

## **Turku Institute for Advanced Studies (TIAS) Call for Applications 2021**

TIAS invites applications for four (4) Collegium and three (3) Postdoctoral Researcher positions for three-year period starting from 1 January 2022.

### **INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS**

*Applicants should note that in the last TIAS Call (2020) the success rate for applicants to positions was 1.7% and that only exceptionally strong candidates are likely to be successful.*

#### **1. TIAS Postdoctoral Researchers**

The purpose of TIAS postdoctoral is to advance professional competence of researchers who have recently gained their doctorate and have participated in international activities and collaboration. Postdoctoral is defined as being within five (5) years of applicants having passed their PhD. Applicants are also expected to have attained other academic achievements.

Applicants must have completed their doctoral degree by the end of the application period. The applicant must have gained their doctoral degree a maximum of five years before the end of application period, 17 February 2021. This date should be taken as being the date at which all work for the PhD is successfully concluded, rather than the date of formal graduation. In cases where the PhD has been successfully completed but the degree certificate has not yet been issued, applicants should provide confirmation from the University where the PhD was undertaken that the PhD has been successfully completed and that no additional work is required. Only for special reasons, such as maternity, paternity or parental leave, military service or non-military service, or a long illness may more than five years have passed since the successful completion of the degree. Applicants who wish to plead special reasons should justify this in their curriculum vitae.

Please note that by the time the employment contract is prepared at HR Services, the doctoral certificate must be delivered to the University.

#### **2. TIAS Collegium Researchers**

The purpose of TIAS Collegium positions is to offer researchers an opportunity to gain competence for the most demanding research posts or other expert positions after the postdoctoral research stage. Successful publishing and other scientific work as well as significant activity and engagement in international academic networks after gaining the doctorate are requirements for appointment to a Collegium Researcher post. Applicants are expected to have ambitious research plans that aim at new scientific breakthroughs. They must have been awarded their PhD no more than twelve (12) years before the end of the application period, 17 February 2021. Tenured professors are not eligible to apply.

### 3. Research theme: Sustainability

One Postdoctoral and one Collegium position in this Call will be reserved for candidates whose work focuses on Sustainability. We will rely on applicants for this theme to design their own research project and do not intend to offer further guidance. *If you wish to apply for one of these positions please ensure that you check the correct box on the application form.*

### 4. Tasks of TIAS Researchers

TIAS selects researchers through an international call for applications and welcomes applications from all disciplines within its five constituent faculties (Economics, Education, Humanities, Law and Social Sciences).

**Selection of successful applicants will be on the basis of academic excellence.** In their motivation letter, applicants should state how their work supplements existing work at the University, identifying both the department within which they wish to be located and relevant members of staff whose work aligns with their own. *Please note that it is not necessary for applicants to contact departments or staff members.*

They should also outline how their work relates to one or more of the strategic research and education profiles of the University of Turku for 2021–30: 1) Biodiversity and sustainability 2) Future technologies and digital society 3) Cultural memory and social change 4) Children, young people and learning 5) Health, diagnostics and drug development 6) Sea and maritime studies (see Appendix 2). Successful candidates are requested to demonstrate engagement in international academic networks and must provide evidence of their ability to work in a research environment of high international standard.

The positions are located in one of the campuses of the University of Turku. Applicants should be aware that they are applying to an interdisciplinary research Institute and should therefore be committed to interdisciplinary working. Such working includes an obligation to attend regular TIAS meetings and events and to make contributions to the academic and social life of the Institute. In addition to TIAS meetings researchers will be expected to attend the campus regularly.

Researchers at TIAS have the opportunity to contribute to teaching activities at the University of Turku. Such contributions will make up a maximum of 5 % of a researchers' annual work load of 1612 hours. In addition, the researchers are expected to engage with 5 % of their total work time in other academic and administration duties.

TIAS researchers' salaries are determined in accordance with the university salary system for teaching and research personnel. The salary for Postdoctoral Researcher positions corresponds to a requirement level 5 and the pre-estimated personal performance percentage of 17% (current euro-dominated salary 3 472 €/month). The salary for Collegium Researcher positions corresponds to a requirement level 7 and the pre-estimated personal performance percentage of 17% (current euro-dominated salary 4 668 €/month). Progress in the researcher's personal performance can be taken into account when determining the salary during employment.

## 5. Applying

Applications must be submitted via University of Turku's electronic application form:

[>> Postdoctoral applications](#)

[>> Collegium researcher applications](#)

**The application deadline is 17 February 2021 at 23.59 (Finnish time, GMT +2).** Late applications cannot be submitted and applications cannot be completed after the application deadline.

Please note that once the application has been submitted the applicant can still make further adjustments to the application up until the end of application period. We recommend that the application is completed as early as possible.

In the application form applicants are asked to choose the department/unit within which they wish their research to be located. Please choose the unit from the list in the Appendix of this document.

