

University of Warsaw
Faculty of Philosophy and Sociology
Institute of Sociology

Postdoctoral Researcher in the project ECHOES (H2020), Work Package ‘City Museums and Multiple Colonial Pasts’

City: Warsaw, Poland

Position: postdoctoral researcher (*adiunkt naukowy*)

Start date: 1 September 2018

End date: 29 February 2020

Discipline: Sociology, History, Cultural Studies, Sinology or related discipline

Date of announcement: 27 April 2018

Deadline for submission of documents: 28 May 2018 CET

Key words: Heritage Studies, Museums, Postcolonial Studies, Urban Studies, Sinology

Salary: 8000 PLN salary before tax + 2000 PLN project-related bonus

Description of the project

The project *European Colonial Heritage Modalities in Entangled Cities* (ECHOES) is supported by the European Commission’s *Engaging Together Globally* scheme (H2020-SC6-ENG-GLOBALLY-2016-2017). Running for three years and starting in February 2018, it is carried out by researchers based at the Universities of Hull, Aarhus, Amsterdam, Rennes II, Warsaw, and the Center for Social Studies at the University of Coimbra.

ECHOES addresses a pressing dilemma at the heart of contemporary Europe: the fact that while the history of empires and colonialism undoubtedly constitutes a shared European past, this past remains strangely silent in official narratives about Europe’s ‘heritage’. The project argues that the EU urgently needs not just to acknowledge this dilemma but to reflexively and progressively include it at the heart of its identity. ‘Europeanizing’ difficult colonial heritage is becoming all the more necessary today as the EU operates in increasingly global contexts, relationships, and geographies, where its ongoing ‘deficit’ towards accepting colonialism as a part of European history collides with the palpable ‘surplus’ of colonial memory in much of the outside world with which Europe grows ever more entangled. ECHOES therefore proposes that the memory of colonialism needs to find its place in contemporary European heritage debates, and will place European and non-European cities still imbued with manifold traces of the colonial past at the heart of its engagement with heritage practices.

This postdoctoral position based at the University of Warsaw falls within the work package devoted to ‘City Museums and Multiple Colonial Pasts’ that is overseen by Dr. Joanna Wawrzyniak of the University of Warsaw and co-led by Prof. Elizabeth Buettner from the University of Amsterdam. The international research team will examine how the Amsterdam Museum, the Museum of Warsaw, and the re-emerging Shanghai History Museum take up the challenge of presenting and interrogating European colonial heritage, situated as they are at the crossroads of national, urban, and international historical narratives.

Description of work

The postdoc particular focus will be on the Shanghai heritage culture. S/he will work within a team of researchers, examining the evolution of contemporary city museums in a postcolonial context with relation to the ECHOES main questions. Her/his obligations will include:

1. involvement with the development of an analytical framework for a comparative museum analysis;
2. exploring how Shanghai's relations with (post)colonial Europe are reflected in the city's heritage landscape. S/he will closely collaborate with the researchers from the Fudan University and practitioners of the re-emerging Shanghai History Museum and will do research on its history, priorities, practices, and narratives;
3. doing a combination of archive work, interviews, and ethnographic fieldwork in Shanghai;
4. writing reports and academic articles;
5. travelling to and presenting papers at conferences abroad (inside and ideally also outside Europe);
6. building and maintaining excellent relations among researchers and museum practitioners involved in the project;
7. co-organizing workshops, conferences, and other events, and taking responsibility for some project administrative work. The postdoc is expected to participate in an International Workshop on Methodology and Heritage planned in Warsaw in September 2018.

Requirements

Applicants should have:

1. a PhD (already examined) in Anthropology, History, Sociology, Cultural Studies, Sinology or related discipline with a focus on heritage studies, urban studies, and/or (post)colonial studies;
2. a demonstrable interest in heritage studies, cultural memory and/or work experience as a museum practitioner;
3. a research and publication record commensurate with their career stage;
4. fluent English and Chinese;
5. good analytical and communication skills;
6. strong organizational skills;
7. a cooperative attitude and willingness to work as part of a collaborative international team.

Applications should contain

1. application letter addressed to the Vice-Rector of the University of Warsaw, Prof. Andrzej Tarlecki, with the following note: *I hereby give consent for the processing of my personal data for the purposes of the recruitment process in accordance with the Act on Personal Data Protection of 29 August 1997, Official Journal 2016, item 922. (Ustawa z dnia 29 sierpnia 1997 roku o ochronie danych osobowych, Dz. U. z 2016 r. poz. 922);*
2. personal questionnaire¹ with a photo and e-mail;
3. CV;
4. publications list;
5. two recommendation letters (only one can be from the University of Warsaw);
6. PhD diploma.
7. a statement about reading and accepting all the terms of the announced competition.

The candidate must fulfil requirements specified in Art. 114 paragraph 5 of the Act on Academic Education of 27 July 2005, Official Journal 2017 item 2183²

Deadline for submitting applications: 28 May 2018 CET

The Skype interviews with shortlisted candidates will be conducted between 4-15 June 2018.

The successful candidate will be singled-out by 21 June 2018

All documents should be submitted both in a printed and in a digital version.

The pdf-files should be sent to: dziekanat.wfis@uw.edu.pl

The printed applications should be submitted to:

Office of the Dean, Faculty of Philosophy and Sociology, Warsaw University

(room 170, 3rd floor)

ul. Nowy Świat 69,

00-927 Warszawa

Poland

Only complete applications meeting formal requirements will be processed. Information on the results of the application process will be sent to candidates per e-mail.

This application process constitutes the first stage of the recruitment and employment procedure for the position of an academic researcher stipulated by the Charter of the University of Warsaw (Art. 88- 91a, Art. 93-94). A positive outcome of the application process is the basis for further procedure.

Attention! The university does not provide accommodation.

Further information:

For further information, please contact:

Dr Joanna Wawrzyniak, wawrzyniakj@is.uw.edu.pl

¹ Available at <http://bsp.adm.uw.edu.pl/bsp/druki-i-formularze/>

² https://www.nauka.gov.pl/g2/oryginal/2013_12/d687905792f5ff6a3ecf84d7df4f8e57.pdf

Information clause:

1. your personal data is administered by the University of Warsaw (*the Controller*), with the headquarters in Warsaw at Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28;
2. the Controller has appointed a data protection officer to supervise the correctness of personal data processing, who can be contacted at this e-mail address: abi@uw.edu.pl;
3. your personal data will be processed to organize a contest;
4. the basis for the processing of your personal data is the permission for data processing;
5. the provision of personal data is voluntary yet necessary for the achievement of the purposes for which they have been collected;
6. the personal data provided will not be made available to external entities, except for the cases provided for by law;
7. your personal data will be stored by until 30 June 2018;
8. you have the right of access to your personal data, as well as, subject to legal provisions, the right to correct and delete data, limit their processing, transfer them, object to processing, and withdraw consent for processing at any given time;
9. you have the right to submit a complaint to the Inspector General for the Protection of Personal Data (Polish: Generalny Inspektor Ochrony Danych Osobowych);
10. your data will not be processed in an automated manner and will not be profiled.

The Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and Sociology UW