the politics and social dynamics of populism and protest", the individual research project (doctoral thesis) of ESR4 is in the fields of Political Science and European Studies and needs to meet the following objectives:

- To identify the main political varieties of current populism and to connect them to the developments of the contemporary geographical, cultural and sociological divides
- To analyze the proliferation of contemporary protest movements and to produce relevant arguments in order to weigh if this is a pan-European phenomenon or if it rather reflects a series of heterogeneous trends that are specific to some national and/or regional processes of Radicalization
- To identify and analyze the main markers of Radicalization of populism and protest movements in contemporary Europe

- To select based on a motivated process three case studies in Europe to study in-depth the developments in populism and protest.
- To analyze if the Radicalization of populism and protest movements leads to a further dilution of the boundaries between the two or on a contrary to their progressive intertwining

As part of their application, candidates will be asked to submit a personal interpretation of the research project in the form a specific project proposal of 2-3 pages, including a research question, a theoretical framework, a methodological strategy, and a justification for the suggested empirical choices.

ESR shall not have resided or carried out his or her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Romania for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference date.

Researcher Profiles :

First Stage Researcher in Political Science for a full-time 3-year contract (40 hours/week)

Application Deadline *: *March 15th 2023*

Envisaged Job Starting Date: *October 1st 2023*

E-mail address*: miscoiu.sergiu@ubbcluj.ro

HIRING INFO & WORK LOCATION

Number of positions available: 1

Company/Institute: Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of European Studies

Department: Department of International Relations and German Studies/ Doctoral School The European Paradigm

REQUIREMENT

Skills/Qualifications:

The applicants must have a master degree (120 ECTS), preferably in political sciences, European studies, sociology or international relations or any other field from social sciences which might be connected to the topic of social and political mobilization.

Specific Requirements:

Required Languages – ENGLISH (C1)

ADDITIONAL INFO

Website for additional job details: <https://mau.se/en/research/projects/vortex/>

Benefits:

This 3-Year-long doctoral fellowship is offered as part of a specific collective project within a multiannual international research effort on 'Coping with Varieties of Radicalization into Terrorism and Extremism'. This project (2023-2027) is coordinated by the University of Malmö. The ESR 4 will be tutored by UBB and seconded by the University of Malmö.

Candidates will get a very attractive salary plus an allowances package in accordance with the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) rules and the personal circumstances of the applicant.

Eligibility criteria:

Candidates must have a 2-year master's degree (120 ECTS)

Ideally, candidates should have a master's degree in political science, sociology, international relations or European studies.

- must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Romania, for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately preceding the date of recruitment;
- must have strong written and oral communication skills in English.
- should be in the first four years of their research careers at the time of recruitment and have not been awarded a doctoral degree so far.

The ideal candidate should have:

Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications and Experience Required

Essential:

- Understanding the essential concepts in the field of political science
- Ability to clearly communicate complex information
- Ability to assess resource requirements and use resources efficiently
- Ability to work as part of a team and work independently, using one's own initiative
- Ability to write in English

Desirable:

- Thorough understanding and relevant direct experience of research methods
- Advanced understanding of the functioning of protest movements and socio-political radicalization.
- Advanced understanding of issues related to populism and radicalization.

Selection process:

The evaluation and selection procedure is organized in 3 steps:

STEP 1: ELIGIBILITY CHECK – by 15 March 2023.

1. Candidates must send their applications via email and provide the following information (in English)
2. A detailed CV
3. An ESR's expression of interest, statement of motivation and personal interpretation of the research project
4. An academic record with scan of the degree qualifications
5. A proof of language proficiency
6. Two academic recommendation letters
7. A sample of the MA thesis (in PDF)

STEP 2: EVALUATION OF THE FILE – by 1 April 2023

As part of their application, candidates will be asked to submit a personal interpretation of the research project in the form of a specific project proposal of 2-3 pages, including a research question, a theoretical framework, a methodological strategy, and a justification for the suggested empirical choices.

STEP 3: INTERVIEWS: 1-20 April 2023

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to submit to a skype/zoom interview with their supervisory duo (two academic supervisors in Cluj, respectively in Malmo).

Candidates will be evaluated according to the eligibility criteria and the following criteria for the scientific evaluation:

- Educational track records
- Scientific quality of the CV
- Draft project
- Expected individual impact and benefit to the researcher and to the project
- Previous experiences in the subject areas relevant to the VORTEX research program.

Babes-Bolyai University is an equal opportunities employer, committed to promoting equality, diversity and fairness irrespective of age, disability, gender, pregnancy or marital status, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or gender identity. UNITO unit welcomes applications from currently underrepresented groups and will ensure that equal opportunities are guaranteed to each applicant during the selection procedure.

! The contract as a researcher will be signed on October 1st 2023 under the condition that the PhD student is admitted in the PhD Program in September!

The admission to the PhD Program will take place at the beginning of September and will consist from a written exam based on a few bibliographic sources and an interview.

Before admission, the candidate needs to have her/his diplomas recognized by the Romanian state. Details here: <https://doctorat.ubbcluj.ro/eng/documents-required-when-registering-for-the-admission-contest/#citizens-non-ue>

Additional information:

VORTEX website: : <https://mau.se/en/research/projects/vortex/>

University website: www.ubbcluj.ro

Diploma recognition: <https://doctorat.ubbcluj.ro/eng/documents-required-when-registering-for-the-admission-contest/#citizens-non-ue>

Contacts of the UBB supervisor: Prof: Sergiu Miscoiu: miscoiu.sergiu@ubbcluj.ro