## 6. Application documents

The application must contain all the following documents:

- (i) Research plan abstract (1 page)
- (ii) Research plan (maximum 6 pages)
- (iii) Curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages)
- (iv) List of publications (please indicate the five most important)
- (v) Letter of Motivation (maximum 2 pages)
- (vi) Copy of doctoral certificate (if unavailable please supply a copy of official confirmation that the PhD has been passed).

Documents 1–5 must be compiled together into one PDF document, so there will be two attachments: documents 1–5 and the doctoral certificate document.

Both attachments must be in PDF format. The maximum file size for the Documents 1–5 is 25 MB. Please upload this to "Academic portfolio" (akateeminen portfolio). The maximum file size for the doctoral certificate (or other confirmation) is 2 MB.

All the documents must be written in English with Times New Roman, font size 12.

The documents must be named by using the last name of the applicant and the document title (e.g. Smith\_Documents\_1\_5, Smith\_DoctoralCertificate).

*Please use all the subheadings here and ensure that all parts are completed.*

Incomplete applications will not be processed and we reserve the right to decline applications which do not follow the structure below.



## 7. Detailed instructions for the application documents

### (i) Research Plan Abstract (max 2,500 characters; 1 page)

The one-page abstract must contain, in order, the following:

- Applicant's name and academic degree
- Title of the research
- Department in which you wish to be located (and which will make an initial assessment of the application). Please note that it is not necessary for applicants to contact the department.
- Summary of the research plan (aims, research material and methods)
- Key words (maximum 5).

**(ii) Research plan** (maximum 6 pages, including the list of references). *Please note that this limit will be strictly enforced.*

The research plan must indicate the following in order:

- Name of the researcher, title of the research plan and site of research
- Background and significance of the research
- Research objectives and methods, including specifying the multidisciplinary aspects of the research
- Implementation and outputs: The current state and schedule of the applicant's research, including a timetable for the research and publications/outputs dissemination strategy including considerations of open access (see [Open Science at the University of Turku](#))
- National and international collaboration, including linkage with research conducted at the University of Turku and to the University's research themes.

### Research ethics

The University of Turku is committed to complying with the guidelines on responsible conduct of research and procedures for handling allegations of misconduct, issued by the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity. Consequently, TIAS requires that applicants commit to complying with responsible conduct of research and adhere to the Advisory Board's guidelines. See [guidelines on responsible conduct of research](#).

### (iii) Curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages)

The curriculum vitae must be no more than two pages in length and must include the following information:

- personal data: name and year of birth
- academic education: degrees, dates and places, major subject, topic of doctoral dissertation
- posts and positions of primary importance
- research allocations and grants during the last five years
- most important expert assignments
- most important scientific acknowledgements and awards





- outreach activities

**(iv) List of publications**

- The maximum length of the list of publications is not limited. Applicants are required to clearly indicate the 5 most important publications in relation to the research plan. Any non-English titles must be translated into English.

**(v) Motivation letter**

In no more than two pages explain:

- Why the research should be conducted at TIAS and its constituent faculties including, wherever possible, providing the names of staff members whose work aligns with the proposed project
- How the research, contacts, supervising and teaching experience will benefit TIAS and University of Turku
- How the three-year research period will contribute to the applicant's continuing professional development
- How the applicant will contribute to the multidisciplinary TIAS community
- How the research will contribute to the research profile of the University of Turku and its research themes
- How the proposed project is interdisciplinary.

**(vi) Copy of doctoral certificate**

Applicants should upload a copy of their doctoral certificate. If the original degree certificate is not written in English, Finnish or Swedish, please submit an official translation to English. In cases where the PhD has been successfully completed but the degree certificate has not yet been issued, applicants should provide confirmation from the University where the PhD was undertaken that the PhD has been successfully completed and that no additional work is required.

Please note that by the time the employment contract is prepared at HR Services, the doctoral certificate must be delivered to the University.





## **8. Processing and reviewing of applications**

TIAS selects researchers through an international call for applications and welcomes applications from all disciplines within its constituent faculties (Economics, Education, Humanities, Law and Social Sciences). Selection of successful applicants will be on the basis of academic excellence.

Applications meeting all the formal requirements are preliminarily assessed by departments in consultation with the Director and Board of the Turku Institute for Advanced Studies. The Board will then draw up a shortlist of the applications to be evaluated by external evaluators. In order to ensure international excellence, the majority of reviewers will be based outside Finland. Reviewers will be asked to rank applicants' previous academic achievements, the quality of the research plan, the theoretical and methodological framework, the proposed outputs plan and to provide an overall assessment. They will also be asked to comment on any ethical issues around the proposed research. Based on the external evaluations, the TIAS Board of Management will make final decisions on the successful applicants.

The successful candidates will be informed directly and the names of the appointees will be announced on the [website of TIAS](#).

It is anticipated that final decisions about successful applicants will be made in June 2021.

