

COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The director of the Centre of Migration Research, with the consent of the Rector of the University of Warsaw, announces a competition for the position of **post-doctoral researcher¹ at the Centre of Excellence in Social Science** in the project

About the programme/project/undertaking:

Title of programme/project/undertaking	Incentivizing Citizen Exposure to Quality News Online: Framework and Tools
Type of programme/project/undertaking	ERC Consolidator Grant
Funding institution	EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE AGENCY
Duration of programme/project/undertaking	01.12.2024 – 30.11.2029
Head of programme/project/undertaking	Dr Magdalena Wojcieszak
Description of programme/project/undertaking	Populism, polarisation, and wavering support for democratic norms are pressing threats to the EU. NEWSUSE seeks to explain and remedy these threats by bringing the problem of insufficient news consumption to the forefront. Rather than focusing on echo chambers, misinformation, or filter bubbles, the project focuses on very low news use among citizens as a drastically overlooked problem, which leads to voting misaligned with individual interests and susceptibility to manipulative, populist and misinformed rhetoric. Because greater news exposure can make citizens more resilient to the various democratic threats, the project asks how to sustainably incentivize the use of quality news. NEWSUSE accounts for individual, algorithmic and social factors influencing news (non-)use and also the approaches to promoting news intake and designs computational tools to increase people's consumption of quality news across social media platforms. NEWSUSE relies on cutting-edge multidisciplinary methods, combining quantitative and qualitative, observational and over-time experimental designs and incorporating the latest advances in computer and computational social science.

Position details:

Position title	Post-Doctoral Researcher
Organisational unit	Centre of Migration Research
Employment group	Research academics
Position profile ²	R2

¹ The nouns used in the announcement apply to people of all genders.

² Complete only in the case of competition for the position in the research employment group or the research and teaching employment group.

Academic discipline ³	Communication and Media Studies, Political Science, Computer Science, Computational Social Science
Number of positions	1
Form of employment and length of working time (proportionally to full-time employment)	Employment contract, full-time employment
Expected date of commencement of work and employment period	36 months, starting Fall 2025 or winter 2026 (flexible starting date)
Remuneration	PLN 14,975 gross/monthly (including basic salary and supplementary salary), plus seniority bonus, plus 13 th (additional) salary More information: link
Other working conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Workplace: Centre of Excellence in Social Science, University of Warsaw – Career opportunities: ... More information: link
Basic responsibilities and obligations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementation of the research project in collaboration with the PI and team members. 2. Co-designing and programming innovative experiments using web-based data; 3. Working on or assisting in training / development / use of automated classifications (NLP, Large Language Models); 4. Analyzing and visualizing data, applying statistical models to test hypotheses on large data sets; 5. Drafting and editing articles for publication in high-impact journals and for international conferences; 6. Writing journalistic texts popularising the results of the research carried out; 7. Preparing presentations of the results of the analyses carried out, including the creation of visualisations of the research results; 8. Presenting research results at international conferences and academic meetings. <p>More information: Scope of responsibilities of the academic teacher</p>
Conditions for entering the competition ⁴	<p>Fulfilment of the requirements set out in Article 113 of the Law on Higher Education and Science (Journal of Laws of 2024, item 1571, consolidated text)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD or completed dissertation (with a scheduled defence effective before the date of employment) • Degree in social sciences (e.g. communication, political science, computational social science, economics) or computer sciences (e.g. computer science, information science, data science) • Experience in quantitative research methods (e.g. analysis of survey, experimental, and online behavioural data using advanced models) • Computational skills - experience of working in R, Python or other programming languages; • Experience in designing, conducting and analysing complex research projects that combine self-report (experiments/surveys) with digital trace data (e.g. tracking data); • Experience in addressing relevant social science questions using computational methods; • Good spoken and written English; • Experience in analysing survey or experimental data and visualising results;

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⁴ Required by the Act, the Law on Higher Education and Science, the Statute of the University of Warsaw, as well as necessary for the position.

