



ZRC SAZU

In accordance with Article 12 of the Rules on Selecting and Financing Junior Researchers' Training for the Period 2022–2027 (no. P-2022-1) and the General Act on the Stable Financing of Research Activity (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia*, nos. 87/22 and 103/22 – amended), the Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU), Novi Trg 2, Ljubljana, Slovenia, hereby announces the

2024 Public Call for Applications for Junior Researcher Positions

1. Subject of the public call

The subject of this public call is the selection of eight junior researchers that are planned to start their doctoral training programs as part of the program group on October 1st, 2024.

2. Advisors and available positions

Applicants may apply for the available positions with the following advisors:

Research program: Conditions and Issues of Contemporary Philosophy

Slots: 1

Advisor: Tadej Troha

Field/subfield: philosophy

Work will take place at the ZRC SAZU Institute of Philosophy. Applicants must have a degree in the humanities or social sciences. Prior experience in analyzing complex philosophical and other theoretical texts is a plus. Research will focus on the study of twentieth-century philosophy and its connections with other theoretical approaches. Priority will be given to applicants with a demonstrated ability to conduct independent research. Ability to work in a team is desired. The training program and the detailed content of the doctoral dissertation will be finalized with the applicant selected.

More information: fi@zrc-sazu.si



Research program: Anthropological and Spatial Studies

Slots: 1

Advisor: Maja Petrovič-Šteger

Field/subfield: anthropology, anthropology of ideas, anthropology of time, anthropology of mental health, anthropology of social change

Work will take place at the ZRC SAZU Institute of Anthropological and Spatial Studies. Applicants must have a degree in social and cultural anthropology or another related field. Priority will be given to applicants with prior experience in in-depth research and fieldwork. Familiarity with various anthropological approaches, works, and methodologies, and excellent command of English and other foreign languages are a plus. Applicants should show interest in conducting ethnographic research outside Slovenia. The training program and the detailed content of the doctoral dissertation will be finalized with the applicant selected.

More information: Maja Petrovič-Šteger, e-mail: maja.petrovic-steger@zrc-sazu.si, tel.: + 386 41 258 119.



Research program: Ethnic and Cultural Identity of Slovenian Emigrants within the Context of Migration Studies

Slots: 1

Advisor: Aleksej Kalc

Field/subfield: migration studies

Work will take place at the ZRC SAZU Slovenian Migration Institute. Applicants must have a degree in the social sciences or humanities. Research will focus on studying contemporary and/or past migration processes. Applicants will preferably have an excellent command of English and a general idea of the phenomenon or research approach. Both qualitative and quantitative approaches are encouraged, or a combination of both. The training program and the detailed content of the doctoral dissertation will be finalized with the applicant selected.

More information: Aleksej Kalc, e-mail: akalc@zrc-sazu.si, tel.: +386 1 470 6484.



Research program: Karst Research

Slots: 1

Advisor: Nataša Viršek Ravbar

Field/subfield: geography, geology or other natural sciences, karst studies

Work will take place at the ZRC SAZU Karst Research Institute. Applicants must have a master's degree in an Earth science such as geography or geology, or in another related natural science field. Research will focus on studying the impact of environmental changes, and so familiarity with karst and karst caves and ability to work in a team are required. Applicants will show interest in computer work, field and lab research, and training in Slovenia and abroad. Priority will be given to applicants with prior experience in cartography, data processing and analysis, and involvement in similar research projects. The training program and the detailed content of the doctoral dissertation will be finalized with the applicant selected.

More information: e-mail: izrkc@zrc-sazu.si, tel.: +386 5 700 1900.



Research program: Paleontology and Sedimentary Geology

Slots: 1

Advisor: Andrea Martín Pérez

Field/subfield: paleontology and sedimentary geology, sedimentology of terrestrial carbonates

Work will take place at the ZRC SAZU Ivan Rakovec Institute of Paleontology. Applicants must have a degree in geology or another related field. Research will focus on the sedimentology of terrestrial carbonate rocks with an emphasis on studying the role of geobiological processes and early diagenesis in the paleoenvironmental record. Priority will be given to applicants with prior experience in sedimentary petrography, geochemistry, paleoecology, and/or paleoclimatology. Desired qualities and skills: ability to work independently and as part of a team, good communication skills, initiative, and excellent command of English. Applicants will show interest in independent lab and field research both in Slovenia and abroad, and in learning new methods and advanced instrumental techniques. Applicants are expected to enroll in a doctoral program at the ZRC SAZU Graduate School. The training program and the detailed content of the doctoral dissertation will be finalized with the applicant selected.

Information: Andrea Martín Pérez, e-mail: andrea.martin-perez@zrc-sazu.si, tel.: +386 1 470 6376.



