

**Call for Applications for a 3-year Postdoctoral Position
in the NCN OPUS project**

**“Engineering policy change: How do policy entrepreneurs leverage multi-level
contextual and political factors to drive change in European Union foreign
policy? (ENTRE)”**

INSTITUTION: Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences

DEPARTMENT/TEAM: Department of European Studies

CITY/COUNTRY: Warsaw/Poland

POSITION: Assistant Professor (Post-doc) (m/ f/ d)

SCIENTIFIC FIELD: political and administrative sciences

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE CALL: **February 19, 2026**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING DOCUMENTS: **March 30, 2026**

LINK TO THE CALL PAGE: <https://isppan.bip.gov.pl/search/joboffers/>

KEYWORDS: security and defence policy, European Union, process of policy change

SUGGESTED DATE OF EMPLOYMENT: 1 July 2026

CONTRACT TYPE: Contract of employment (full time)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ENTRE investigates the mechanisms of change in EU foreign and security policy through a theory-driven analysis of how policy ideas are translated into institutional outcomes within the EU’s multilevel governance system and the broader European security architecture. It develops a novel analytical framework that integrates public policy analysis, political science, and International Relations, with a particular emphasis on agency and its interaction with structural constraints. Advancing the Multiple Streams Approach, the project conceptualizes policy change as the result of strategic action by multiple policy entrepreneurs operating across national, EU, and global levels, who link policy ideas to political and contextual conditions at critical moments of the policy process. Methodologically, the project employs process tracing and comparative case studies, complemented by elite surveys and in-depth interviews, to analyse both successful and unsuccessful instances of EU foreign policy change in the security and defence domain.

NCN link: https://projekty.ncn.gov.pl/en/index.php?projekt_id=634332

JOB DESCRIPTION

The successful candidate will be appointed as a Postdoctoral Researcher (Assistant Professor) in the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Science (Chair for European Studies) and will contribute substantively to the empirical, methodological, and analytical components of the ENTRE project. The postdoctoral researcher will work under the supervision of the Principal Investigator, Prof. Monika Sus and in and other project collaborators and is expected to take an active role in data collection, analysis, publication, and dissemination of results. Her/Hir primary responsibility will be to design and conduct the elite study on foreign and security preferences in close cooperation with the PI. To this end the researcher will participate in project meetings, workshops, and dedicated international conferences and be actively involved in the academic life of the Institute of Political Studies.

WORKING CONDITIONS

- 36-month full-time postdoctoral position in a renowned research institution
- Flexible working modes (online/hybrid)
- Monthly salary: PLN 8,000–9,700 gross (1900-2300 EUR)
- Flexible working arrangements (remote/hybrid). The Institute offers flexible working hours and promotes work-life balance.
- Opportunity to conduct research in a dynamic international environment, in collaboration with external partners

The Institute is an employer committed to promoting equal opportunities in accordance with the principles of the European Charter for Researchers.

FORMAL REQUIREMENTS

- PhD (see additional information below) in Political Science, Security Studies, European Studies, or a closely related field¹
- Submission of the following required documents electronically to politic@isppan.waw.pl (email subject: "Recruitment: ENTRE PROJECT"):
 - A cover letter (job application) addressed to the Institute Director outlining the candidate's profile and methodological experience (see requirements below);
 - A curriculum vitae, including a detailed list of publications, research projects, research internships, conference presentations, and language certificates;

¹ The mandatory formal criterion for admission to this position is obtaining a doctoral degree in the year of employment (2026) in the project or within the 12 years prior to January 1 2026.

- Contact details of two researchers/scientists who are willing to provide references for the candidate;
- Electronic versions of the two most important publications the candidate considers representative of their scientific achievements, or an explanation for their absence;
- A copy of candidate's doctoral diploma or a certificate of the prospects of obtaining a doctoral degree in the year of employment in the project (2026);
- A declaration of acceptance of the competition terms and conditions applicable at the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences;
- A declaration of consent to the processing of your personal data by the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences (attached);

SUBSTANTVE REQUIREMENTS

- Proven experience in survey design, including questionnaire development for elite or expert populations
- Strong skills in quantitative methods and statistical analysis of survey data
- Experience in empirical research design and data collection
- Familiarity with EU foreign and security policy, NATO, and European security governance
- Knowledge of policy domains relevant to EU external action (e.g. defence, foreign policy, security, industry)
- Excellent written and spoken English
- Previous international publication track and conference experience
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in an international research environment

ADDITIONAL DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Experience with elite studies, including interviews with policymakers, officials, or experts
- Experience with analysis of multi-level contextual factors (national, EU, international) affecting elite preferences
- Previous work combining quantitative and qualitative methods
- Experience working in international research teams or large collaborative projects
- Experience in organizing the editorial process of collective volumes or special issues

SELECTION PROCEDURE

The recruitment and selection process for research positions at the Institute is described in detail in the Rules for Conducting Competitions for Research Positions at the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The Institute encourages representatives

of underrepresented groups, particularly women and people with disabilities, to submit applications.

Link to the rules: https://isppan.waw.pl/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2022_10_28_Regulamin-przeprowadzania-konkursow-na-stanowiska-naukowe2-logo-HR.pdf

The recruitment, remuneration and selection process for research positions in NCN-funded projects is described in detail in the NCN Regulations: https://www.ncn.gov.pl/sites/default/files/pliki/uchwaly-rady/2024/uchwala84_2024-zal1.pdf

STATEMENT

I acknowledge that:

- * The Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences and entities with which it has concluded relevant agreements on the processing of personal data on its behalf is the administrator of personal data of persons applying for the position of a scholarship holder/assistant/assistant professor/professor of the institute/professor** at the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences and entities with which it has concluded relevant agreements on the processing of personal data on its behalf.
- * The supervisory authority appointed to control compliance with the protection of personal data is the President of the Office for Personal Data Protection.
- * The Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences has appointed a data protection officer who can be contacted by e-mail at iod@isppan.waw.pl.
- * The collection and processing of personal data by the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences is necessary to conduct a competition for the position of a scholarship holder/assistant/assistant professor/professor of the institute/professor** at the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. This data will only be used for this purpose and will not be shared with other entities.
- * Personal data are processed on the basis of Article 6(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (Official Journal of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation). UE L 119 of 4.05.2016, p. 1).
- * A person who has consented to the processing of personal data is entitled to withdraw such consent at any time - without indicating any reasons. You also have the right to access your personal data, rectify it, delete it or limit its processing. They also have the right to transfer data, object to the method of data processing, contact the Data Protection Inspector in all matters related to the processing of their personal data, as well as lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority - the President of the Office for Personal Data Protection. Bearing in mind the above: As an adult, I declare that I have fully voluntarily provided the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences with my personal data included in my application for the position of a scholarship holder/assistant/assistant professor/professor of the institute/professor**, i.e.: name and surname, data on the course of scientific career, address of residence, e-mail address and telephone number, and I consent to the processing of my personal data by the Administrator, which is the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, with its registered office at 18/20 Polna Street in Warsaw (00-625), in order to conduct a competition for the position of a scholarship holder/assistant/assistant professor/professor of the institute/professor** at the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

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Place and date

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readable signature

** Delete accordingly