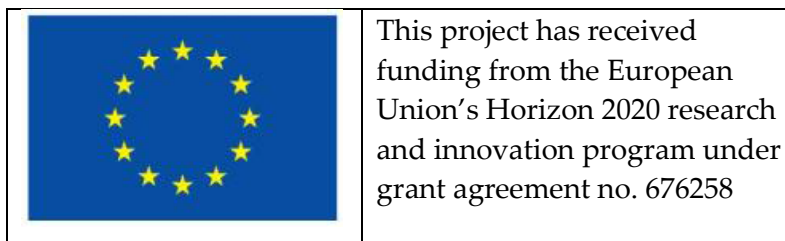**Available PhD positions within the H2020 ITN-HHFDWC-676258 –**
The History of Human Freedom and Dignity in Western Civilization

Guide for applicants

Content

1. Applicant requirements

Two PhD positions (subprojects nos. 3 and 12) are available within the H2020 ITN - The History of Human Freedom and Dignity in Western Civilization. Please check our website www.itn-humanfreedom.eu for descriptions of the projects.

Before applying, please note the following requirements:
- You must hold an internationally recognized Master's or an equivalent degree, which would formally entitle you to embark on a doctorate, in theology, history, philosophy, classics, religious history, or a related field.
- You must have less than four years of research experience after your candidate degree and have not received a PhD degree.
- You shall demonstrate mobility and must therefore at the time of recruitment not have resided or carried out your main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the relevant country (where the PhD position is located for which you apply) for more than 12 months in the last 3 years. Compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account.
- Moreover, during your PhD studies, you are required to complete two secondments (lasting between three and six months) with one of the nine non-academic partners as well as at one of the other European universities as part of the training activities.
- You must be fluent in English, written and oral.

2. When to apply

The application(s) must be submitted to Birgitte Bøgh via bb@cas.au.dk at the latest on October 13, 2017, at 23:59. If you apply for the position in Reading, England, you must also apply at the same time via their application system: information on this process can be acquired from Prof. Karla Pollmann (k.f.l.pollmann@reading.ac.uk).

3. Assessment criteria

The recruitment procedure will comply with the "The European Charter and Code for Researchers" (i.e. "The Code of Conduct for Recruitment") to guarantee an open, transparent, impartial, and equitable recruitment strategy. In addition to assessing the formal requirements, such as a valid degree and mobility requirements, the following will be taken into account when evaluating the project applications:

Relevance and expected impact of the proposed research:
a. Relevance of the proposed work to the scope of the call
b. Motivation and suitability relating to the overall research project in the ITN

c. Broader impact (scientific, knowledge creation, etc.) and demonstrated reflection of the candidate on the transferability of skills to be gained through the network experience
d. Gender balance.

Scientific quality of the proposal:
a. Scientific/intellectual merits of the proposed research (is it clear, convincing and compelling?)
b. Thoroughness: definition of the problem and proposed solutions, knowledge of the state of the art
c. Novelty and originality, e.g., potential for the creation of new knowledge, new ideas, and approaches; use of novel methodologies or innovative application of existing methodologies; potential for the creation of new fundamental questions and new directions for research; feasibility (scientific, project timeline, deliverables, etc.)
d. Reflection on the benefits of the secondments and the stay at another university within the network for the candidate's research.

Quality of the applicant:
a. Academic qualifications and achievements in relation to their stage of career
b. Mobility and career development aspects (how the position will benefit the future career of the applicant)
c. Research experience and level of independence
d. Demonstrated expertise of the applicant in the relevant study area
e. Other academic experiences, such as teaching, teamwork, knowledge transfer, etc.
f. Specific skills if mentioned in the description of the relevant sub-project
g. Personal skills or experiences that can be considered beneficial for the applicant's ability to complete the project. This may include non-academic experiences achieved, e.g., during career breaks. Career breaks in the curriculum, e.g. parental leave or compulsory military service, will not be penalized.
h. Publication track record, if any.

4. Application procedures and timeline

- Deadline for applications: October 13, 2017, at 23:59 CET
- Selection procedures: After the submission deadline, two suitable candidates for each subproject will be preselected by a central consortium committee, based on an eligibility screening and other assessment criteria – see above for these. After interviews and preselection, the short-listed candidates will follow the local procedures until a contract is signed. The ITN aims for gender equality among the recruited ESRs.
- If a candidate applies for the ESR position in Reading, England, he or she must follow the application procedures of Reading and, at the same time (no later than October 13), send the application to Birgitte Bøgh (bb@cas.au.dk). For information about the Reading University application procedures, please write to Prof. Karla Pollmann: k.f.l.pollmann@reading.ac.uk.
- Applications that are rejected will receive a rejection letter no later than February 1, 2018.

- Ideally, both fellowships will commence on December 1, 2017.

5. Application requirements

One or two applications can be submitted – one for each subproject. Please note that all documents (including 1. personal information, 2. project proposal, 3. diploma, 4. transcript of grades) must be submitted in every application even though you apply for more than one. If necessary, documentation for English skills can be asked for. Please write Birgitte Bøgh (bb@cas.au.dk) if you have any questions about these documents.

