

TOGAS

TRAINING FOR OPPORTUNITIES AND GROWTH IN ACADEMIC SUSTAINABILITY

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Key Information

MSCA
Choose Europe for Science

Co-funded by the European Union

University of Antwerp



TOGAS at a glance

With TOGAS, University of Antwerp strives to attract, train and retain postdoctoral research talent with a strong ambition and potential to grow into a sustainable independent academic position.

- Innovative **postdoctoral talent attraction programme** at University of Antwerp, co-funded through the **MSCA Choose Europe for Science** initiative
- **One international open call** to select **5 postdoctoral fellows** at the **University of Antwerp**
- **60-month fellowships** (Phase 1 of 36pm + Phase 2 of 24pm), starting as of September 2027
- Introduction of a **pre-tenure track career model**, creating opportunities for sustainable independent academic careers at UAntwerpen and beyond
- Focused on **sustainability-driven research** across STEM disciplines ranging from **chemistry and medical biochemistry to circular product design and (interior) architecture**
- Candidates propose their **own individual research project** within one of the TOGAS research themes
- Offers **excellent research, training, mentoring, and career development opportunities** in an international environment

More than a postdoctoral fellowship, TOGAS introduces a pre-tenure track career model, providing a **stairway to a long-term academic perspective at UAntwerpen**. Therefore, TOGAS is looking for promising **postdoctoral researchers** from anywhere in the world with a **strong motivation for an academic career development trajectory at UAntwerpen.**

TOGAS Call timeline

Call opens	9 November 2026 at 9:00 CET
Call closes	8 February 2027 at 17:00 CET
Eligibility check	February 2027
Peer review	March-Mid May 2027
Preselection	Mid-End May 2027
Online interview	June 2027 (exact dates to follow)
Notification of call results	July 2027
Start of selected TOGAS fellows	1 September - 1 November 2027

TOGAS applicants

TOGAS calls for promising postdoctoral researchers from anywhere in the world with a strong motivation for an academic career development trajectory at UAntwerpen.

Eligibility

- Candidates should develop their own ambitious research project in one of the TOGAS sustainability oriented research themes.
- The call targets early career postdoctoral researchers: candidates must have obtained their PhD a maximum of 6 years before the call deadline (experience outside of research, and career breaks, are taken into account). The doctoral degree of the candidate should be in an area relevant for the selected research theme.
- Candidates must comply with the MSCA mobility rule: they 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 the call deadline.
- Candidates cannot already be permanently employed by UAntwerpen.
- Candidates must submit a complete application using the provided templates and instructions.

Benefits

- Attractive employment conditions
- Fellowship of 60 months (36 months Phase 1 + 24 months Phase 2)
- A three-pillar training program to develop an all-round academic competence profile
- High-quality supervision
- Pre-tenure track career model providing a structured career development pathway with a vision for a long-term academic perspective beyond the TOGAS fellowship
- Stimulating academic environment

TOGAS research themes

TOGAS is centred around '**sustainability**' as overarching cross-disciplinary research orientation, addressing environmental and societal sustainability challenges in **five defined research themes**. **One postdoctoral researcher per research theme** will be selected via the TOGAS call.



TOGAS invites applications aligned to one of these research themes:

- **Theme 1 Catalytic methods for sustainable chemical transformations**
- **Theme 2 Plasma-based sustainable chemistry**
- **Theme 3 Co-governance for sustainable transitions: a systemic design perspective**
- **Theme 4 (Adaptive) reuse for environmental changes and stakeholder-driven design**
- **Theme 5 Molecular basis of disease and protein biochemistry**

Application process

Applications must be submitted online via the TOGAS application portal. Applicants must use the provided TOGAS templates and prepare the following documents for their application:

- Structured CV
- Research proposal
- Motivation letter
- Ethics self-assessment form
- PhD diploma or, where applicable, an official statement confirming the required PhD status

The full details are described in the TOGAS guide for applicants.

Selection Process

Applications for the TOGAS fellowships will be evaluated via **a 5-step selection process:**

Step 1: Eligibility check

- The Call team screens all applications for eligibility

Step 2: Independent peer review

- Reviewers assess the quality and potential of both the candidate and the proposed research project, as well as its fit with the research environment.

Step 3: Pre-selection

- The Selection Committees formulate the integrated evaluation feedback based on the peer assessments and establish a ranking per research theme based on the peer review. Five candidates per research theme will be invited for the selection interview.

Step 4: Online Selection interviews

- Pre-selected candidates will take part in an online interview with the Selection Committee for their research theme. Following the interviews, a ranking list per research theme will be established.

Step 5: Appointment

- The first-ranked candidate per research theme will be invited for the TOGAS fellowship.

More information?

Read the TOGAS guide for applicants

Contact us at togas@uantwerpen.be

https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/togas

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