



The [Movement Research Unit](#) is seeking a fixed term (1 year) Research Fellow to analyse the far right in the UK, focusing on their grassroots organising and electoral strategy.

The Fellow will receive their stipend from the [Barry Amiel & Norman Melburn Trust](#) as part of their annual Fellowship scheme, and be hosted by the Movement Research Unit.

Deadline: July 27th 2025, at 23:59

Contact: If you're thinking of applying, not sure if this is for you or have any questions please email mona@mvmresearch.org

Pay and conditions

- A tax-free stipend of £21,500
- 3 days a week (equivalent to the MRU's flat pay structure of £174 / day)
- Fixed contract for 1 year
- Ideally able to work from our office in Bethnal Green, but we're open to remote working
- Latest start date is 13th October 2025

About the Movement Research Unit

We are a network of volunteer researchers supporting workers, renters, activists and organisers. We do research that helps movement groups build power and pursue the most effective strategies.

In 2024 we ran [110 research projects](#) for 71 movement groups, with a team of only four staff. We collaborate with groups using a range of tactics in their fight for justice - from unions organising precarious workers and tenants, to climate activists and Palestine solidarity movements on the front line.

Our network of nearly 500 members includes qualitative and quantitative researchers, investigative journalists, policy advisors, legal advisors, software developers, forensic accountants, and many more. The breadth of our membership means that we are well-placed to

tackle almost any research question. We also run fortnightly research hacks - where members work on projects together - and training events.

About this project

With far-right parties gaining electoral footholds across the globe, fascist rhetoric creeping into public and political discourse, and the 2024 UK riots fresh in public memory - it is clear that the threat posed by the far right is severe. This project aims to directly monitor the strategy employed by far right actors at both an electoral and grassroots level within the UK. This will entail:

- Ethnographic research into the ground game and grassroots organising methods of far right groups
- Analysis of key positions and discourses, and their appeal to potential voters
- Finding leverageable points of weakness and disagreement between far right actors
- Using open source intelligence to uncover patterns of prejudice and corruption
- Improving our methodological frameworks for conducting investigative work

There is flexibility in the Fellowship and direction of research depending on your specific experience and interests. **We strongly encourage you to reach out to Mona to discuss how you might fit this Research Fellowship**, if this (or adjacent) topics is an area of expertise and interest to you.

About the [Barry Amiel & Norman Melburn trust](#)

The Trust is a political education funder committed to advancing public education, learning and knowledge in all aspects of socialist transformation and the history of the working-class movement.

The Fellowship is an annual initiative intended to facilitate research with a socialist orientation, consistent with the broad aims of the Trust. One of the aims of the initiative is to provide an opportunity for new researchers to develop their research interests and capacities in a politically focused environment and thus, over time, enhance the human resources that can support radical research.

The Trust expects to develop a positive relationship with the chosen fellow, receiving brief project updates at trustees meetings and providing additional support as appropriate.

The role

The Research Fellow will:

- Design and lead a mixed-methods research project on the grassroots and electoral strategy of the British far right
- Contribute to the MRU's existing project streams focusing on the far right
- Coordinate with movement groups resisting the far-right and respond to their research needs

The role will involve a combination of the following:

- Ethnographic research into the grassroots organising strategy of the far right
- Analysing common trends of prejudice and corruption among far-right leaders
- Creating a bank of tools and methods for investigating the far right

You'll be working closely with two Coordinators from the MRU (Mona and Izzy), who will offer support and training in investigative and ethnographic work. **There is flexibility in the Fellowship and direction of research depending on your specific experience and interests.** We highly encourage you to reach out to talk about how you might fit this Research Fellowship, even if your experience doesn't exactly match the list below.

Who we're looking for

Essential criteria

We're looking for someone who is:

- Aligned with our mission to use research to support movement groups fighting for economic, climate, and racial justice
- An excellent written and verbal communicator
- A meticulous researcher with experience in qualitative analysis and literature review
- Experienced in some of the following:
 - Ethnographic fieldwork
 - Statistical analysis
 - Building research methodologies; evaluating different tools and sources to find the best way of answering a research question
 - Managing research projects over a sustained time period (6+ months)
 - Coordinating with multiple stakeholders or researchers

Desirable criteria

The Fellow will learn and develop many of these skills in the role, but the ideal candidate will have some of the following:

- A strong understanding of some of the following:
 - Electoral politics
 - Grassroots organising strategy
 - The far right
- Familiarity with:
 - OSINT research
 - Survey and polling data
 - Government data, including PMQs and local council meetings
 - Census and demographic data
- Involvement in:
 - Antifascist resistance or campaign work against the far right
 - Electoral work
 - Political organising

Staff diversity is a strategic priority for the MRU. We want to build a team that has shared values and a range of skills, life experiences and identities. This helps us to avoid groupthink, challenge each other and do our best work. If you don't see people like you working in social movement jobs - we'd strongly encourage you to get in touch. We're up for talking at length before application, and however unsure you feel, it'd be really great to meet and chat.

How to apply

Using the subject line "Research Fellow Application," please email a CV and application to mona@mvmresearch.org with the following:

- Tell us why you're interested in working with the MRU and on this topic specifically
- Give an example of your research work, specifying:
 - Your role
 - Research question(s)
 - Methods and tools used
 - Any changes to the research approach, and why they were made
 - Outputs
 - How the research was used
- Please tell us about the research skills you would bring to the role, and how you expect they would shape the project
- Please share another skill, perspective, or experience with us, and tell us how you think this would benefit the role

Don't worry about the formatting of your CV - we won't judge you on it. After applications close on July 27th, we'll contact you about next steps.

If you have any questions about the role or process please email us on the address above and we'll get back to you.

Deadline: We're closing applications at 23:59 on July 27th, 2025.