Please print this guide in order to assist you during the process.

Below is an overview of what you need to include in the application:

1. Personal information

a) Personal data (you are welcome to use the data sheet (found on the homepage) to make sure that you include all the relevant information):

Please list your **name**, **date of birth, address**, and **contact information** (telephone and email). Remember country area code for telephone numbers, e.g. +45 for Denmark.

Also, please write your **nationality** and **gender** so that we can ensure that the selected ESRs meet the eligibility requirements and the aim of gender equality.

Country of residence: Please list the countries you have resided/will reside in for three years prior to December, 2017, and insert the dates. This is in order to ensure that you fulfill the mobility requirements: You cannot have resided in the country, where you want to complete the PhD, for more than 12 out of the last 36 months. Wrong or missing information may cause your proposal to be ineligible.

Name of institution: Write the English name of the university from which you have/will receive your Master's degree (or equivalent).

Name of education: Write the English name of the education on the basis of which you are applying for admission, with both major and minor subjects, if applicable, e.g., Master in Theology and Classics.

Describe the **status of your Master's degree** with one of the following words: *Awarded*: Choose this if you have already obtained you Master's degree. *Expected*: Choose this if you expect to obtain a Master's degree before enrolling as a PhD student in the ITN. *Equivalent qualifications*: Choose this if you have equivalent qualifications to a Master's degree. If you choose this, please add the name of the diploma, and make sure that it equals a Master's degree and formally allows you to be enrolled as a PhD.

Date of completion: The date when you obtained or expect to obtain your Master's degree (or equivalent). Please make sure that you have a diploma or documentation for submitting your Master's thesis (or equivalent) for assessment by the deadline for application. Please note that you must have been awarded the degree before initiating the PhD program.

English skills: Describe the level of your English skills, written and oral. You must have effective communication skills in order to complete the project (please note other relevant language skills in your CV, if any). You can be asked to document you English proficiency before initiating the program, e.g., by high school diplomas, a qualifying examination, such as TOEFL test, IELTS test or CAE, or during interviews.

Desired start date: There is no guarantee that the desired start date can be met. The fellowship will ideally commence no later than December 1, 2017. Start date must be the first of the month.

b. Curriculum Vitae (CV)

The CV cannot exceed 5000 characters (including blanks), or ca. two A4-pages. It must describe your personal background, education and career, as well as language skills and relevant personal characteristics and experiences, if relevant. It includes a summary of academic publications (if you have any). Any additional information you wish to make known to the evaluators should be included in the CV.

2. Project proposal

Project title: Please write both the title of the subproject as it is entitled in the call on our web page (http://itn-humanfreedom.eu/project-description) and your own suggested title, if this is different from the first.

Abstract: This cannot exceed 1000 characters, including blanks. The abstract should, at a glance, provide the reader with a clear understanding of the objectives of the proposal, how they will be achieved, and their relevance. This summary will be used as the short description of the proposal in the evaluation process and in communications to the evaluation committee and, if relevant, for other public purposes. It must, therefore, be short and precise and should not contain confidential information.

Project description: This cannot exceed 5000 characters, including blanks and literature references if any (these do not need to include all the information, just a surname, a word from the title, and year of publication). The description should include an explanation of your motivation for applying for this particular project and outline how the specific research project is envisaged. This should take an outset in – and be a development of – the descriptions of the subprojects as described on http://itn-humanfreedom.eu/ project-description) and could include, e.g., preliminary considerations regarding methodologies and theories; a selection of source materials, why they interesting, how they will be used, etc.; an outline of the schedule for

the PhD project; a description of the work hypothesis/issue on which the project is based; how this study relates to the overall ITN project; research history (and current problems in this), etc.

3. Diploma

Attach a copy of your diploma or documentation for submitting your Master's thesis (or equivalent) by the deadline of the application or soon thereafter.

4. Transcript of grades

You can ask for this information at the university from which you graduate(d).

In addition, you can send more documents if desired and if they are relevant for your application.

Please review your application before sending it. Make sure that all the requested information is included in the application. If the requirements are not met, the application can be rejected.

Send your application to Birgitte Bøgh via bb@cas.au.dk AND via the application system in Reading, if you apply for project no. 3, no later than October 13. You will receive a confirmation mail that your application has been successfully submitted. If you do not, please check your junk mail or contact Birgitte Bøgh via bb@cas.au.dk or +45 50 56 54 66.

6. Sources of help and additional information

For further information on the project and the participating universities, please see our website: www.itn-humanfreedom.eu.

For questions related to the research projects, please contact the supervisors Anders-Christian Jacobsen (alj@cas.au.dk) or Karla Pollmann (k.f.l.pollmann@reading.ac.uk).

For any additional information regarding the application process or the ITN in general, you are welcome to contact the project manager, Birgitte Bøgh (bb@cas.au.dk or +45 50 56 54 66) or the network coordinator, Anders-Christian Jacobsen via alj@cas.au.dk.