

YUFE4Postdocs

An Introduction

October 2023



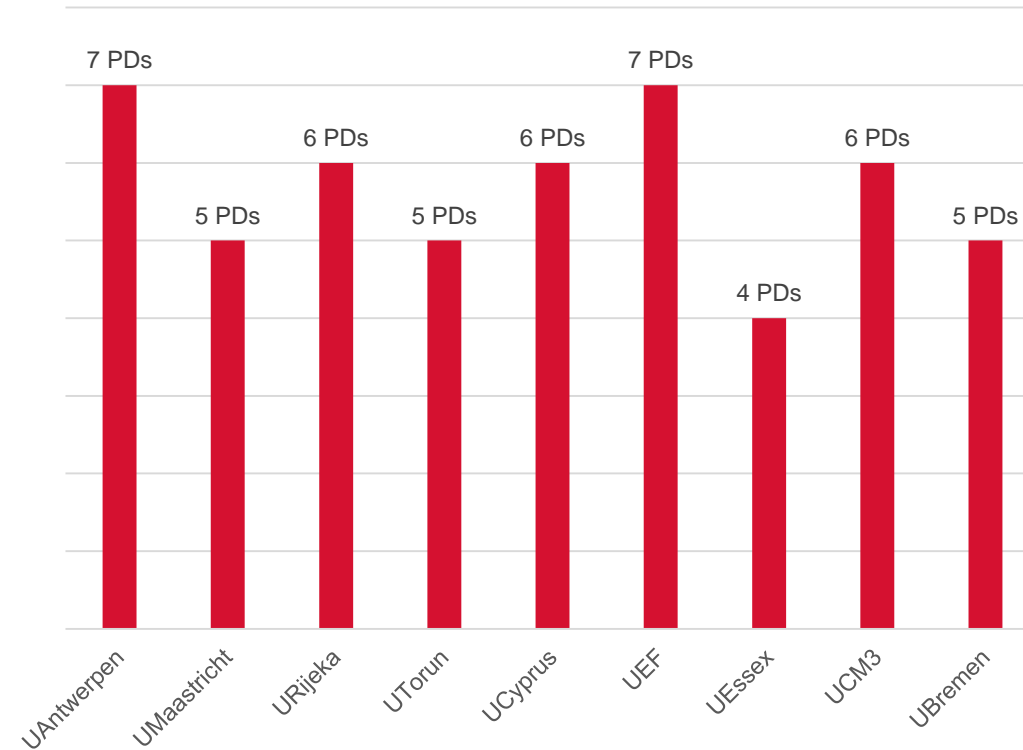
YUFE4Postdocs in a Nutshell

YUFE4Postdocs in a Nutshell 1

Project for recruitment & training of Postdocs, co-funded by Horizon Europe's Marie Skłodowska-Curie program

- EC contribution 7.3 million (overall budget 14.3 million)
- For appointments of **max. 51 postdocs** at 9 YUFE partner universities
- Appointments for 36 months

Redistribution of Postdocs



Young Universities for the Future of Europe - Postdoc programme

Fact Sheet

Objective

YUFE4Postdocs (Y4P) is an ambitious and novel postdoctoral training programme, launched by the Young Universities for the Future of Europe (YUFE) Alliance in the context of its R&I Agenda. Under the overarching theme 'Urban opportunities & challenges in the 4 YUFE Focus Areas', two calls will result in the appointment of 51 excellent researchers across 10 universities. Stakeholder interactions, Open Science and interdisciplinarity run as a red thread throughout the programme, which is centered around community engagement.

Y4P offers attractive employment conditions, including 36-month appointments and competitive remuneration. Its selection process pilots a novel approach by assessing applicants on a broader and qualitative set of selection criteria, with extensive involvement of external stakeholders. The unique 3-pillar training programme features interactive stakeholder engagement seminars (Pillar 1), combined with a variety of joint transferable skills trainings (Pillar 2) and complementary partner courses (Pillar 3). A triple-I mobility scheme is set in place, covering 6-month intra-YUFE mobility, optional intersectoral secondments, and encouraged interdisciplinary cooperation. Each postdoc is supported by a triad of supervisors, with a Career Development Plan as their individual roadmap.

Project Information

YUFE4Postdocs

Grant agreement ID: 101081327

DOI

[10.3030/101081327](https://doi.org/10.3030/101081327) 

Start date

1 January 2023

End date

31 December 2027

Funded under

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Total cost

No data



YUFE4Postdocs in a Nutshell 2

- Two joint calls in 2023 directed to postdocs, with joint selection procedure
- Open for applications in **all disciplines**
- Candidates identify in their project one or more societal challenges framed in an **urban context**, and ...
 - they define their research project within one of the **YUFE focus areas** : (1) sustainability, (2) digital society, (3) citizens well being, (4) European identity
 - they identify a host research group & supervisor (Host University) and a co-host research group & co-supervisor (Co-Host University) within YUFE alliance
 - they will be trained in stakeholder interaction, open science and open innovation

