



Vilnius  
University

Invitation to apply for MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2021





# Vilnius University

Vilnius University (VU) is one of the oldest higher education institutions in the Eastern and Central Europe (founded in 1579) and the largest university in Lithuania involved in multidisciplinary academic activity. It has 15 academic units (Faculties, Centers and/or other), the oldest academic Library in the Baltics, the Astronomical Observatory, the Botanical Garden, 2 University Hospitals. Research and teaching is carried out by 3051 specialists. During more than four centuries of its existence VU grew into the leading university in Lithuania.

VU retains its leading role in a broad spectrum of fundamental and applied research, education, training and retraining, consultancy, providing research and development services to a wide range of businesses. VU represents Lithuania by shaping high scientific standards, which increasingly contribute to attracting international researchers and becomes a serious competitor to prestigious European universities. In the latest QS World University Rankings 2022 VU was ranked 400th among more than one and a half thousand other higher education institutions.

VU participates in numerous academic, business, social and other networks and associations and is involved in international initiatives and clusters, which are crucial to R&D activities, opening up opportunities for multilateral collaboration, new initiatives and community involvement in and for society.



Being globally famous for the achievements in the field of lasers VU together with the Centre for Physical Sciences and Technology is officially representing Lithuania in the European Consortium for Research Infrastructures for [Extreme Light Infrastructure](#) – the world's leading consortium of laser research infrastructures. Also, VU Laser Research Center is a part of a network of European laser research infrastructures [Laserlab-Europe](#) bringing together 35 organizations in laser-based interdisciplinary research.

VU Life Sciences Center and EMBL has recently established Partnership Institute for Genome Editing Technologies, employing six high-level groups of international researchers whose scientific focus will be on the development and strengthening of gene editing technology.

VU Faculty of Philosophy participates in the activities of a research infrastructure for studying the effects of health, social, economic and environmental policies over the life-course of European citizens and beyond [The Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe](#) (SHARE).

VU is a member of the [Arqus Alliance](#) which brings together the universities of Bergen, Granada, Graz, Leipzig, Lyon, Padova and Vilnius. Among other priorities Arqus aims to enhance actual research collaboration within the Alliance and with European and global partners, looking for ways to share resources, fostering joint doctoral and post-doctoral initiatives, promoting shared opportunities and thus making Arqus an attractive space for talent from around the world.

What is more, VU is a bilateral partner of many universities all around the world and these partnerships pave the way for academic cooperation in various research and study fields.





**MS**  
MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS  
**CA**



## **MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships Call** **22 Jun 2021 – 12 Oct 2021**

The **goal** of MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (MSCA PF) **is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers** holding a PhD and who wish to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility. The scheme is **open to researchers wishing to reintegrate in Europe, to those who are displaced by conflict, as well as to researchers with high potential who are seeking to restart their careers in research.**

Through the implementation of an **original and personalised research project**, MSCA PF aim to **foster excellence through training and mobility** and to **equip researchers with new skills and competences** in order to identify solutions to current and future challenges.

## Types of Postdoctoral Fellowships

**European Postdoctoral Fellowships (EPF)** are open to researchers of any nationality who wish to engage in R&I projects by either coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe.

**Duration: 12-24 months.**

**Global Postdoctoral Fellowships (GPD)** are open to European nationals or long-term residents who wish to engage in R&I projects with organisations outside EU Member States (MS) and Horizon Europe (HE) Associated Countries (AC).

**Duration: 24-36 months (12-24 months outgoing phase in a non-associated Third Country (TC) & 12 months mandatory return phase to a host organisation in Europe).**

## Additional Funding Opportunity

**ERA Fellowships** are open to researchers of any nationality who wish to engage in R&I projects by either coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe **to a Widening Country\***. In order to apply for the ERA Fellowships call, applicants need to submit their proposal to the 2021 MSCA PF call. To be eligible to this call the host organisation must be located in an eligible widening country. The application to the MSCA PF call will be automatically resubmitted to this call in case the proposal fails to reach an adequate place in the ranking to be funded.

\* Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and all AC with equivalent characteristics in terms of R&I performance and the Outermost Regions (defined in Art. 349 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU).

## Worldwide secondments



Researchers may opt to include a secondment phase, within the overall duration of their fellowship in any country worldwide. The secondment phase can be a single period or be divided into shorter mobility periods.

For **EPF**, secondments cannot exceed **1/3 of the standard fellowship duration**.

For **GPF**, optional secondments are permitted for up to **1/3 of the outgoing phase**.

## Placements in the non-academic sector

Both **EPF** and **GPF** can provide an additional period of up to 6 months to support researchers seeking a placement at the end of the project to work on R&I projects in an organisation from the non-academic sector established in an EU MS or HE AC.



