

IPE JUNIOR FELLOWSHIP

The Institute for Political Ecology is inviting applications for its 2016 Junior Fellowship Programme.

The Junior Fellowship Programme aims to support the research and advocacy work of young scholars who have demonstrated exceptional competence and motivation in tackling key contemporary social, political and environmental challenges, in line with IPE's annual programmatic work. The primary output of a fellow's project should be a draft policy paper or academic article of publishable standard, related to IPE's 2016 programmatic priorities listed below.

The fellowships are open to all academic disciplines, but proposals should be related to one of these three Institute's programmatic priorities in 2016:

- **Degrowth** - The context of the European semiperiphery is marked by legacies of both historical socialism (in its multitude of forms) and post-socialist transition. These legacies provide different outlooks on the receptivity and expectations from mainstream degrowth concepts and strategies. Under this topic researchers will be encouraged to address taboo topics of development in the second half of the 20th century throughout the semiperiphery, and lessons learned from growth along different modernisation paths. Questions of the tendency towards ahistoricity of the degrowth movement are also encouraged, as well as quantitative impacts of degrowth strategies specific to this region.
- **Participatory and commons based governance** – Applying commons theory and practice to the study of the democratisation of public services and enterprises, IPE will research models of participatory democracy which could be implemented in provision of public services such as water, electricity and railway services by public enterprises. Participatory governance models provide an alternative to the privatisation of public services which in Western Europe have resulted in the decrease in service quality, increase of price and poor maintenance of infrastructure and resources. IPE is especially interested in research on enterprises and institutions that provide services related to the management of natural resources and infrastructure.
- **TTIP** – This research streams relates to the potential impacts of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership on selected sectors of the economy and public policies in Croatia. For example, research will aim to anticipate the potential impacts of TTIP on the local economy, agriculture, the environment and labour conditions. It will also evaluate the cumulative impact of the TTIP agreement and its implications for a number of sectoral policies, which will be analysed and presented in a small-scale study with the aim of unfolding critical aspects of TTIP's impact on nature, labour and bio economy. Legal or economic competences of fellows are particularly welcomed.

IPE Junior Fellowships are full-time, optimally for a period of 6 months. Fellowships can start from 4th of April 2016 and onwards.

Eligibility

Applications are open to all nationalities.

Candidates for the fellowship:

- must have a second degree (master or equivalent) in any academic discipline;
- must have high competence in written and spoken English.

We particularly invite candidates who have demonstrated high academic ambition, but have also been socially engaged and are willing to employ their research for societal transformation in line with IPE's mission. Candidates with distinctive experience in linking international and local perspectives, and/or ability to demonstrate outstanding social engagement will be given preference.

Conditions

The candidates selected will spend six months at IPE to pursue their research within the framework of IPE research programme. Junior Fellows will receive a stipend of EUR 800 net per month (in HRK equivalent) to cover accommodation, living expenses, travel, health insurance and any incidental costs related to their stay in Zagreb.

In addition, IPE provides fellows with office space and in-house research and administrative facilities.

Fellows will initially undergo orientation and introduction to IPE staff and associates as well as ongoing activities of the Institute. Fellows will cooperate closely with the IPE staff member who leads the respective research activity, attend monthly meetings with the Research Director and are expected to contribute to other ongoing research activities and public events. Depending on specific activities, fellows will work either from the IPE office in Zagreb, or temporarily from other locations conditional on agreement with the Research Director and the Executive Director of IPE. Halfway through their Fellowship, fellows will present their research project to the IPE team and will submit an evaluation of the level and quality of their cooperation with the IPE team for consideration by the Academic Council.

Application

Applications are required to be submitted in English, via email, to fellowship@ipe.hr, marked by candidate's name and phrase 'JUNIOR FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION' in the subject line.

Applications must include:

- a project proposal in English (1 page, font 12);

- a curriculum vitae in English;
- a list of publications (academic and/or those demonstrating social engagement);
- two letters of recommendation (academic);
- voice contact details (telephone, Skype) for elaboration of project proposal if necessary, indicating availability between 15th February and 25th February 2016.

Candidates are kindly asked to notify IPE of the desirable date for the start of their Fellowship.

Candidates can send requests for clarification of their draft applications by email to fellowship@ipe.hr, by 15th January 2016 at the latest.

Application Deadline

February 5, 2016

Selection

The finalists will be selected by IPE's team and the Academic Council. Shortlisted applicants will be notified by February 15, 2016.

During the selection process, additional elaboration of finalists' research proposal and their background might be needed, in which case shortlisted candidates should expect to be directly contacted. IPE is not required to publicly justify its decisions.

VISION

The Institute for Political Ecology is working towards an ecologically sustainable, just and democratic society.

MISSION

The Institute for Political Ecology (IPE) is a research and educational organisation that designs alternative development models and innovative institutional frameworks for the democratic political and economic transformation of society. The Institute addresses contemporary ecological changes as social phenomena that reduce or magnify social inequalities and influence power relations. IPE carries out transdisciplinary research and educational programs in cooperation with domestic and international institutions and organisations. Based on these, IPE provides expert analyses and discussion platform for social movements, political and economic actors in Croatia and abroad that advocate ecologically sustainable, just and democratic society.

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Institute for Political Ecology

- produces relevant and applicable research in the sphere of ecological transition and commons-based governance models;
- participates in a number of international scientific, expert and civil society projects that frame post-growth debate in Europe and its semi-periphery;
- aims to politicise the public discourse related to climate justice and social inequalities in Croatia and Europe;
- produces studies that contain applicable ecological transformation scenarios in targeted sectoral policies;
- develops and delivers curricula and educational modules in the sphere of climate science, post-growth debates and various spheres of political ecology interests;
- provides analysis, data and expertise for initiatives, movements and organisations in Croatia, SEE region and Europe;
- actively shapes participative models and developing collaborative practices with organisations, movements and donors in Croatia and beyond;
- regularly publishes academic and scholarly work that explores transformative potential of different economic models and social practices;
- engages in building and co-creating epistemic communities around areas of programmatic interest;
- provides networking platforms and discussion forums like Green Academy to empower both movements and experts thus catalysing change and transformation;
- organises seminars and other events relevant from perspective of political ecology.

PAST & FUTURE EVENTS

- INDUSTRY, AND YET GREEN? Seminar in cooperation with Green European Foundation, Zagreb, 18th November 2015.
- PUBLIC IS GOOD. USING DEMOCRATISATION AGAINST PRIVATISATION OF PUBLIC SERVICES, seminar in cooperation with Green European Foundation, Zagreb, 25th November 2015.
- GREEN ACADEMY – winter edition, 2016
- BOOK PROMOTION “Degrowth: a vocabulary for a new era” – Zagreb, Spring 2016
- GREEN ACADEMY, summer edition, Vis island, Summer 2016
- 5th International Degrowth Conference, Budapest, Summer 2016