Hosting offer for Marie Sklodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2022 at GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships are individual research grants offering excellent postdoctoral researchers the chance to develop their skills by means of international mobility. Through the implementation of an original and personalised research project, MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships aim to foster excellence through training and mobility and to equip researchers with new skills and competences in order to identify solutions to current and future challenges.

The GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence invites motivated postdoctoral researchers to jointly prepare an application for the MSCA-PF-2022 call Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships call (MSCA-PF-2022) with them as host organisation.

Description of Hosting organisation/group

The **GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence** is an interdisciplinary research consortium focusing on **"Trust and Distrust in Multi-level Governance"**. GOVTRUST combines high-level scientific expertise of three faculties (Law, Social Sciences and Economics) and five disciplines (political science, communication science, law, behavioural economics and public administration) to jointly conduct frontline interdisciplinary research on the dynamics, causes and effects of trust and distrust in multi-level governance systems. In particular, GOVTRUST studies the trust relations between political, administrative, regulatory, and judicial actors as well as trust in and of citizens and society. GOVTRUST aims to maximize scientific impact combined with a substantial societal impact.

Since the start of GOVTRUST in Spring 2020, GOVTRUST has been very active in **acquiring** or participating in **international and interuniversity research projects, including MSCA Fellowships and several other EU grants** (e.g. TiGRE on 'Trust in Governance and Regulation in Europe', ERA-NET CONTRA on 'Conflict in Transformations', @ntidote on 'Cyberviolence permissibility and accountability', PLATO ITN on 'The Post-Crisis Legitimacy of the EU', TROPICO on 'Transforming into Open, Innovative and Collaborative Governments' and MSCA-IF REGTRUST on 'How nature of regulation and levels of trust affect each other over time'). We also have a rich experience in other collaborative research projects and proposal writing, development of innovative methodologies, as well as establishing strong links between research outcomes and the ongoing policy discourse.

Please check our website for further information and to learn more about the GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence and its members (i.e. potential supervisors): **www.uantwerpen.be/govtrust**

Topics/expertise

We invite expressions of interest for proposals to undertake postdoctoral research in the broad area of **'trust and distrust in multi-level governance' or related subjects** in line with the expertise of the GOVTRUST members (see annex below). The interdisciplinary setting of GOVTRUST offers a variety of research opportunities in the fields of political science, communication science, law, behavioural economics and public administration. Please check our website and the overview of GOVTRUST's supervisory capacity in the annex below for our specific expertise.

Your profile

- Expected qualifications/expertise of the candidate: background in the broad area of 'trust and distrust in multi-level governance' or related subjects, researchers from the fields of political science, communication science, law, behavioural economics and public administration
- You must have a completed PhD at the time of the call deadline (14 September 2022).
- Candidates must have a maximum of 8 years full-time research experience from the PhD award date until September 14, 2022. Periods of inactivity in research (e.g. unemployment, periods of employment outside research, parental or sick leave) do not count towards the time of research experience.
- For European fellowships, candidates can be of any nationality and must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Belgium for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before September 14, 2022.
- Highly motivated candidate with an excellent research track record appropriate to career stage, as evidenced by academic publications and other scientific output.

What we offer

- Support and guidance for the preparation of your MSCA PF proposal
- A stimulating, interdisciplinary environment for high-level research.

How to apply?

Indicate your interest by contacting the host institution as follows:

Please contact Sophie Op de Beeck (sophie.opdebeeck@uantwerpen.be; GOVTRUST research manager) by e-mail with a short CV and motivation to indicate your interest to prepare a MSCA-PF application. Also mention the name of the GOVTRUST supervisor and you envision for the proposal.

After the supervisor agrees to support you as a MSCA-PF candidate, you can start preparation of MSCA PF project proposal and will be supported further by the supervisor and the Research Support Office of the host university.

For more information on the MSCA PF scheme or the host institution, you can contact the MSCA coordinator of the University of Antwerp: Dr. Liesbet Cockx (Research, Innovation & Valorisation Antwerp, Grants Office): Liesbet.cockx@uantwerpen.be

Annex – GOVTRUST's supervisory capacity

Member	Expertise
Koen Verhoest	Political control and performance of autonomous agencies in multi-level settings; coordination strategies; innovation through collaboration and digitalisation; agile government; governance of cross-cutting/wicked issues; trust as context (trust and autonomy, trust and regulation, trust and reputation, trust and collaborative innovation)
Esther van Zimmeren	Intellectual property (IP) law and governance; multi-level governance; innovation policy; IP management and new technologies; European institutional and economic law; smart sustainable and inclusive cities; adaptive law; mutual trust; trust and (specialised) courts
Patricia Popelier	Federalism and multi-level governance; distrust federalism; constitutional review; legitimacy; constitutionalism and rule of law; legal certainty; law making in multi-level settings; mutual trust; pandemic law; legality of corona measures
Peter Bursens	Europeanization; EU decision making; multi-level governance; federalism; territorial politics; trust in and legitimacy of multi-level political systems; role-play simulations of political decision making in higher education;
Michel Walrave	Individuals' self-disclosure in interpersonal online communication; privacy; social media; trust and information disclosure; consumer responses to personalised interactive communication; digital communication in de relation between citizens and government; trust, reputation and digital communication
Carolyn Declerck	Neuro-economics; behavioural economics; neuro-imaging; role of hormones in human social behaviour and trust; psychology; cooperation in social dilemmas
Frédérique Six	Public governance; trust and control; trust and regulatory enforcement; trust in and within regulatory regimes; trust in, within and between (public) organisations; wicked problems; collaborative relationships
Dirk De Bièvre	International relations; trade policy; interest groups; World Trade Organization (WTO); politicisation and manufacturing of distrust; legitimacy of EU; stakeholder involvement in EU regulation
Karolien Poels	Advertising and emotions; personalisation; native advertising; social media; online privacy; ICT and persuasive communication; online media environment; trust and (persuasive) technologies; stakeholder approach; COVID-19 and (online) media, incl. vaccine trust
Wouter Van Dooren	Performance management; indicator-based governance; collaboration complexity; trust and accountability; (trust in) citizen-state interactions; participation and policy conflict (broken trust)
Catherine Van De Heyning	Protection of fundamental rights; protection of procedural rights in the interaction between the domestic and European courts; cybercrime
Charlotte De Backer	Social food studies; media and food; social talk; social cohesion; gossip; dating behaviour; role of trust in interpersonal relations
Petra Meier	Political representation; equality and diversity policies; gender issues; reproduction of inequality; discursive approaches to study normativity in policies; ethnofederations
Heidi Vandebosch	Cyberbullying; (new) media audiences and effects; health communication; health behaviours serious games; entertainment-education; impact of media use on people
Jan Wynen	Organizational change; public sector reform; organizational adaptation; innovation; internal performance-based steering; expert in research methodology; public trust in government; employee trust
Stéphanie De Somer	Administrative law, more specifically planning and environmental law; aesthetic regulation