Job Announcement: 4-year PhD Position

“Effective forms of intervention by local communities to support digital eco-systems of self-organized SE networks”

V.N.Karazin Kharkiv National University invites applications for a PhD scholarship in **“Social Entrepreneurship Activation in Conflict Zones”.** The scholarship is part of the seizmic Doctoral Network, based on a grant from the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Doctoral Network call 2023. You can find the application deadline and application link at the end of this document.

The Research Project

The PhD project is part of a network of 15 doctoral theses which all contribute to the overall goal of understanding social entrepreneurship (SE) scaling. This particular PhD thesis is part of a work package on “Digital Eco-systems and Artificial Intelligence Use”. The position is focuses on assessing the behavior of agents of SE networks under conditions of military aggression and digital transformation. This research will involve a effective community interventions in supporting self-organized social entrepreneurship in conflict zones; a knowledge on social entrepreneurship activation under military and hybrid conflicts and a recommendations and training programs for municipalities on social entrepreneurship activation. The candidate will collect data and model the factors of successful development of SE groups under military and hybrid threats, and offer new insights into the forms of successful municipal interventions to support the scaling up of social entrepreneurship.

Required Secondments

As required by the MSCA funding guidelines, the PhD candidate will have an academic secondment at one of the seizmic doctoral network members, as well as a non-academic secondment providing a blend of academic and practical perspectives.

About V.N.Karazin Kharkiv National University, Karazin Business School

Describe here your university and the Department where the student will be based. Identify who will be primary and secondary supervisor(s).

V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University – one of the oldest classical universities in Eastern Europe. Today the University has 21 schools and 128 departments providing training to specialists in 61 majors. Karazin business school is an associate partner of the Aurora Alliance. According to the QS World University Rankings 2024, Karazin University ranks 691-700 globally. More information can be found at https://karazin.ua/en/.

Karazin Business School – special innovative faculty of the University. It is created to help present and future leaders realize their creative potential as well as build a successful career in any sphere or assist them in the development of the organization. KBS trains professionals in business, management and entrepreneurship in the different fields of economic activities. Our students and staff experienced in educational, scientific, methodological and research activities. The website of the Business School: http://kbs.karazin.ua.

Supervisor team: (i) Volodymyr Rodchenko (KNU) – His expertise includes strategic planning and development strategies in Ukraine. (ii)

Co-supervision / secondment host: Vincenzo Luise (UNINA) – Expertise in sociology and bottom-up social innovation. (iii) Elham Shayegh (Aurora) – educational developer will connect DC with Aurora CEE network.

When in Denmark CBS, contact person for DC 15 is SEIZMIC PI, professor Kai Hockerts and Anne-Karen Huske.

About the seizmic Doctoral Network

The seizmic Doctoral Network will develop an interdisciplinary theoretical framework explaining the factors influencing SE scaling through replication and imitation.

- It will evaluate the impact of social entrepreneurship business model design on scaling outcomes, combining quantitative and qualitative assessments. The focus is on identifying design competencies that facilitate scalability and examining how factors like social forecasting and impact measurement support scaling.
- Furthermore, the project will investigate the intentions and actual outcomes of impact investors in supporting SE scaling in Europe. This involves longitudinal case studies to understand how impact investments contribute to scaling, replication, and imitation of SE initiatives, as well as competencies needed by impact investors.
- Next, the seizmic doctoral network will develop an interdisciplinary model for professional learning and curriculum development to enhance SE scaling. This includes training SE educators, conducting longitudinal trials of SE education, and assessing the role of feedback in supporting learning among social entrepreneurs, ultimately contributing to entrepreneurship education.

- Finally, the network will propose and test a theoretical model on the role of digital ecosystems in SE scaling, exploring bottom-up creativity, digital data politics, and collaborative networks. This also involves training and implementing an AI model specialized in SE scaling.

As indication of who you would be working with please see below the list of all 15 doctoral positions and their respective host organizations:

DC1: Schumpeterian Social Entrepreneurship and Impact Investing (CBS)

DC2: Outcomes of Social Entrepreneurship Competencies (CBS)

DC3: The Effectiveness of AI Mentoring in Enhancing SE Outcomes (CBS)

DC4: Teaching social entrepreneurs through explicit and hidden curricula (CBS)

DC5: Transparency and impact measurement in social business model design (Iceland)

DC6: Feedback and mentoring in SE Education (Iceland)

DC7: Maintaining 'Impact Fidelity' Throughout the Investment Lifecycle (Iceland)

DC8: Exploring Innovative Social Business Models & Market Transformation (Napoli)

DC9: Innovations at the Margin: Digital Ecosystems in Social Entrepreneurship (Napoli)

DC10: Cross-sector Collaboration in Social Business Model Design (ESCP Berlin)

DC11: AI's Role in Fostering Social Entrepreneurship in Innovation Ecosystems (Innsbruck)

DC12: Impact Investment Strategies and Social Entrepreneurship Scaling (URV Taragona)

DC13: Social foresight in social business model design (UPEC Paris)