All applicants who are shortlisted will be sent copies of their external reviews. However, due to the expected volume of applications, we are unable to provide feedback to applicants who are not shortlisted.

## **9. Further information:**

For more information on applying, please contact the TIAS Director, Professor Martin Cloonan, [martin.cloonan@utu.fi](mailto:martin.cloonan@utu.fi) or the TIAS Coordinator, Jenni Kankaanpää, [TIAS-haku@utu.fi](mailto:TIAS-haku@utu.fi).





**Appendix 1. List of departments and units** (see the [Faculties and units on the website](#))

Please choose one of the units marked with en-dash.

**Faculty of Education**

- Department of Education
- Department of Teacher Education

**Faculty of Humanities**

School of History, Culture and Arts Studies:

- Archaeology
- Art History
- Comparative Literature
- Creative Writing
- Cultural and Experience Tourism
- Cultural Heritage Studies
- Cultural History
- Cultural Management
- Digital Culture
- European and World History
- European Ethnology
- Finnish History
- Finnish Literature
- Folkloristics
- Gender Studies
- Landscape Studies
- Media Studies
- Museology
- Musicology
- Study of Religion

School of Languages and Translation Studies

- Applied Language Studies
- Classics
- Digital Language Studies
- English
- Estonian Language and Culture
- Finnish and Finno-Ugric Languages
- French
- German
- Hungarian Language and Culture
- Italian
- North American Studies
- Romanian Language and Culture
- Russian Studies
- Scandinavian Languages





- Spanish
- Translation Studies

**Faculty of Law**

- Faculty of Law

**Faculty of Social Sciences**

Department of Psychology and Speech-Language Pathology

- Speech-Language Pathology (Logopedics)
- Psychology

Department of Philosophy, Contemporary History and Political Science

- Philosophy
- Contemporary History
- Political Science

Department of Social Research

- Social Policy
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Economic Sociology

**Turku School of Economics**

Department of Management and Entrepreneurship

- Management and Organisation
- Information Systems Science
- Entrepreneurship

Department of Accounting and Finance

- Accounting and Finance
- Quantitative Methods in Management
- Business Law

Department of Marketing and International Business

- Marketing
- International Business
- Operations and Supply Chain Management
- Economic Geography

Department of Economics

- Department of Economics

Finland Futures Research Centre

- Finland Futures Research Centre





## **Appendix 2. The strategic research and education profiles of the University of Turku for 2021–2030**

### **Biodiversity and sustainability**

Stopping climate change and biodiversity crisis as well as securing sustainable food production are humanity's greatest challenges and crucial for the Earth's capacity. With research and research-based education on bioenergy, biodiversity, climate change, food, and circular economy, we can create prerequisites for a sustainable future and innovations.

### **Future technologies and digital society**

Digitalisation and new technologies and materials change our world every day, challenging the way we think and act. The profile's scope extends all the way from small components to astrological phenomena. Artificial intelligence makes it possible to use different amounts of data more extensively and efficiently. Our new initiatives in engineering education complete the multidisciplinary profile. We also need ethical, moral and societal discussion amid change.

### **Cultural memory and social change**

Ageing population and human migration challenge the foundations of society. Communities, groups, and minorities have their own cultural memory, and the starting point for cultural sustainability and well-being is understanding these memories. We conduct thorough, critical, and multidisciplinary research on memory and its social connections. Cultural memory refers to the collective practices that societies use to build and uphold their relationship to the past, living in the present, and preparing for the future. As society changes, the targets and methods of cultural memory also change; however, the new practices for remembering create prerequisites for social change and political debate.

### **Children, young people and learning**

Our research on the well-being and learning of children and young people, and on preventing marginalisation is internationally recognised. The flagship programme INVEST and other multidisciplinary research ecosystems produce scientific knowledge on promoting children and young people's well-being, reducing social inequality, reforming the welfare state, and ensuring expertise needed in the future. The extensive data on the physical and mental health of children and young people provides a strong basis for multidisciplinary research.

### **Health, diagnostics and drug development**

There is a strong expertise cluster in health research in the Turku region where scientific research, public healthcare, and versatile business life meet. Drug development and diagnostics are at the heart of the collaboration. In many areas of biomedical imaging, Turku is the leading centre in Europe. The cohort studies of the University of Turku form an international spearhead in population health studies spanning several generations. The top-level strategic research profile creates medical and technological breakthroughs that advance population health.

### **Sea and maritime studies**

The sea and maritime studies profile involves research and education on marine, coastal and river environments as well as on the culture, communities, and livelihood in these areas. The close collaboration between the higher education institutions in the region is also connected to more extensive national and international projects. In shipping, economic efficiency, the impact of climate change, and the requirements of sustainable development affect ships, harbours, and international relations and legislation in the Baltic Sea and Arctic regions. The knowledge produced by the basic research in the environment, economy, and human societies is applied to the faculties' teaching and sustainable development goals.

