

“Global mobility of employees (GLOMO)”

A Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Innovative Training Network (ITN) funded under H2020-MSCA-ITN-2017

is recruiting 15 early stage researchers for 3 year fixed-term, fully funded PhD positions (100%)

Overview

Topic No.: Early Stage Researcher 15

Project Title: **Political parties and institutions as contexts for transnational political elite recruitment**

Host institute: University of Bamberg, Germany

Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Thomas Saalfeld (University of Bamberg, DE), Prof. Dr. Svetlana Khapova (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, NL)

Starting date: 1 September 2018 (3 years contract)

Short description

Some European democracies are experiencing a growing ‘presence’ of politicians of immigrant origin in their legislatures. Political parties are a crucial context for the recruitment of such elites, especially amongst the ‘first-generation’ immigrants. Based on a sample of national and regional legislatures in Europe (Germany, The Netherlands and the UK), ESR 15 will examine the extent to which macro-level developments towards the professionalisation of political careers in European democracies affect the chances of politicians of immigrant origin to get nominated as candidates for parliamentary office by extra-parliamentary party organisations and affect the political discourse and decision-making on transnational mobility within parliamentary party groups and legislatures.

Objective

- Establish a reliable database for the assessment of cross-national and cross-party recruitment of first-generation immigrants in Germany, The Netherlands and the UK for elected office in the European, national and (where appropriate) regional legislatures.
- Examine the extent to which the professionalisation of political careers create, or remove, barriers towards the recruitment of first-generation immigrants to high legislative and executive office.
- Assess the nature and effectiveness of party-specific measures to promote ethnic diversity and address questions of underrepresentation and integration in leadership recruitment.
- Assess the role of public funding for highly-qualified research staff in the public sector and NGOs in creating a new ‘pre-political career structure’ that affects diversity in political recruitment.
- Assess the extent to which cross-level governing in the European Union (local, regional, national, EU levels) creates new international career structures.
- Assess the importance of immigrant-origin ‘role models’ and champions for diversity in political leadership recruitment.

Expected Results

- Addressing descriptive gaps in the literature on selection of immigrant-origin candidates for political leadership positions in selected European parties and development of methodological tools to extend the analysis to other social groups and countries.
- Fundamental empirical contribution to the nature and effects of organisational reforms in political parties aiming to increase diversity in the face of declining memberships, party identification and trust in parties and legislatures.
- Contribution to theoretical models on candidate selection focusing on the incentives and risks of recruiting immigrant-origin candidates.
- Contribution of Europeanisation and cross-level governing to the integration of immigrants in the democratic process.

Planned secondment(s)

- January to April 2020: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, NL. Purpose: gather documents and conduct expert interviews with candidates, staff in party organisations and members of party leaderships in the Netherlands
- December 2020 to March 2021: German Federal Employment Agency, B. Purpose: acquisition of methodological knowledge for the collection of information on immigrant-origin population at the levels of electoral districts; data collection

Location

The University of Bamberg is an internationally recognised centre for excellent research and teaching in the Social Sciences, Economics, and Business Administration with a particular emphasis on labour markets and education, including a long-standing track record in funded research on migration/expatriation. This includes research on the representation and integration of citizens of immigrant origin. The University's research excellence in this area is underpinned by the Leibniz Institute for Educational Trajectories in Bamberg. Moreover, the University's Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics, and Business Administration and the Federal Institute for Employment Research in nearby Nuremberg cooperate closely. The Bamberg Graduate School of Social Sciences is funded under the German Excellence Initiative to provide outstanding graduate training and supervision in English to its international student body.

We seek

A candidate having a relevant university degree (master's degree or equivalent) in Political Sciences, Business Administration with a focus on Human Resource Management or International Management, Business Psychology, Economic Geography, Sociology, Business Pedagogics or related fields.

Contact

Prof. Dr. Thomas Saalfeld
University of Bamberg
Chair of Comparative Politics
Feldkirchenstraße 21
D-96046 Bamberg
Germany

E.: thomas.saalfeld@uni-bamberg.de

T.: +49 951 863-2555 or -2605

<https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/comparpol/>

Interested in applying?

Eligible candidates should inform themselves about the application modalities via our project website www.glomo.eu. If you are interested in GLOMO, please apply online, using the central submission system [here](#). Please state clearly which of the 15 GLOMO research project(s) you intend to apply for. All documents need to be submitted as **a single PDF** (max. 30 MB).