 

COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS NOTIFICATION

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| Rector of Cracow University of Economics  Registered office Rakowicka 27  Phone: (12) 293 5700 |  | Krakow, 12.05.2021 |

**RECTOR**

**of the Cracow University of Economics (Kraków, Poland) announces a competitive selection process for scholarship for the PhD Student - Researcher at the Centre for the Advanced Study of Population and Religion (CASPAR) academic field: sociology 30- months postdoc in Kurdish studies in the research project *Activism and Its Moral and Cultural Foundations: Alternative Citizenship and Women’s Roles in Kurdistan and The Diaspora (ALCITfem)* financed by National Science Centre-Poland in the scope of Grieg programme/ Norway Grants.**

The competitive selection process is open for all individuals who meet the requirements set out in the appendix to the NCN council resolution no. 25/2019 from March 14th, 2019.:

1. Holding a Master degree
2. Having relevant scientific achievements;

3) Taking active part in academic life;

Detailed requirements:

1. Holding a master’s degree in social sciences, preferably in sociology, social anthropology or political science
2. Being enrolled at a Ph.D. programme during the application and for the whole time of participation (30 months)
3. Having relevant scientific interests in the fields of Kurdish issues, environmentalism or sustainable development and gender
4. The candidate will be required to offer his/her own research proposal for a 30-month research project directly related to the overall Research Programme with relation to the project’s Work Package 4 (WP4, see the description in the attachment to this call) entitled: **“WP 4. Eco-Feminism: The Kurdish Women’s Search for Ecological Life and Autonomy”**. The researcher will be required to contribute to WP 4. S/he will be also expected to write an independent research proposal that is related to the topic of WP4, but can include additional issues and ideas. The proposal must be written in English. The proposal will be further worked out in the first month of the project, in communication with the WP4 leader. Moreover, like all other researchers, she/he will be supportive in conducting interviews for WP4 and other Work Packages in the project. Also, she/he will be responsible for presenting the research results during joint seminars and on international conferences. Contributing to at least 2 scientific papers and to the edited volume - the final result of the project - is expected. All the project members of the project are required to publish in Open Access journals and to contribute to the joint papers
5. Experienced in fieldwork is required, while previous research experience in the Middle East will be regarded as an advantage
6. Good knowledge of environmental activism
7. Good knowledge of English and at least basic knowledge of one of the languages commonly used in the Kurdish-speaking regions
8. Willingness to join the research team and take active part in the ALCITfem works

 

Project description: The project is an interdisciplinary research programme that is rooted in literary studies, cultural anthropology, gender studies and sociology. Methodologically and theoretically, the project combines and connects Humanities with Social Sciences through the cooperation of the following institutes: the Section of Kurdish Studies at the Institute of Oriental Studies (Faculty of Philology) of the Jagiellonian University (JU, Kraków), the Centre for Gender Research (STK, Senter for Tverrfaglig Kjonnsforskning) at the University of Oslo (UiO), the Centre for the Advanced Study of Population and Religion (CASPAR) at Cracow University of Economics (CUE), the Fafo, Institute of Labour and Social Research in Oslo and the Asia and Pacific Museum (Warsaw). It investigates how the Kurds, who lack state structures and state institutions, have operated outside of such structures by building cultural and social institutions of their own in the different states of which they are citizens. More about the project: http://www.kurdishstudies.pl/?en\_alcitfem,226

Scholarship salary indication: around5000 (gross)/month PLN

Starting date: 01.07.2021

The candidates, who would like to take part in the competitive selection process, should submit the following documents in the English language to the email of dr. Dobrosława Wiktor-Mach [wiktord@uek.krakow.pl](mailto:wiktord@uek.krakow.pl), the leader of WP4 and the director of the project dr hab. Joanna Bocheńska: joanna.bochenska@kurdishstudies.pl. Selected candidates will be invited to an online interview with the principal investigator and other members of the project.

The application pack must include:

1. application form and motivation letter expressing the candidate’s will to join the project as a PhD Student - Researcher
2. A Curriculum Vitae
3. personal questionnaire filled in by the candidate; (see the forms under the link given below)
4. the individual research project related to WP4 (750-1500 words)
5. copy of the Master diploma
6. confirmation of a PhD status
7. list of publications, academic and non-academic
8. one letter of reference
9. information regarding the processing of personal data; (see the forms under the link)

At the hiring stage, the following forms will be additionally required, the candidate must read them before applying:

1. declaration of acknowledging and accepting the rules and regulations concerning intellectual property management and commercialization in force at the Cracow University of Economics; (see the forms)

Opening date: 12.05.2021

**Application submission deadline: 27.05.2021**

**The competitive selection process will be concluded by: 04**.**06.2021**

**Place of enrolment: Cracow University of Economics, Kraków, Poland**

Cracow University of Economics does not provide housing.