Research program: Art at the Intersection of Cultures in Slovenia

Slots: 1

Advisor: Franci Lazarini

Field/subfield: art history, nineteenth- and twentieth-century architecture

Work will take place at the ZRC SAZU France Stele Institute of Art History. Applicants must have a degree in art history or another related field (architecture, cultural heritage, ethnology, landscape architecture, etc.). Prior experience in archival and field research is a plus. Research will focus on exploring nineteenth- and/or twentieth-century architecture. Priority will be given to applicants with prior work experience in art history with the basic skills of working with archival resources and conducting field research (photographic documentation etc.). Desired qualities and skills: ability to work in a team, good communication skills, experience in conducting research abroad, experience in conducting archival research, excellent command of English, ability to read German, and a driver's license. The training program and the detailed content of the doctoral dissertation will be finalized with the applicant selected.

More information: Franci Lazarini, e-mail: franci.lazarini@zrc-sazu.si, tel.: +386 1 470 6518.



Research program: Basic Research on the Slovenian Cultural Past

Slots: 1

Advisor: Neva Makuc

Field/subfield: history, medieval history

Work will take place at the ZRC SAZU Milko Kos Historical Institute. Applicants must have a degree in history or a history-related field. Research will focus on exploring the late-medieval history of the County of Gorizia. Applicants are required to have a command of Latin and German. Priority will be given to those showing interest in studying older historical periods and conducting research at libraries and archives. Applicants are also required to provide a motivational letter. Desired qualities and skills: good communication skills, ability to work independently and as part of a team, non-conflict communication, willingness to engage in lifelong learning (including outside Slovenia), a command of Italian and English, familiarity with auxiliary sciences of history, especially paleography and diplomacy, and basic IT skills. The training program and the detailed content of the doctoral dissertation will be finalized with the applicant selected.

More information: Neva Makuc, e-mail: neva.makuc@zrc-sazu.si, tel.: +386 5 335 7324; in the event of Makuc's absence: Petra Svoljšak, e-mail: petra.svoljsak@zrc-sazu.si, tel. +386 40 641 710.



Research program: Geography of Slovenia

Slots: 1

Advisor: Matjaž Geršič

Field/subfield: regional geography, geographical names

Work will take place at the ZRC SAZU Anton Melik Geographical Institute. Applicants must have a degree in geography, linguistics, history, or another related field. Prior experience in conducting research and project work, and familiarity with GIS are a plus. Research will focus on regional geography with an emphasis on geographical names. Desired qualities and skills: ability to work in a team, good communication skills, and foreign language proficiency. Applicants will show interest in scholarly research. The training program and the detailed content of the doctoral dissertation will be finalized with the applicant selected.

More information: Matjaž Geršič, e-mail: matjaz.gersic@zrc-sazu.si, tel.: +386 1 470 6509.

or

Advisor: Mateja Šmid Hribar

Field/subfield: human geography, land use, ecosystem services

Work will take place at the ZRC SAZU Anton Melik Geographical Institute. Applicants must have a degree in geography or another related field. Prior experience in interdisciplinary project work and/or research and familiarity with GIS are a plus. Research will focus on human geography with an emphasis on land use and spatial management. Desired qualities and skills: proactivity, affinity for research and teamwork, and good communication skills. Applicants will show interest in interdisciplinary scholarly research focusing on exploring the interaction between man and nature. The training program and the detailed content of the doctoral dissertation will be finalized with the applicant selected.

More information: Mateja Šmid Hribar, e-mail: mateja.smid@zrc-sazu.si, tel.: +386 1 470 6352.

The applicant for the position of a junior researcher in geography and thus his or her advisor will be selected exclusively based on the best score achieved among all the applicants.

3. Requirements for junior research applicants

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- They have not yet completed a doctoral program or been awarded a doctoral degree;
- They have never been employed as junior researchers;
- They are proficient in at least one world language;
- They have a second-cycle (master's) degree or a comparable degree from a university abroad (applicants that have not yet completed their second-cycle degree program at the time of

Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU)

Novi trg 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia, tel.: +386 1 470 6555, e-mail: zrc@zrc-sazu.si, www.zrc-sazu.si

applying for the open call must complete their program by September 15th of the current year);

- Their Slovenian grade point average in the second-cycle program is at least 8.00 (including their master's thesis grade);
- No more than four years have passed since the end of their second-cycle degree program or the acquisition of a degree that corresponds to the degree obtained in a second-cycle degree program and, under the law governing the Slovenian qualifications framework, is classified as level 8, or since the end of a comparable academic program completed abroad (the year of graduation). If the applicant took parental leave, this period can be extended by the period of the applicant's justified absence, whereas for other types of justified absence specified in the health insurance regulations it can be extended at most by the period of the justified absence only if the absence was continuous and lasted longer than six months;
- er types of justified absence specified in the health insurance regulations it can be extended at most by the period of the justified absence only if the absence was continuous and lasted longer than six months;
- Before concluding the employment contract, they have enrolled (via the eVŠ portal) in the first or second year of a third-cycle (doctoral) program.