## Eligible Applicants

- **All domains of research and technological development** are eligible for funding.
- **Applications made jointly by the researcher and a host institution** in an EU MS or HE AC (in the research areas covered by the Euratom Programme legal entity must be established in an EU MS or Euratom AC).
- Excellent researchers of **any nationality**. However, researchers applying for GPF or researchers reintegrating to Europe, must be nationals or long term residents of EU MS or HE AC.
- Supported fellows must be **in possession of PhD at the call deadline** (applicants who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but who have not yet formally been awarded the doctoral degree will also be considered eligible to apply).
- **Up to 8 years full-time equivalent experience in research** from the date of award of the doctoral degree at the call deadline (exceptions: career breaks, work outside research, research outside Europe for reintegrating researchers).
- **Mobility rule:** fellows must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary (for EPF), or the host organisation for the outgoing phase (for GPF) for more than 12 months in the 36 months before the call deadline.
- **Researchers reintegrating from a TC** must either be based in a TC at the call deadline, or have moved directly from a TC to an EU MS or HE AC within the last 12 months before the call deadline.
- Fellows in the **research areas covered by the Euratom Programme** must be nationals or long-term residents of an EU MS or Euratom AC.

## Applicable unit contributions

Contributions for the recruited researcher per person-month					Institutional unit contributions per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 5080*	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit** x (1/number of months)	EUR 1000	EUR 650

\* A country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance in order to ensure equal treatment and purchasing power parity for all researchers (72,8% for Lithuania). For European Postdoctoral Fellowships, this coefficient is the one applicable to the country of the beneficiary. For the Global Postdoctoral Fellowships two different country correction coefficients apply – for the outgoing phase and for the return phase.

\*\* The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

**The beneficiary must recruit the postdoctoral researcher under an employment contract** or equivalent direct contract with full social security coverage.

**The above rates apply to postdoctoral researchers devoting themselves to their project on a full-time basis.** Researchers may, in agreement with the supervisor and beneficiary and with prior approval by the granting authority, implement their project on a part-time basis.

## Plan your steps



If you are ready to take the next step in your research career, look further into our University's host offers and find the one that best suits your interests. Once you have it, you should contact the corresponding scientific supervisor directly or simply reach Department for Research and Innovation (email: [mokslas@cr.vu.lt](mailto:mokslas@cr.vu.lt)). After the supervisor agrees to endorse you as a candidate, you can start preparation of a project proposal.

## Required documents

Please send these documents while contacting potential supervisor (with CC to [mokslas@cr.vu.lt](mailto:mokslas@cr.vu.lt)):

- Curriculum vitae
- List of publications
- Proposal summary >>>

**MAKE YOUR CHOICE**



## Non-Exhaustive List of Possible Supervisors

### **Dr. Ainė Ramonaitė, Professor**

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*Institute of International Relations and Political Science  
Department of Political behavior and Institutions  
The (Post)soviet Memory Studies Center*

**Research focus:** political behavior and political attitudes, electoral behavior, party politics in post-communist countries, civil society, memory studies, oral history

**Find more >>>**; Email: [aine.ramonaite@tspmi.vu.lt](mailto:aine.ramonaite@tspmi.vu.lt)

### **Dr. Dovilė Jakniūnaitė, Professor**

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*Institute of International Relations and Political Science  
Department of International Relations*

**Research focus:** border studies, critical security studies, identity and foreign policy, de facto states

**Find more >>>**; Email: [dovile.jakniunaite@tspmi.vu.lt](mailto:dovile.jakniunaite@tspmi.vu.lt)

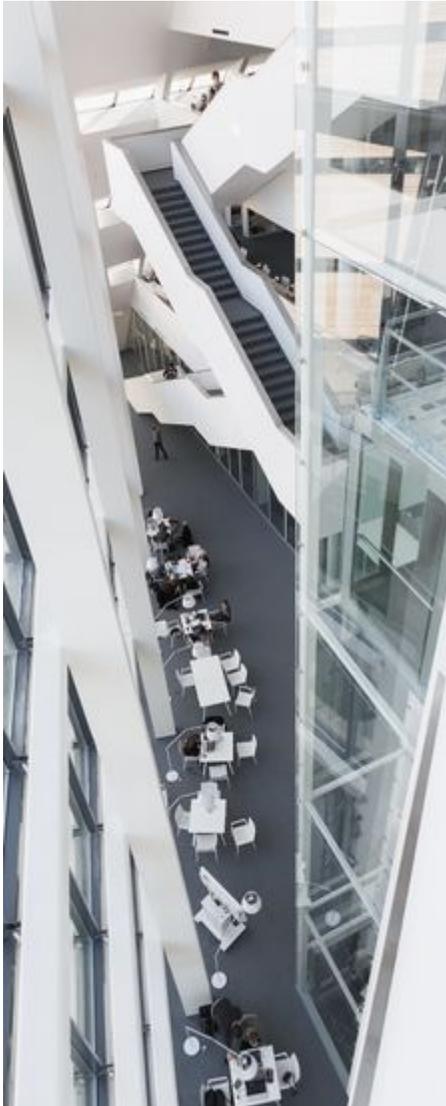
### **Dr. Mažvydas Jastramskis, Associate Professor**