**Declaration forms can be obtained at:**

[Personal data processing approval form](http://www.kurdishstudies.pl/files/RODO_UEK_EN_form.docx)

[Personal questionnaire form](http://kurdishstudies.pl/files/Personal_Questionary_PL_ENG%5b4%5d.docx)

**On behalf of the Rector of Cracow University of Economics**

**Attachment**

**Work Package 4 (WP4)**

**WP 4. Eco-Feminism: The Kurdish Women’s Search for Ecological Life and Autonomy,**   
dr Dobrosława Wiktor-Mach (Co-Investigator) (CASPAR at Cracow University of Economics)

Objectives of WP4:

1)  To shed new light on the dynamics of environmental activism of Kurdish women, its socio-cultural context, and its relation to other fields of social mobilization (such as the struggle for autonomy, equality, and participatory politics).

2)  To identifie “old” and “new” practices in the sphere of environmental protection and sustainable development. The project will reveal multidimensional links between ecology and Kurdish identity with an emphasis on women’s roles.

This WP will complement the study of female activism by focusing on its organized forms. Rooted in the framework of sustainable development, it will explore ecological initiatives of Kurdish women activists. Due to the experience of discrimination and limited autonomy, these eco-initiatives can be read as an expression of alternative citizenship. This field of activism consists of a diversity of initiatives, both small co-operatives and NGOs targeting local communities as well as ambitious politically-motivated projects such as the implementation of Democratic Confederalism in Syrian and Turkish Kurdistan (Diken, Baysal 2015). So far, only the ongoing ecological activism in Syrian Kurdistan (Rojava) has attracted substantial international public interest (see e.g., Briy 2019, Hunt 2019). In this WP our focus will be on women’s ecological (and socio-ecological) activities, narratives, ideas and symbols. Kurds have developed their unique perspectives integrating ecology as a vital aspect of their identity. Their slogan ‘*Jin, Jiyan, Azadî*’ (Women, Life, Freedom) reflects the Kurdish version of eco-feminism complemented by ideas developed in the context of struggle for independence and autonomy.

Specifically, in the cooperation between the project’s members, we will explore the following areas:

* ‘Green’ forms of activities, ranging from institutionalized NGOs to informal initiatives as well as the social, cultural, political and economic context
* Ecological discourses and their transformations in texts, books written by Kurdish ecological activists as well as media coverage of green initiatives led by women. In this area, we will analyze ideas and narratives prevailing in Kurdish regions concerning sustainability, ecology, alternative development, ecofeminism, etc.
* The role of social networks of activists and other actors involved in the ecological field. We will analyse the formation of those networks and their impact on the development of green activism. In particular, the transnational dimension in Kurdish eco-activism will be explored.

Multi-sited ethnography will serve as a methodological framework for this project. The main component will be the field research in different localities which will enable us to identify the main actors in the field of ecology and women-led sustainability initiatives and to gather relevant data for analysis. Field trips are planned to Kurdish-inhabited areas, especially in Turkey (southeastern region with the Kurdish majority and well as Istanbul – an important urban center for Kurdish population) (Co-investigator) and to northwestern Iran (Co- investigator and Bocheńska), Although Rojava in northern Syria would be a great place to study the green Kurdish ideology, the war and political turbulences make it probably too risky for researchers to visit. If possible, interviews will be conducted with Rojava activists outside of Syria or via internet. Field visits will include the documentation of ecological initiatives, in-depth interviews with Kurdish activists (and women ideologs) working towards sustainable society, but also with journalists and experts in the ecological movements and politics; participant observation.

**Bibliography**

Briy, Anya (2019). The Theory and Practice of the Kurdish Women’s Movement: an Interview in Diyarbakir, https://www.globalrights.info/2019/01/the-theory-and-practice-of-the-kurdish-womens- movement-an-interview-in-diyarbakir/.

Diken, Seyhmus and Nurcan Baysal. (2015). *Kurdistan’da Sivil Toplum*, Istanbul: İletişim.  
Eliassi, Barzoo. (2010). *A stranger in my homeland : The politics of belonging among young people with Kurdish backgrounds in Sweden*. (Doctoral dissertation). Sundsvall, Mid Sweden University. 260.

Hunt, Stephen E. (2019). “Prospects for Kurdish Ecology Initiatives in Syria and Turkey: Democratic Confederalism and Social Ecology.” *Capitalism, Nature, Socialism* 30 (3): 7-26.