Foreign nationals or junior researcher applicants that have completed their education abroad must have all the documentation required for employment in Slovenia in order before concluding the employment contract. If applicants have not completed a second-cycle academic program or an academic program that meets the requirements for enrollment in a doctoral program in Slovenia, they must obtain a decision from a higher-education institution recognizing a degree completed abroad for the purposes of pursuing further education in Slovenia.

4. Evaluation criteria

- Slovenian grade point average in a second-cycle program or an academic program that meets the requirements for enrollment in a doctoral program (3 points for an average grade between 9.00 and 10, and 1 point for an average grade between 8.00 and 8.99);
- Awards or other recognitions received (a university award: 1 point; other awards or recognitions for professional work: 0.50 points each, but up to a maximum of 2.00 for all awards or recognitions together);
- Research articles published (up to 1.00 point for authorship or a proportional part for co-authorship, but up to a maximum of 2.00 points altogether);
- Participation in research projects (up to 2.00 points);
- Applicant interview assessment (up to 10.00 points).

5. Term of employment

ZRC SAZU shall conclude a fixed-term employment contract with the applicant selected. This term covers the period of training, which is the same as the period of financing (junior researchers are financed until they obtain a doctorate, but for no more than four years; if the applicants are enrolled in the second year of their doctoral program when starting work, their training is financed until they receive a doctorate, but for no more than three years). The employment contract is terminated if the junior researcher completes his or her training (receives a doctorate) before the envisaged expiry of the contract.

6. Junior researchers' obligations

Junior researchers must successfully defend their doctoral dissertations within one year after the termination of their employment contract at the latest.

If junior researchers discontinue their training early, their employment contract is terminated. A request for discontinuing the training may also be filed by an advisor due to a junior researcher's failure to fulfill his or her obligations.

Junior researchers whose employment contracts are terminated before the envisaged completion of their training and that fail to complete their training with the successful defense of their doctoral dissertation shall reimburse ZRC SAZU for all the tuition fees covered by the employer. The same

applies to junior researchers that fail to complete their doctoral program within one year after the termination of their employment contract concluded for the duration of training.

7. Application procedure and deadline

The application must arrive at ZRC SAZU (Novi trg 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia) **by 2 pm on April 15th, 2024**, regardless of the manner in which it is sent. Each envelope must be labeled in Slovenian: ***Razpis za MR – Ne odpiraj – javni razpis za kandidate za mlade raziskovalce v letu 2024*** (i.e., Junior researcher public call – Do not open – 2024 Public Call for Applications for Junior Researcher Positions), and it may only contain one application for one junior researcher position. Applicants may also submit their applications by the deadline above in person at the ZRC SAZU front desk (Novi trg 2, Ljubljana).

The application for the open call must include the following:

- A CV and a motivation letter;
- A signed application form with statements properly marked;
- Proof of education if the applicants have already completed their program (a photocopy of a second-cycle degree diploma);
- Proof of grade point average in a second-cycle program (i.e., a diploma supplement or an officially confirmed transcript of courses taken from which the grade point average rounded to two decimal places is evident);
- Proof of proficiency in a world language;
- Proof of enrollment in a third-cycle graduate program and proof of requirements completed if the applicant is already enrolled.

For the purposes of evaluation in accordance with the criteria set, the following can also be enclosed with the application:

- Proof of any awards and recognitions received;
- A list of research articles published;
- Proof of participation in research projects;
- Proof of the applicant's justified absence in order to meet the requirement regarding the permissible number of years after the end of the academic program specified under indent 6 of point 3 hereof.

For more information on the formal procedures, please contact Jelka Pekolj at jelka.pekolj@zrc-sazu.si or +386 1 470 6459.

8. Selecting the applicants

Only complete applications that arrive in time and meet all the call's requirements will be considered.

Dissertation advisors propose individuals for the junior researcher positions in agreement with the head of the program group and the head of the institute.

Applicants will be notified if they have been selected for the position in accordance with the Slovenian Work Relationships Act. The applicants selected will receive a request at the e-mail address provided in their application form to confirm they accept the junior researcher position within three working days.

Important:

The applicants selected for the junior researcher positions are required to apply separately to the call for applications for enrollment in graduate programs in the 2024/2025 academic year and to submit proof of enrollment in a third-cycle program to ZRC SAZU before concluding the employment contract.

Applicants that fail to enroll in a graduate program by the enrollment deadlines via the eVŠ system will not be able to conclude a junior researcher training contract with ZRC SAZU.

Encl.:

– Application form

Ljubljana, March 15th, 2024