→ YUFE Postdocs will carry out their project in regular contact with one or more stakeholder organizations

YUFE4Postdocs in a Nutshell 3

Training programme on stakeholder interactions, open science and open innovation



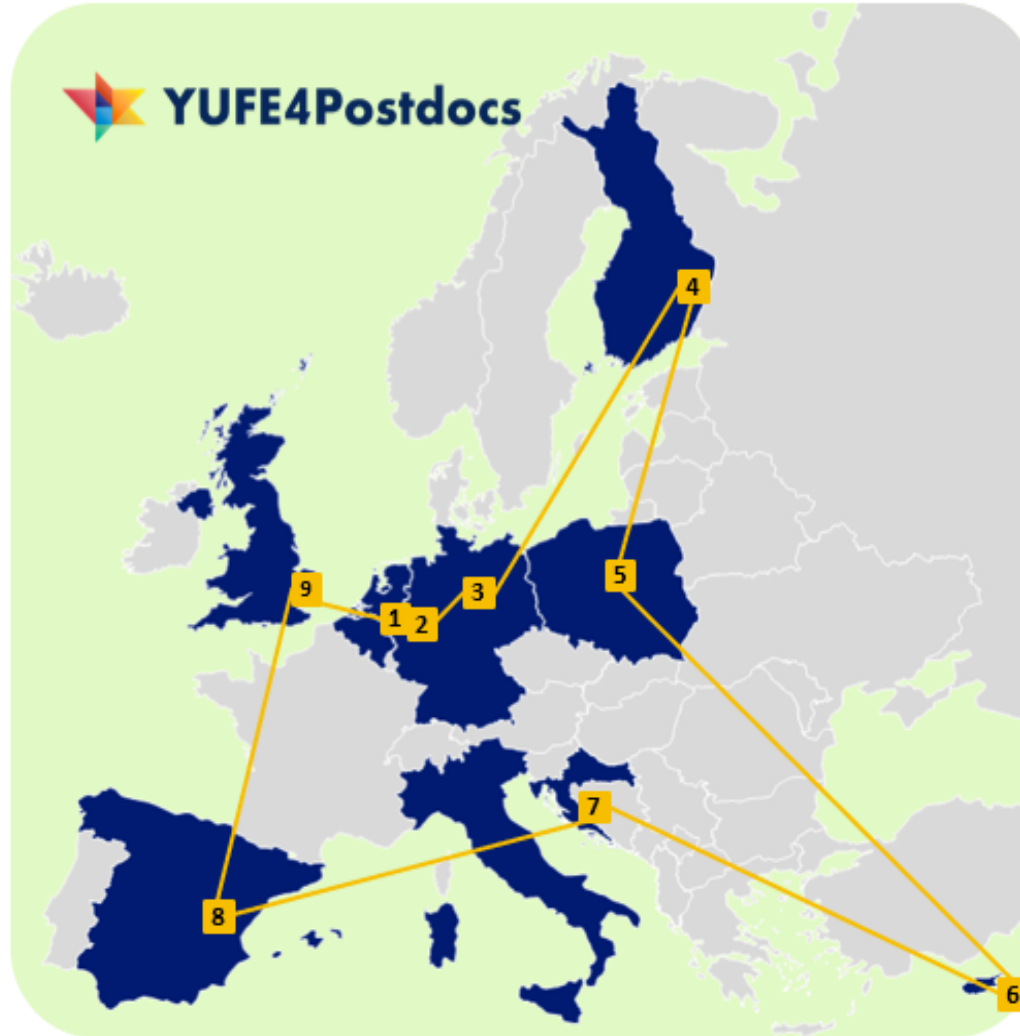
19 city & regional councils and business organisations, involved as Associated Partners, contribute in training and mentoring

LEAD BENEFICIARY

- 1  Universiteit Antwerpen

YUFE UNIVERSITIES

- 2  Maastricht University
- 3  Universität Bremen
- 4  UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN FINLAND
- 5  NICOLAUS COPERNICUS UNIVERSITY IN TORUŃ
- 6  University of Cyprus
- 7  UNIRI
- 8  uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- 9  University of Essex



ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS 

- BRIGHTLANDS MAASTRICHT HEALTH CAMPUS (NL)
- CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY TORUN (PL)
- CROATIAN CHAMBER OF ECONOMY (HR)
- GETAFE INICIATIVAS (ES)
- NORTH KARELIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (FI)
- VOKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANTWERP-WAASLAND (BE)

CITY COUNCILS & REGIONS 

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| • ANTWERP (BE) | • KUOPIO (FI) |
| • BREMEN (DE) | • MAASTRICHT (NL) |
| • COLCHESTER (UK) | • NICOSIA (CY) |
| • ESSEX (UK) | • RIJEKA (HR) |
| • GETAFE (ES) | • TORUN (PL) |

