

## We are hiring a **Postdoctoral Researcher** to collaborate on a new Horizon Europe project

The Postdoc position is part of the new Horizon Europe project **RIS4Danu - Sustainable Smart Specialisation for the Re-opening of Industrial Sites in the Danube Region**.

At the heart of RIS4Danu is the aim to apply an evidence-based approach to Smart Specialisation to support place-based innovation for sustainable and inclusive regional transitions. Working closely with partner regions, the RIS4Danu consortium will elaborate strategic business development plans for the re-opening of 21 closed or disused industrial sites in the Danube Macro-Region, an area that stretches from the Black Forest to the Black Sea.

This project ties in with current debates and calls for **sustainable smart specialisation strategies (S4)** by combining considerations of socio-ecological challenges such as climate change, environmental issues and growing social and territorial inequality. Reopening industrial sites has the potential to build transformative resilience in less-favoured Danube regions. These sites could serve as innovation anchors and knowledge hubs unleashing opportunities for the entire region to strengthen their capacity to develop innovative solutions to place-specific ecological, social and economic challenges.

### **Position description**

The successful candidate will join the Working Group Economic Geography, a dynamic and growing interdisciplinary group led by Professor Michaela Trippl at the Department of Geography and Regional Research. The candidate will contribute to the creation of innovation profiles of each partner region by analysing pre-conditions, asset base, innovation potentials and barriers. The candidate will be primarily responsible for data collection and analysis of socio-economic data for each partner region (on aspects such as economic growth, labour and unemployment, GDP, wages, patents, business registration and demographic information). The results are then combined and discussed with qualitative data from other team members. These combined findings then inform consortium partners and partner regions and form the basis for further important steps for RIS4Danu.

### **Profile**

- PhD in the field of economic geography or related disciplines
- Outstanding dissertation/thesis
- Excellent knowledge of quantitative research methods (experience in regional economic analysis desirable)
- Research experience proven by refereed publications/research reports
- Experience in research management and guiding project assistants
- Interest in regional development and inter- and transdisciplinary research
- High command of written and oral English
- High level of interpersonal skills and ability to work independently and as part of a team

## **Desirable**

- Knowledge of the Smart Specialisation approach and/or European innovation policy
- Interest in sustainability transitions and/or socio-ecological transformations
- Experience in working with public sector actors

## **Other job relevant information**

- Travel to workshops or meetings may be required

## **What we can offer**

A collaborative and appreciative research atmosphere in a dynamic and growing interdisciplinary team at one of the oldest universities in Europe. The Department of Geography and Regional Research is located in the heart of the beautiful City of Vienna, which is regularly voted one of the most liveable cities in the world. The RIS4Danu project team will consist of the successful candidate, the two principal investigators Michaela Trippl and Sebastian Fastenrath, a second Postdoc (with a focus on qualitative research), and a student assistant.

The University of Vienna has a high international visibility and is committed to basic research open to application and research-led teaching, as well as to career development of young researchers and to the dialogue with economy and society. That way, the University of Vienna contributes to the education of future generations and to the society's ability to innovate.

## **Position details**

Position level: Postdoc (University assistant), Salary Group B1

Work hours: 30h/week (75%)

Duration: 2-years

Starting date: 1. June 2022 (a later start cannot be negotiated)

Your application should include the following documents and materials (submitted as one PDF document):

- Letter of motivation
- Scientific CV
- Academic and other relevant certificates
- List of publications
- Writing sample (PhD thesis, international peer-reviewed articles, etc.)

Applications (in English) should be sent via email to Ursula Leitner ([ursula.leitner@univie.ac.at](mailto:ursula.leitner@univie.ac.at)) not later than 15 March, 2022

If you have any questions, please contact:

Sebastian Fastenrath (email: [sebastian.fastenrath@univie.ac.at](mailto:sebastian.fastenrath@univie.ac.at))

Michaela Trippl (email: [michaela.tripp@univie.ac.at](mailto:michaela.tripp@univie.ac.at))

