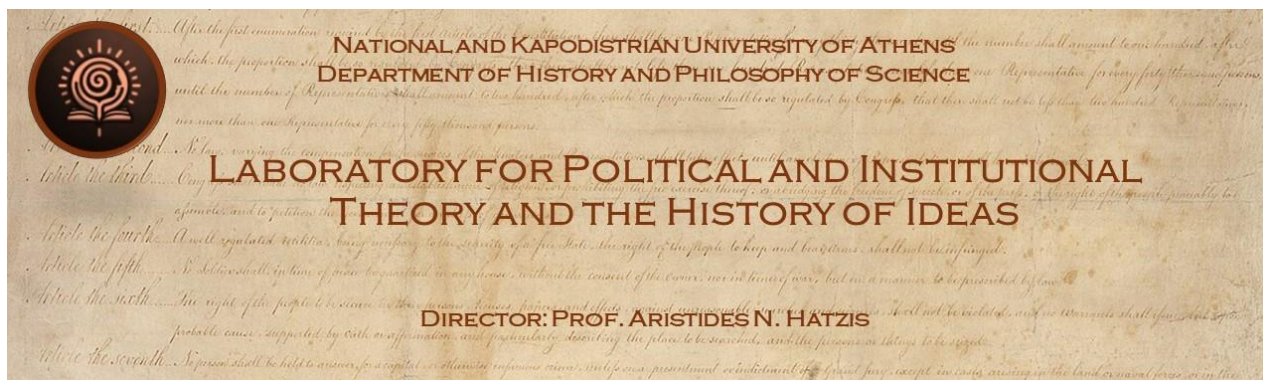




Pre-Call for Applications

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025 at the Laboratory for Political and Institutional Theory and the History of Ideas, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)

The [Laboratory for Political and Institutional Theory and the History of Ideas](#) (Department of History and Philosophy of Science, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) invites **expressions of interest** from promising postdoctoral researchers to jointly apply for the [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(MSCA\) Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025](#).

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships are prestigious awards that enhance the creative and innovative potential of PhD-holding researchers through advanced training and international mobility. The 2025 MSCA-PF call opened on May 8, 2025 and will close on September 10, 2025. We seek outstanding early-career researchers with excellent track records who wish to further their career in a vibrant and supportive academic environment.

Research proposals should align with the Laboratory's core research themes. Priority will be given to proposals that closely fit our focus areas (outlined below) and can be supported by at least one member of the Laboratory. The fellowship allows the researcher to be hosted at our Laboratory in Athens for **12-24 months** (European Fellowships) or for the **12-month return phase** of a Global Fellowship. For Global Fellowships, an initial 1–2-year outgoing phase at a non-European host is required, followed by the return phase in Europe.)

This call supports two types of MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships:

- **European Postdoctoral Fellowships:** Open to researchers of any nationality moving **to or within Europe** to pursue research. The

fellowship is carried out at the host institution in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country (e.g. Greece) for a duration of **12-24 months**.

- **Global Postdoctoral Fellowships:** Open to **European nationals or long-term residents** who wish to conduct research **outside Europe**. The fellowship includes an outgoing phase of **12-24 months** in a Third Country (non-European), **followed by a mandatory 12-month return phase** hosted at a European institution. Our Laboratory can host the researcher during this return phase.

Research Areas of Interest

We welcome project proposals in the **social sciences and humanities**, especially in topics that reflect the Laboratory's strengths in **intellectual history (18th–19th centuries)**, **political and constitutional history**, **institutional analysis**.

Key research areas include, but are not limited to:

History of Ideas (18th–19th Centuries)

- **Enlightenment and intellectual history:** The history of political, constitutional, and institutional ideas in the Enlightenment era (18th century Europe), including the **Greek Enlightenment** and its contributions.
- **Revolution and nation-building:** The ideas and ideologies of the **Age of Revolutions** – with emphasis on the **Greek War of Independence (1821)**, the **American**, the **French**, the **Haitian** and the **Mediterranean Revolutions (1820-1821)** – and their impact on the formation of modern states and constitutions.
- **19th-century political and social thought:** Intellectual and political developments in **19th-century Europe and Greece**, such as the rise of liberalism, constitutionalism, the idea of the rule of law, and early movements for rights and democracy.
- **Society, gender, and the public sphere:** The role of the press, literature, education, and **women's contributions** in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century public discourse and social change (e.g. the history of the press during the Greek Revolution, women's correspondence and writings in the 19th century, romantic literature and history).

