

CALL FOR 2 PHD FELLOWSHIPS

In the frame of the MSCA-DN *Understanding Latin American Challenges in the 21st Century (LAC-EU)*

The Universitat de Barcelona (UB) is seeking applications for **two doctoral positions** under the MSCA-DN: Understanding Latin American Challenges in the 21st Century (LAC-EU). The selected candidates will be employed by UB and will be required to enroll in one of its PhD training programmes.

Funded under the European Union's Horizon Europe (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions - Doctoral Networks), the LAC-EU doctoral network will establish a novel, comprehensive and interdisciplinary framework to understand LAC and its relationship with the EU, fostering respectful, non-Eurocentric research and engagement. It will enable a better understanding of current challenges in Latin American governance and support sustainable, equitable and successful relations between the EU and LAC.

LAC-EU is an integrated four-year doctoral network, providing world-class, interdisciplinary research and training in social and political sciences, law, and the humanities, as well as research exchanges and policy-relevant secondments in the EU and LAC. Research themes include the rise of populism, democracy, gender rights, trade, migration, health, global cities, sustainability and green finance, and cultural studies.

The LAC-EU doctoral programme comprises an interdisciplinary, multi-sectoral network composed of seven leading higher education institutions and key, highly relevant civil society, and policy partners from a range of European and LAC countries. It offers an exceptional combination of academic and research-related training and transferable skills to deliver scientific excellence, occupational mobility, and preparation for lifelong, policy-relevant learning for a new generation of researchers.

NETWORK MEMBERS

- **Beneficiaries:** Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, FLACSO-Argentina, Universitat de Barcelona, Sciences Po, University of Oslo, and University of York.
- **Associated partners:** Universitat Pompeu Fabra, CIDOB, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Universidad de Chile, EU-LAC Foundation, Instituto Português de Relações Internacionais -Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, FLACSO-Ecuador, Université de Poitiers, Democracia Abierta/Open Democracy.

AVAILABLE POSITIONS AT UB

Fellow:	R03
Host institution:	UB PhD Programme
Duration:	36 months
Start date:	October 2024
Project title:	<i>Translating LAC: Fighting Political Stereotypes in European Publishing-houses</i>
Supervisor:	Dunia Gras (UB) and Maria Grau-Perejoan (UB)
Objectives:	1) Mapping the LAC writers and works translated in both transnational and independent European publishing houses, taking into account the texts' multilingual contexts; 2) identifying the strategies to "sell" LAC literature in Europe through the analysis of paratextual elements and social media as well as taking into account awards, literary festivals and the role of literary agents and the stereotypes still involved; 3) focusing on literary translators not only as possible gatekeepers but as cultural bridges to "otherness", that is, as cultural producers who contribute to the collective task of presenting a vision of the LAC that counters the damaging effects of stereotyped narratives; 4) examining the impact of these cultural products in the EU: do they perpetuate or subvert the prevailing traditional images and clichés of LAC? Can stereotype-free and unmediated versions of the LAC not tailored to a European audience be successful?; 5) reflecting on the consequences of the book market in Europe: is still the Global North, after all, dictating what LAC's cultural products make the cut and are thus promoted and critically attended globally?
Planned secondments:	Open Democracy/Democracia Abierta and CRLA-Archivos (U. Poitiers)

Fellow:	R04
Host institution:	UB PhD Programme
Duration:	36 months
Start date:	October 2024
Project title:	<i>Trade, Identities, and Market Success: LAC Women Writers in Europe.</i>
Supervisor:	Dunia Gras (UB) and Maria Grau-Perejoan (UB)
Objectives:	1) Assess and map the new constellation(s) of LAC women writers in Europe; 2) analyse their migrant experience as a combination of their condition as women and how this translates into a denunciation of their marginality through experimentation, exophonic practices and literary conscience; 3) focus on (self)representation and promotion; 4) identify patterns of their market access and success in Europe and Latin America, as well as crossed impacts.
Planned secondments:	Universidad de Chile and CRLA-Archivos (U. Poitiers)

BENEFITS

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellows are offered a full-time, three-year contract that includes full social security benefits, a highly competitive monthly living allowance, as well as mobility and family allowances. Salary and working conditions correspond to the criteria set out in the MSCA-DN call.

The programme offers students an exceptional opportunity to engage in network-wide training and acquire a broad range of research-focused and transferable skills at various locations across Europe and LAC. This includes working with leading scientists and experts in the field.

REQUIREMENTS

We seek motivated researchers who hold a Master's degree in any of these fields: Latin American or Comparative or World Literature, Literary Theory, Postcolonial or Cultural Studies, or equivalent (early-stage researchers), with an interest in Literary Sociology, and possess excellent empirical and theoretical skills, as well as good teamwork abilities. Proficiency in both English and Spanish is a requirement.

Doctoral candidates' recruitment is subject to the mobility rule. Applicants may be nationals of Member States, Associated Countries, or any other third country. Additionally, the applicant must not have lived or worked in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months prior to their date of recruitment, excluding short stays such as holidays.

Applicants who hold a doctorate or have more than 4 years of full-time research experience are ineligible.

Final candidates should ideally begin their PhD enrolment/employment in October 2024.

Applications must be submitted by 13 May 2024 (10.00 am Barcelona time)

Applications must be submitted through email (lac.eu@ub.edu) and should include:

- Cover letter (in English).
- Current CV (in English).
- Project proposal based on one of the topics (2000-2500 words).
- Names and contact details of 3 referees who can comment on the applicants' capabilities and abilities.



Understanding Latin American Challenges in the 21st Century



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