

Call for 20 Postdoctoral Fellows

Under the project „Basic Sciences for Society needs: postdoctoral training” (BS4S) that has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions COFUND Programme.

**WE’RE
HIRING**

The Institute of Physical Chemistry, Polish Academy of sciences (IChF) has launched the call for **20 postdoctoral fellowships** under Horizon Europe’s MSCA-Cofund programme. We particularly welcome research projects aligned with the following thematic areas: **advanced biomaterials and technologies for health, photonics and light-driven processes, and catalysis and materials for sustainable transformations.**

BS4S “Basic Sciences for Society needs: postdoctoral training” (BS4S) is a new postdoctoral programme at IChF supporting researchers ready to connect fundamental science with real-world needs. **We invite candidates who aim to conduct excellent research that matters – for science, industry, and society.**

An independent, international selection panel will choose **20 fellows for 36-month positions**. Applicants will propose research projects aligned with IChF’s areas of expertise. Two mentors will support each fellow – one based at IChF and one from a foreign institution (ERC/EIC or other high-level grant holders), both selected by the applicant to match their research topic.

Successful researchers will benefit from **high-quality, targeted training, including modules delivered by industry partners**. BS4S promotes a need-driven innovation approach, empowering scientists to translate fundamental research into products and services that address societal challenges, strengthen knowledge transfer, and foster entrepreneurship in Europe.

WHAT WE OFFER?

- Full-time position for 36 months
- A net monthly salary of EUR 2,500 (average amount received in the bank account); family allowance available
- Research, training, and travel budget of EUR 1,400 per month
- Access to state-of-the-art infrastructure
- Secondment opportunities at partner institutions
- Participation in interdisciplinary training programmes (including specialised and soft skills), aligned with an Individual Career Development Plan
- Public and private medical package and additional benefits
- Start date: April – October 2026

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

- **Curriculum Vitae** including a **career course** (in academia and beyond, research/application projects, a candidate’s role in these projects, description of international experience, countries of residence); **Key Research Outputs** (major publications; patents, industrial or utility designs – applications or granted rights)
- **Research proposal** (max. 5 pages; according to the template)
- **Two letters of support**: one from an IChF senior researcher and one from a high-profile scientist and holder of an ERC, EIC, or another prestigious grant
- **Copy of PhD diploma** in chemistry, physics, biotechnology, or a related field
- **A consent to the processing of the candidate's personal data** for the purpose of the competition and a **declaration that a candidate fulfils the mobility criterion**

MAIN REQUIREMENTS

- **Mobility criterion**: the candidate must not have resided in Poland for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately prior to the deadline of the Call (including remote work for a Polish entity)
- **PhD**: possession of a doctoral degree (in chemistry, physics, materials science, biotechnology, or related field) or a formal document confirming the defence of a doctoral thesis
- **Application eligibility under BS4S** (application completeness: project length (36 months), project starting date (April-Oct 2026), research project budget – see details at project webpage)

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- **Project excellence**: potential for scientific advancement, societal relevance, and sound, well-matched methodology
- **Project wider potential**: alignment with the thematic scope of any Horizon Europe Cluster, collaboration with businesses or end users, inclusion of gender aspects in research
- **Researcher’s experience**: quality of publications and authorship role, applied research or industrial involvement, intellectual property achievements, international mobility
- **Project viability**: soundness of the research plan and timeline, candidate’s expertise relevant to the project, and potential impact on society, policy, or industry
- **Candidate’s soft skills**: clarity in presenting the project and career goals, and demonstrated ability to collaborate with diverse stakeholders
- **Motivation for the project** in relation to future career plans and rationale for selecting co-/mentor

Candidates are invited to submit their applications **via the application module at www.bs4s.edu.pl**.
Call deadline: 31 December 2025.



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