Political & Institutional Theory

- **Institutional theory and development:** Theoretical perspectives on political institutions, constitutionalism, and institutional change (including interdisciplinary approaches such as law & economics).
- **Philosophy of law and governance:** Legal and political theory related to concepts of liberty, justice, rights, and the rule of law, especially as they inform institutional design and policy.
- **Modern political thought:** The evolution of major political ideas (e.g. liberalism, republicanism, nationalism) and their influence on contemporary governance and society.

Keywords: Age of Revolutions; Liberalism; Constitutionalism; Rule of Law; Liberal Democracy; Political Theory; History of Political Ideas; European Public Sphere and European Press; Enlightenment; History of Modern Greece; Free Speech; Free Expression; Freedom of the Press; Personal Autonomy; Self-Ownership; 18th century; 19th century; Literature and History

Proposals that bridge theoretical and historical approaches are especially encouraged. If you have an **innovative research idea** in these or related areas, we would be eager to hear from you.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants **must meet the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships eligibility requirements:**

- **Doctoral degree:** Hold a PhD by the call deadline (September 10, 2025). Researchers who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but have not yet formally graduated are also eligible, provided the defense is completed and unconditional before the deadline.
- **Research experience:** Have **no more than 8 years** of full-time equivalent research experience after the PhD award by the call deadline. Career breaks and time outside research do not count towards this 8-year limit. For nationals or long-term residents of the EU/Horizon Europe countries applying to reintegrate from a third country, research experience outside Europe is also excluded from the 8-year cap.
- **Mobility rule:** Must **not have resided or carried out their main activity in Greece** (the host country) for more than **12 months** in the 36 months immediately before 10 September 2025. For Global

Fellowships, a similar rule applies: the researcher must not have spent over 12 months in the prospective outgoing Third Country in the 36 months before the deadline.

- **Proposal resubmission:** Applications to MSCA-PF that **scored below 70%** in the **2024 call** are **not eligible** for resubmission in 2025.
- **One proposal per researcher:** An individual researcher may submit only **one** MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship proposal to the 2025 call. If a researcher submits multiple proposals, **only the last submitted one** will be evaluated.

Please consult the [official MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025 call page](#) for full details on eligibility criteria and rules. All candidates are responsible for ensuring they satisfy **all eligibility conditions** before applying.

Expressions of Interest – Application Requirements

Interested researchers who **meet the above criteria** and wish to apply with our Laboratory should send an **Expression of Interest (EoI)** by email. The EoI must include the following documents:

- **Research Proposal Summary:** A concise **summary (max 2 pages)** outlining the proposed research project, objectives, methodology, and expected outcomes.
- **Curriculum Vitae:** A short **CV (max 2 pages)** highlighting your academic achievements, publications, and any other relevant experience.
- **Motivation & Fit Statement:** A brief statement (**up to 1 page**) explaining how your proposed project aligns with the **Laboratory's research areas** and how you envision integrating into our research team.
- **Eligibility Confirmation:** A clear **declaration** that you meet all MSCA eligibility criteria (as listed above), including your PhD award date and compliance with the mobility rule and experience requirement.

Deadline: Please submit the above documents via email **by July 21, 2025**. All Expressions of Interest should be sent to labpolhnsthst@gmail.com with the subject line "MSCA Postdoc 2025 – Your Last Name". **Early submissions** are encouraged.

The Laboratory will **pre-select proposals** based on internal evaluation of quality, fit with our research, and availability of suitable supervisors. You will be notified of the outcome of your EoI **on July 28, 2025**. Selected candidates will receive support from our team to co-develop the full proposal for submission to the European Commission by the final deadline on **September 10, 2025**. (Please note: the MSCA application is ultimately submitted jointly by the fellow and the host institution via the EU portal.)

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and our Laboratory adhere strictly to the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR 2016/679) in handling applicants' personal data.

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens is committed to equal opportunity and **non-discrimination** on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, age, or disability in its evaluation and recruitment processes.