

Post-doc SONATA BIS 11 (UMO-2021/42/E/HS5/00155)

Job title: Post-Doctoral Research Position: Investigating Deliberative Democracy and Mini-Publics in Central Eastern European Countries

NCN call: SONATA BIS 11 (UMO-2021/42/E/HS5/00155).

Terms of employment: employment contract, full time, gross 140 000 PLN/year for 6 months with the possibility of extending the contract one year.

Monthly salary: ca. 8 983 PLN gross

Submission deadline: October 23rd, 2025, documents should be sent to the email address: paulina.pospieszna@amu.edu.pl

Announcement of the competition results: November 13th, 2025

Start date: January 2026

Institution: Faculty of Political Science and Journalism, Adam Mickiewicz University
Poznań, Poland

Requirements:

- PhD in Political Science/Social Communication and Media Studies/Sociology/ Psychology or in a directly related field.
- Strong knowledge of research methods and techniques in both qualitative and quantitative research approaches.
- Familiarity with the concepts and theories related to democratic recession, civil society development, political participation, and democratic innovations.
- Demonstrated experience in conducting research (preferably in the context of Central Eastern European countries)
- Proven track record of academic publications, with a focus on political science/communication/sociology/psychology or a directly related field.
- Excellent analytical and critical thinking skills to contribute to theoretical and empirical perspectives.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills in English and preferable also in Polish.
- Experience with working in an international environment will be highly appreciated;
- Contacts or ability to interact with practitioners (organizers of the citizens' assemblies) and local decision-makers in Central and Eastern European countries will be highly appreciated.
- Ability to work independently as well as collaboratively in a multidisciplinary research team.
- Attention to detail and ability to manage multiple tasks and meet deadlines.

Candidates must meet the formal requirements included in the NCN regulations for the Sonata Bis call: https://www.ncn.gov.pl/sites/default/files/pliki/uchwaly-rady/2021/uchwala12_2021-zal1.pdf

Description of tasks:

A post-doc position is offered as part of the NCN Sonata Bis project: "Deliberative Innovations in Central and Eastern Europe - a panacea for democracy in crisis? (DelibDemCEE)." The aim of the project is to analyze and evaluate selected forms of deliberative democracy in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and to find answers to the questions whether they contribute to the improvement of democracy and greater involvement of citizens. Research goals will be achieved by studying citizens' assemblies organized in Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary but also in other post-communist countries, such as Estonia, Latvia, Romania, Macedonia, and Georgia. Investigating the ways in which deliberative innovations affect democracy during its crisis — either through citizen engagement or shaping public opinion, or by directly influencing the political system — will require a variety of research methods, both qualitative and quantitative.

As a Post-Doctoral Researcher, you will be responsible for:

1. Preparing Research Designs:
 - Develop research designs for research papers within the three work packages of the project.
 - Design and implement suitable research methodologies.
 - Collaborate with the research team to ensure the integration of qualitative and quantitative approaches in the research designs.
 - Ensure ethical considerations and data protection protocols are followed throughout the research process.
2. Conducting Research and Analysis:
 - Collect and analyze data using the prescribed research methodologies.
 - Collaborate with team members in data collection, data cleaning, and data management processes.
 - Conduct statistical analysis and/or qualitative data analysis to address the research questions
 - Interpret research findings and contribute to academic publications and reports.
 - Prepare and submit single or co-authored articles to reputable peer-reviewed journals, based on the research conducted within the project.
3. Collaborative Teamwork:
 - Engage in regular research meetings and discussions with the research team to share progress, insights, and challenges.
 - Collaborate with team members on joint research activities, including data analysis, report writing, and project deliverables.
 - Collaborate with the research team to ensure the dissemination of research findings through academic conferences and workshops.
4. Project Support:
 - Assist in project-related administrative tasks, such as organizing meetings, managing project documentation, and liaising with project partners.
 - Contribute to the development of funding proposals and research grant applications for future projects.

List of required documents:

- Cover letter expressing your interest and highlighting your relevant qualifications.
- Curriculum vitae detailing your academic background, research experience, and publication record.
- A document confirming obtaining a doctoral degree.

- Two writing samples (e.g., published articles, conference papers) showcasing your research abilities.
- Contact information for two references who can speak to your academic and research capabilities.

Candidates are asked to submit an application electronically in consolidated pdf. file to: paulina.pospieszna@amu.edu.pl no later than October 23rd, 2025. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview. Qualification process period: from October 24th to November 7th, 2025 (the interview must take place within this timeframe). During the interview, candidates will be asked to present their current scientific and practical achievements that fit the purpose of the project. The interview will be conducted in English. We anticipate the position to start January 2026.

Consent clause (please attach the following consent to your application):

Pursuant to Article 13 of Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC - General Regulation on data protection (Official Journal of the European Union L 119/1 of 04.05.2016) I hereby inform you that.

1. The Controller of your personal data is Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań with its registered office at 1, Henryka Wieniawskiego Street, 61-712 Poznań.
2. The controller of personal data has appointed a Data Protection Inspector to supervise the correctness of personal data processing, who can be contacted via e-mail address: iod@amu.edu.pl.
3. The purpose of the processing of your personal data is to carry out the recruitment process for the indicated position.
4. The legal basis for the processing of your personal data is Article 6(1)(a) of the General Data Protection Regulation of 27 April 2016 and the Labour Code of 26 June 1974 (Journal of Laws of 1998, N21, item 94, as amended).
5. Your personal data will be stored for a period of 6 months from the end of the recruitment process.
6. Your personal data will not be made available to other entities, except for entities authorized by law. Access to your data will be granted to persons authorized by the Controller to process them within the scope of their professional duties.
7. You have the right to access your data and, subject to the provisions of law, the right to rectify, delete, restrict the processing, the right to transfer data, the right to object to the processing, the right to withdraw consent at any time.
8. You have the right to lodge a complaint to the supervisory authority - the President of the Office for Personal Data Protection, ul. Stawki 2, 00-193 Warszawa.
9. Provision of personal data is obligatory on the basis of legal regulations, in the remaining scope it is voluntary.
10. With regard to your personal data, decisions will not be taken automatically, in accordance with Article 22 RODO.

Consent clause

In accordance with Article 6(1)(a) of the General Data Protection Regulation of 27 April 2016 (Journal of Laws of the EU L 119/1 of 4 May 2016) I agree to the processing of personal data other than those indicated in Article 22¹ of the Labour Code (name(s) and surname; parents' names; date of birth; place of residence; address for correspondence; education; previous employment), included in my job offer for the purpose of current recruitment.

The applicant should be informed in the job application notice that his/her CV should include a clause with the required content, in which case it will be considered.

date and signature