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*Institute of International Relations and Political Science  
Department of Political Behavior and Institutions*

**Research focus:** party politics, electoral behaviour, presidential politics

**Find more >>>**; Email: [mazydydas.jastramskis@tspmi.vu.lt](mailto:mazydydas.jastramskis@tspmi.vu.lt)



### **Dr. Tomas Janeliūnas, Professor**

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*Institute of International Relations and Political Science  
Department of International Relations*

**Research focus:** foreign policy analysis, security studies, energy security

**Find more >>>**; Email: [tomas.janeliunas@tspmi.vu.lt](mailto:tomas.janeliunas@tspmi.vu.lt)

### **Dr. Vytautas Kuokštis, Associate Professor**

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*Institute of International Relations and Political Science  
Center of European Studies  
Public Administration and Policy Analysis Center*

**Research focus:** political economy of exchange rates (political and institutional determinants of currency policy choice), varieties of capitalism, political economy of small states

**Find more >>>**; Email: [vytautas.kuokstis@tspmi.vu.lt](mailto:vytautas.kuokstis@tspmi.vu.lt)

### **Dr. Renata Šukaitytė-Coenen, Associate Professor**

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*Faculty of Communication  
Centre for Journalism and Media Research*

**Research focus:** mass communication and media studies, audiovisual culture and film studies

**Find more >>>**; Email: [renata.sukaityte@kf.vu.lt](mailto:renata.sukaityte@kf.vu.lt)



### **Dr. Inga Griškova-Bulanova, Research Professor**

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*Life Sciences Center  
Institute of Biosciences*

**Research focus:** biomarkers, electroencephalography, event-related potentials, state- and trait-related dependence, psychiatric disorders, pharmaco-EEG

**Find more >>>**; Email: [inga.griskova-bulanova@gf.vu.lt](mailto:inga.griskova-bulanova@gf.vu.lt)

### **Dr. Linas Mažutis, Research Professor**

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*Life Sciences Center  
Institute of Biotechnology  
Sector of Microtechnologies (part of MSCA ITN network)*

**Research focus:** single-cell transcriptomics, genomics and epigenomics, directed evolution, high-throughput screening of therapeutic antibodies

**Find more >>>**; Email: [linas.mazutis@bti.vu.lt](mailto:linas.mazutis@bti.vu.lt)



### **Dr. Natalja Fatkulina (Istomina), Professor**

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*Faculty of Medicine  
Institute of Health Sciences*

**Research focus:** patient education, nurse competence and education, physical activity and health education, quality of health care, health education at schools, health care policy

**Find more >>>**; Email: [natalja.fatkulina@mf.vu.lt](mailto:natalja.fatkulina@mf.vu.lt)

### **Dr. Arūnas Valiulis, Professor**

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*Faculty of Medicine  
Institute of Clinical Medicine  
Institute of Health Sciences*

**Research focus:** paediatric pulmonology, paediatric allergology, general paediatrics, health related quality of life, mHealth, indoor air pollution and its effects on child health, human ecology

**Find more >>>**; Email: [arunas.valiulis@mf.vu.lt](mailto:arunas.valiulis@mf.vu.lt)

### **Dr. Arvydas Laurinavičius, Professor**

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*Faculty of Medicine  
Department of Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Pharmacology*

**Research focus:** renal pathology, digital pathology image analysis, pathology informatics, health information systems, standards, testing of cancer biomarkers in tissue, multi-resolution analysis of biomarkers

**Find more >>>**; Email: [arvydas.laurinavicius.2@mf.vu.lt](mailto:arvydas.laurinavicius.2@mf.vu.lt)

### **Dr. Aistė Kielaitė-Gulla, Research Assistant**

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*Faculty of Medicine  
Institute of Clinical Medicine*

**Research focus:** "liver-on-a-chip" development, non-invasive pancreas diagnostics, liver organoids, liver cell mapping, genetics of rare HPB diseases, intraoperative visualization

**[Find more >>>](#); Email: [aiste.kielaitė-gulla@mf.vu.lt](mailto:aiste.kielaitė-gulla@mf.vu.lt)**

### **Dr. Arnoldas Deltuva, Research Professor**

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*Faculty of Physics  
Institute of Theoretical Physics and Astronomy*

**Research focus:** few-body nuclear physics, nuclear reactions, Efimov physics

**[Find more >>>](#); Email: [arnoldas.deltuva@tfai.vu.lt](mailto:arnoldas.deltuva@tfai.vu.lt)**



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If you would like to apply for a MSCA PF, we encourage you to contact VU Professors working in your field of research to find out if they are willing to host you. You can find the right supervisor via VU's Academic Units' sites (above), [Research teams search](#) or simply contact Department for Research and Innovation (email: [mokslas@cr.vu.lt](mailto:mokslas@cr.vu.lt)).