In addition, we expect ⁵	<i>If hired, we expect the University of Warsaw to be the primary workplace for the successful candidate (and details will be decided with the PI).</i>
Criteria for the assessment of candidates in a competition	<p>The evaluation will be based on competence (previous achievements according to the career stage and compatibility with the scope of the project), research maturity (general level, research technique, compatibility with the general objectives of the project), mobility experience (change of scientific environment, change of discipline, change of sector, etc.), and soft competences.</p> <p>We reserve the right to admit selected candidates to the interview.</p>

Position ~~related~~/not related⁶ to activities covered by the protection of minors.

Competition rules:

Announcement reference number	OBM-NA-HEERC-1.1/2025
Keywords	computational social science, data science, data analysis
Deadline for submitting applications ⁷	15 September 2025 (23:59 CET; Warsaw time)
Method of submitting an application	<p>by e-mail to: cess@uw.edu.pl with the title OBM-NA-HEERC-1.1/2025</p> <p>Candidates will receive an e-mail confirming acceptance of their application for the competition.</p>
Required documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Proof of a PhD completion (or of a scheduled dissertation defense) – CV, – Letter of intent (including approximate date of possible employment at UW), – Sample of academic work in English (e.g. journal article, thesis, dissertation), – a list of up to three names of persons who could serve as references (letters of reference are not required) – Candidate's questionnaire link <p>Please ensure that your application is complete and submitted by the deadline indicated!</p>

The competition is the first stage of the recruitment process, please read the Policy of Open, Transparent and Merit-Based Recruitment at the University of Warsaw [link](#)

Stages of competition	<p>The competition consists of the following stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Stage I - formal evaluation of documents, – Stage II - substantive evaluation on the basis of submitted documents, – Stage III - interview with selected candidates , – Stage IV - final evaluation of competence, experience and scientific achievements, <p>Stage V - adjudication of the competition and announcement of results.</p>
Anticipated date and method of notification of the competition outcomes	<p>Anticipated date of communicating the outcome: <u>30 September 2025 r.</u></p> <p>Candidates will be notified of the results of the competition by e-mail.</p> <p>The Centre reserves the right to respond only to selected offers and to close the competition without selecting a candidate.</p>
Contact for any questions relating to the competition	Questions about the competition should be addressed to cess@uw.edu.pl with the announcement reference number

⁵ Additional conditions to be met; however, not meeting them will not lead to a negative formal assessment.

⁶ Delete as appropriate.

⁷ Not sooner than 30 days from the date of publication of the announcement.

	Accessibility needs should be indicated on the Candidate's Questionnaire, in: <i>Other relevant information from a candidate</i>
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Employing faculty/unit:

Research profile of faculty/unit	https://cess.idub.uw.edu.pl/o-nas/o-centrum/
Teaching profile of faculty/unit	https://cess.idub.uw.edu.pl/en/about-us/about-the-centre/
Other information	<p>What we offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a unique opportunity to work on a research project using cutting-edge data and methods (e.g. online tracking data and deep machine learning models) to address important societal issues. • the opportunity to present your work at top academic conferences, develop your professional network and submit your work to top academic journals. • access to a wide range of training courses; • access to infrastructure (office space, library, IT resources, sports facilities); • work in an enthusiastic and international team with external colleagues in a research environment at one of the best universities in Central and Eastern Europe, with developed international collaborations; • the opportunity to present your work at top academic conferences, expand your professional network and submit to top academic journals; • the opportunity to obtain funding for your own research; • international research trips for fieldwork and project meetings.

The University of Warsaw has implemented the procedure for whistleblowers reporting cases of law violation and for undertaking follow-up actions. For **more information** about this topic and the processing of candidates' personal data please follow the [link](#)

The University of Warsaw is a winner of the HR Excellence in Research award granted by the European Commission to institutions adhering to the European Charter for Researchers.

