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UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

## **PREPARED - Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellowship Programme 2026**

### **Centre for Disability Law and Policy (CDLP)**

**Ref. No. University of Galway 001-26**

2<sup>nd</sup> Call – PREPARED Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships

#### **JOB ADVERTISEMENT**

PREPARED is an innovative postdoctoral fellowship programme co-ordinated by the [University of Galway](#) and will involve one other university and a non-academic Research Institute (Implementing Partners): [Instituto Superior de Ciências Sociais e Políticas Universidade de Lisboa](#) (ISCSP) and [Schweizer Paraplegiker-Forschung AG](#) (SPF). The programme is co-funded by [Wellspring Foundation](#), the Instituto Superior de Ciências Sociais e Políticas Universidade de Lisboa (ISCSP), the [Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions programme](#) and the University of Galway.

PREPARED postdoctoral fellows will be provided with the highest quality research environment and a training programme where they will develop disability-inclusive responses to the most urgent global crises of our time.

PREPARED will recruit up to four postdoctoral fellows in this call, each with 36-month employment contracts, providing an unparalleled opportunity for Postdoctoral Researchers at the cutting edge of disability rights research. PREPARED focuses on the most urgent challenges and crises facing disabled people globally and aims to find evidence-based responses and research informed by the lived experiences of disabled people to address these critical issues. We are seeking postdoctoral fellows who can bring fresh perspectives and innovative approaches to their research. This can include research from any disciplinary background whose work relates to or draws on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Applications are invited from suitable candidates for up to four, full-time, fixed term postdoctoral Fellows (PREPARED Fellows) across the employing organisations. Up to four fellowships may be awarded on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call.

PREPARED Fellowships are open to applicants of any nationality who have a PhD degree and comply with the programme's eligibility criteria and mobility rules including disabled researchers and Researchers at Risk (those displaced by conflict or whose situation makes it difficult to pursue research careers are also encouraged to apply). All candidates must discuss their research idea and proposal and seek the support of an eligible PREPARED supervisor for their application.



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Fellows will be hosted by their PREPARED supervisor's host institution in Ireland, Portugal or Switzerland.

The programme aims to provide exceptional training and career development opportunities to postdoctoral researchers, fostering international mobility, intersectoral collaboration, and interdisciplinary exposure.

Further information can be found in the Guide for Applicants to PREPARED at <https://preparedresearch.eu/>

This project has received co-funding from University of Galway, Wellspring Foundation, Instituto Superior de Ciências Sociais e Políticas Universidade de Lisboa (ISCSP) and Horizon Europe's Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, Grant Agreement No: 101179497 and runs from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 to contract end date of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2029.

#### **Essential Criteria:**

As per the MSCA definition:

- PREPARED is open to applicants who have a PhD degree at the call deadline. Applicants who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but have not formally been awarded the doctoral degree will also be considered eligible to apply if the successful defence takes place before the call deadline.
- Applicants must comply with the MSCA mobility rule: have not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the employing partner's country for more than 12 months in the three years immediately before the call deadline. Compulsory national service and short stays such as holidays are not considered.
- Applicants must have a working proficiency in English or be fluent in English. Applicants whose first language is not English may be required to provide evidence of their English proficiency.

#### **Please note:**

- PREPARED Fellowships are open to candidates of any nationality. Please see [Employment Permits](#) - University of Galway, Employment permits - Instituto Superior de Ciências Sociais e Políticas Universidade de Lisboa (ISCSP) and [Employment permits](#) - Schweizer Paraplegiker-Forschung AG (SPF) for further information.
- PREPARED will support applications from those displaced by conflict or whose situation makes it difficult to pursue research careers. Researchers at Risk are encouraged to apply. Please see: [Guidelines for Inclusion of Researchers at Risk | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(europa.eu\)](#) for further information.

#### **Gross Salary:**

Remuneration is in line with [EC rules](#) for Marie Skłodowska-Curie COFUND grants.



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Level 1: Approx €50,731 gross salary\* per annum.

\*Gross salary is inclusive of a mobility allowance and represents the salary after the payment of employers taxes but before any taxes the employee may be subjected to. Fellows may also be eligible for a family allowance subject to satisfying the MSCA eligibility criteria.

Salaries are subject to taxes and deductions, e.g., deduction of PRSI (employee social security), and income taxes. For more information about tax entitlements, please go to <https://www.revenue.ie/>

### **Training and Career Development**

Fellows are encouraged to avail of training and development opportunities to support their career development plans. All fellowships will include a secondment period. Fellows will have the flexibility to select a secondment with the non-academic or academic sector to suit their research and career development. Researchers are encouraged to engage with our [Researcher Development Centre](#) (RDC) upon employment. The RDC is an initiative of the offices of the VPR and Graduate Studies to support the continuing professional development of all our researchers at University of Galway.

For information on moving to Ireland, please see [www.euraxess.ie](http://www.euraxess.ie).

### **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

The PREPARED project is committed to the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion on all grounds.

In seeking to attract top global talent to this research project, we welcome applications from all researchers including disabled researchers, the LGBTQ+ community, cultural and linguistic minorities, members of racial and ethnic minorities including Irish Travellers and the Gypsy, Roma community, first generation academics, and care experienced people, among other marginalised groups.

The University of Galway is committed to principles of equality and encouraging diversity and inclusion. Several of the participating academic Institutions and Schools are holders of Athena SWAN awards. We celebrate the diversity of our staff and students and work to support an inclusive environment free from discrimination and harassment.

### **To Apply**

**To Apply:** The application process should include an Online application + Administrative Proposal as follows:

- Part A: Administrative Proposal: Max 2000 characters



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- Part B: Research Proposal (max. 10 pages)
- Part C: Academic CV: Max 5 pages (With three references)
- Part D: Ethics Issues Table and Self-Assessment Form

[Call for Proposals - preparedresearch.eu](https://preparedresearch.eu)

**NB: Garda vetting** is a requirement for the posts based in the University of Galway (as appropriate to Child Protection Policy)

Candidates must develop a project proposal in line with PREPARED Guide for Applicants and submit their complete application via the online application system. The system will remain open for applications until 23:59 (UTC) on the call deadline of 13 March 2026.

See Guidance Documents, Terms & Conditions at: <https://preparedresearch.eu/call-for-proposals/> for more information.

For informal enquiries, contact the University of Galway programme manager at [prepared.eu@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:prepared.eu@universityofgalway.ie). Please put reference number **University of Galway 001-26** in subject line of all queries related to this post.

**Closing date** for receipt of applications is **13th March 2026** at 23:59 GMT. It will not be possible to consider applications received after the closing date.

We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.

The University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.

All positions are recruited via an internationally advertised open call for proposals. The evaluation and selection process will follow an Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency-based Recruitment process and will include an international peer review followed by an interview stage.



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