DC14: Quantitative Analysis of Impact Investing and Social Entrepreneurship (Twente)

DC15: Social Entrepreneurship Activation in Conflict Zones with a focus on Ukraine (Karazin/Ukraine)

About the Aurora European University Network

An important advantage of the seizmic doctoral network is that many of its partners belong to the Aurora European University Alliance (https://aurora-universities.eu/about/), an alliance of research-intensive universities financed by the European Union through the Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. Aurora is committed to equipping students with the skills and mindset to address key societal challenges through social entrepreneurship and innovation. Most seizmic supervisors already know each other from developing (bachelor and master level) interdisciplinary social entrepreneurship courses for Aurora which they deliver in many cases jointly. This has created a close-knit community of interdisciplinary social entrepreneurship scholars, which we are certain will transfer into a highly collegial and effective doctoral network in which supervisors collaborate closely with each other across all Aurora partners. The seizmic doctoral candidates will be able to attend

regular Aurora events (such as the biannual Aurora conference or any of the Aurora blended intensive programmes (BIP)).

MSCA Application Requirements

According to the mobility requirements of the MSCA guidelines candidates must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host organization (i.e. Ukraine in this case) for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the recruitment date.

Application and admission requirements

To be considered the applicant should:

- Ukrainians, who more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the recruitment date were not in Ukraine or foreigners.

- To study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), the University accepts applicants based on NRK7 (master's degree or specialist educational qualification level). The standard period of training - four years.

Employment and salary

The PhD scholarship runs for a period of three years and in addition to their academic PhD research the PhD student is expected to contribute to the deliverables of the seizmic project and their dissemination (for details see “The Research Project” above). The scholarship is a fully salaried position. The scholarship amounts to (for 3 years) € 161.585 (in living allowance) plus € 21.600 (mobility allowance). The scholarship includes tuition fees, office space, course and travel costs.

Recruitment procedures

For Ukrainians, who more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the recruitment date were not in Ukraine. To be considered the applicant should:

- Applicants to postgraduate studies submit an application to the admissions committee or

personally in paper form, or send a scanned copy of it with a qualified electronic signature by e-mail. Applicants indicate a competitive proposal indicating the specialty, faculty, intended supervisor and form of education.

- When submitting an application in paper form, the entrant personally presents the originals:

- a document (one of the documents) certifying a person, provided for by the Law of Ukraine "On the Unified State Demographic Register and documents confirming the citizenship of Ukraine, certifying a person or his special status;
- military registration document (for conscripts - a military ticket or temporary ID, for conscripts - a certificate of registration at conscription stations);

- a state-style document on the previously obtained educational degree (educational and qualification level), on the basis of which admission is made, and an appendix to it;
- a document on the successful completion of the EVI in 2023 with a score for the foreign language test of at least 130 points or the EVI of 2024 with a score for the test of general educational competencies of at least 160 points.
- a copy of the document that contains the registration number of the taxpayer's registration card (except for persons who, due to their religious beliefs, refused to accept the registration number of the taxpayer's registration card and have a note about this in their passport);
- four color photos measuring 3 x 4 cm; personnel record sheet;
- a list of published scientific works (if available); research proposal.
  A research proposal is a scientific text of up to 5 pages, prepared by a graduate student, in which the topic of the future dissertation research, its relevance, the state of development in domestic and foreign science is substantiated; possible ways of solving the tasks, etc. Requirements for research proposals are formed by faculties/institutes according to the specifics of each specialty.

- Copies of documents, except for an identity document, a military ticket (certificate of registration), are certified by the selection committee of the department of postgraduate studies, doctoral studies and support of PhD programs. Copies of documents without presenting the originals will not be accepted.

- Entrance tests for admission to study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy consist of:

- entrance exam in the specialty (within the scope of the standard of higher education for a master's degree in the relevant specialty);
- entrance exam in a foreign language;
- presentations of research proposals on the subject of future scientific research;
- an additional exam in a specialty (taken by persons who enter postgraduate studies on the basis of NRK7 from a different field of knowledge (specialty) than the one specified in their diploma.

For further information on the project, prospective applicants can contact

- Yuliia Kvitka, makhanova@karazin.ua

For questions about the application and HR process as well as the formal requirements of your application you can contact our department

- Yuliia Kvitka, makhanova@karazin.ua

For questions about the PhD programme, you can obtain details from

- Volodymyr Rodchenko, rodchenko@karazin.ua

Online Information and Introduction Session:

Candidates can sign up for optional information and introduction sessions that will be held several weeks ahead of the submission deadline. These will be held virtually via MS Teams. At these sessions we will present the seizmic doctoral network, the Aurora European University Network, as well as answer any questions to help you assess if this position is a good fit for you. If you are interested in this info session, please register your interest here and you will receive an invitation as soon as the date has been set:
https://copenhagenbusiness.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0rNDnUcFEjn7seW
Participation in the info session is not mandatory and applicants who cannot attend are still explicitly encouraged to apply.

Project website: https://www.seizmic.eu/msca

Application Deadline

Application deadline: 15 February 2025
We aim for the applicant to start by March 2025.