

IPE JUNIOR FELLOWSHIP 2017

This junior fellowship program aims to support research and advocacy work of young scholars who have demonstrated exceptional competence and motivation in tackling key social, political and environmental challenges of the 21st century, in line with priorities of IPE annual programmatic work. The research priorities of a fellow in 2017 will fit the IPE operations and research activities in 2017. Primary output of a fellow's research should be a draft policy paper of publishing standard or a draft academic article (possibly in co-authorship with senior researchers associated with IPE) related to the priorities described below.

The fellowships are open to all academic disciplines, but research proposals should be related to Institute's programmatic priorities in 2017:

SEMi-PERiphery sustaIN –a tool to measure the sustainability potential of semiperiphery countries

A key challenge for assessing how resilient a society is to development constraints expected in this century, as well as for assessing the potential of societies to transform their social metabolism in line with these development constraints, is for assessment metrics to better reflect the biohistorical and sociohistorical context upon which resilience is built and from which transformation is expected. Whilst the general direction of transformation for the globally 'core' countries is relatively consensual (reduction of material impact through preservation of general 'wellbeing'), there is less clarity regarding this issue in the dependent capitalist economies of the European semiperiphery (and societies of similar transformative potential globally). Such societies require clear, widely communicable and internationally comparable indicators of the aspects of transformation aligned with democratic and culturally integrated degrowth, as well as possible paths for national economies to ascertain the sustainable and flourishing steady-state direction. Researchers will be encouraged to engage with this topic by collecting and analysing data from various sources and re-conceptualising the mapping of progress, subsistence and wellbeing in the semiperipheral historical, geographical and cultural context. Ability to frame these in the specific fields of materialist, commons-based and/or world-ecology approaches within political ecology will be considered a benefit.

A familiarity with basic handling of quantitative data sources (both international trade database- and social survey- based) is expected and necessary, despite strong preference for inclusive and historical understanding of the narrative construction within which sustainability, conviviality and development are framed.

Applications are encouraged from candidates who want to work on (a) innovative empirical analyses of publicly available data (national socio-economic measures, social survey data, longitudinal trends); and/or (b) discursive and qualitative arguments supported by empirical findings, in order to develop alternative measures of the sustainability potential of semiperipheral contexts. Applicants are asked

to indicate whether they would develop their research through streams (a), (b) or both, and stress their academic credential for the chosen stream(s).

If you wish to tell a story of a different modernization specific of the European periphery, in a way that is both emancipatory for 'living well with less' and informative for both global North and South, put together a persuasive one page narrative and join our international and interdisciplinary team. A more comprehensive global understanding benefits all and broadens the scope of options available to human communities of 21st century.

IPE Junior Fellowships are for full-time, optimally for period of 9 months. Fellowship can start at earliest convenience by 1st April 2017 or soon thereafter.

Eligibility

Candidates for the fellowship:

- must have a second degree (master or equivalent) in any academic discipline
- must display an active competence in English

We particularly invite candidates who can demonstrate high academic ambition, but have also been socially engaged and are willing to employ their research and scientific work in societal transformation close to IPE's mission. Candidates with distinctive experience in connecting international and local perspectives in their work, or can demonstrate outstanding social engagement will be given preference.

Conditions

The candidates selected will be invited to spend optimally but not more than 9 months at IPE to pursue their research within the framework of IPE research projects. Junior Visiting Fellows will receive a stipend of EUR 800 net per month (in HRK equivalent) to cover accommodation, living expenses, travel, health insurance and any incidental costs related to their stay in Zagreb. Modality of the payment will be defined at individual basis in agreement with the selected fellow.

In addition, IPE provides fellows with office space and in-house research and administrative facilities.

Fellows will initially undergo orientation and introduction to IPE staff and associates and ongoing activities of the Institute. Fellows will cooperate closely with the IPE staff member who leads the respective research activity, attend monthly meetings with the Research Director and are expected to contribute to other ongoing research activities and public events. Depending on specific activities, fellows will work either from the IPE office in Zagreb, or temporarily from other locations conditional on agreement with the Research Director and the Executive Director of IPE. Halfway through their Fellowship, fellows will present their research project to the IPE team and should expect an evaluation of their outputs and cooperation with IPE team by the Academic Council.

Application

Applications have to be submitted via email, to fellowship@ipe.hr, marked by candidate's name and phrase 'FINAL APPLICATION' in the subject line. After expiration of deadline all applicants will be informed about the acceptance of their application. Applications must include:

- a project proposal in English (1 page, font 12)
- a curriculum vitae in English, including a list of publications (academic and/or those demonstrating social engagement)
- two letters of recommendation (academic)
- voice contact details (telephone, Skype) for elaboration of project proposal if necessary, indicating availability between 3rd and 10th March 2017 in case they will be shortlisted.

Candidates are kindly asked to state in their application their preferred date of start of their Fellowship term.

Candidates are encouraged to develop their autonomous research proposals in line with the objectives set out in this call, and should not expect content feedback instructions concerning their applications from IPE staff and associates. Administrative inquiries are open up to two weeks before application deadline via fellowship@ipe.hr address.

Application Deadline

20th February 2017.

Selection

The finalists will be selected by IPE's team and representatives from Academic Council. In the process of selection additional elaboration of their research ideas, proposal and their background could occur as necessary in which case shortlisted candidates should expect to be directly contacted. Only shortlisted applicants will be notified of the decision by 3rd of March 2017. IPE is not obliged to publicly justify its decisions.