YUFE4Postdocs Calls

First Call

Two focus areas: Digital Societies / Sustainability

- 29 postdoc positions (1st cohort)
- Call open: **1 March 2023**
- Call closes: **7 May 2023**
- Selection process: 8 May 2023 – 30 October 2023
- Appointment: by 1 January 2024

Second Call

Two focus areas: Citizens' Well-Being / European Identity

- 22 postdoc positions (2nd cohort)
- Call open: **1 October 2023**
- Call closes: **20 December 2023**
- Selection process: 1 January 2024 – 30 May 2024
- Appointment: by 1 September 2024

Focus Domain “European Identity”

“Where the subject of research touches on European identity/ies in an urban context, the application should be directed to the **focus area “European Identity”**. The subject can consider inter-relationships between European identity/ies and urban policies, structures, processes, communities or stakeholders, as well as elements of such identities in an urban context, such as culture, heritage, politics, values,

Research taking a critical perspective exploring the potential threats, challenges and risks of a concept like European identity (e.g., social and economic exclusivity, governance approaches, etc.) also fits in the scope of this focus area.”

Focus Domain “Citizens’ Well-Being”

“Where the subject of research touches upon health (physical, mental, environmental, public health, etc.) or other aspects of well-being of citizens in various capacities (residents, patients, students, caregivers, parents, or other stakeholders) the application can be directed to the **focus area “Citizens’ Well-Being”**.”

The subject should be explicitly framed in an urban context, which could consider, for example, health burdens, populations, environments, inequalities, care systems, planning and policy...”

Conditions

Eligibility

Postdoc candidates

- obtained their PhD max. 6 years before the call deadlines. Experience outside research and career breaks are taken into account
- international incoming (MSCA mobility rule)
- can be of any nationality

Supervisors and co-supervisors

- tenured or tenure-track faculty members with at least a 10% appointment
- can support max. two candidates applying in the call
- produce a commitment letter to applicants (but applicants define their own research project!)
- can act as supervisor for max. one postdoc and as co-supervisor for max. one postdoc

Mobility Rules

→ Postdoc candidates **must** respect the mobility rule of Marie Skłodowska-Curie action when appointed in your university

- = May not have resided or carried out their main activity in the host country more than 12 months in the last 36 months prior to the deadline of the call (= 20 December 2023 for call 2)
- They can come from any institution, even from other YUFE universities

→ Postdocs **must** undertake an intra-YUFE mobility

- Max. 6 months in another (or more than one) YUFE university (co-host)
- Objective is to set up R&I collaboration
- Stays can be short or longer, single or multiple

→ Postdocs **can** undertake an intersectoral mobility

- In a business or non-business entity, suggested or not by the Associated Partners
- Within the ecosystem of the host university or the YUFE partner university

Framework Conditions for Appointed Postdocs

→ Supervisors

- (1) supervisor at host uni; (2) co-supervisor at co-host uni; (3) non-academic mentor from stakeholder organisation
- Academic supervisors are defined in application
 - Mentor is defined after start of the project

→ Career Development Plan

→ Developed within first 3 months after appointment

→ Quality & progress assessed regularly

- Expected achievements research project and participation in C&D
- Longer- and short-term career objectives
- Planning of mobilities/secondments, including the intra-YUFE mobility, or research visits
- Training needs

Allowances

An attractive remuneration: employment contract or equivalent

Mobility allowance: EUR 200 in addition to their salary, for personal use

Intra-YUFE Mobility allowance :

EUR 7.200 per postdoc to cover costs for 6 months stay at the co-Host university.

Continuous or multiple shorter stays of min. 1 month.

Travel allowance: EUR 1000 EUR/year

Research allowance: Maximum of EUR 400/month

+ access to the Y4P training programme and mentorship scheme

Training program on stakeholder interactions, open science and open innovation



→ 19 city & regional councils and business organisations, involved as Associated Partners, contribute in training and mentoring

What Can Y4P Offer to an Academic Co-/Supervisor?

For the supervisor:

- An excellent postdoc paid by the university (of faculty) with support of the EC grant
- A postdoc that starts or further develops research collaboration with the co-host research group in the YUFE alliance, and beyond
- New contacts in YUFE universities, and with the city and regional councils and/or business organisations
- Visibility of their research group by the YUFE4Postdoc communication & dissemination activities

For the co-supervisor :

- A visiting researcher that starts or further develops research collaboration with the host research group new contacts in YUFE universities, and with the city and regional councils and/or business organisations
- Visibility of their research group by the YUFE4Postdoc communication & dissemination activities

Support Available

A dedicated **Navigator** in every University

- assists potential applicants seeking info (e.g. employment conditions, visa, mobility etc.) and areas of expertise
- supports matchmaking between host supervisor and co-supervisor
- are interconnected between YUFE universities
- Contact details are on the YUFE4Postocs website

An inventory of research groups of YUFE universities on the YUFE4Postocs website

Thank you for your future engagement in YUFE4Postdocs!

For more information: www.yufe4postdocs.eu

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