

COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Dean of the Faculty of History, with the consent of the Rector of the University of Warsaw, announces a competition for the position of assistant professor (post-doc, R2, F/M) in the NCN OPUS 29 project "Reformation violence. Religious unrest in the Baltic region in 1520-1525".

About the programme/project/undertaking:

Title of programme/project/undertaking	Reformation violence. Religious unrest in the Baltic region in 1520-1525
Type of programme/project/undertaking	OPUS 29
Funding institution	NCN
Duration of programme/project/undertaking	48 months
Head of programme/project/undertaking	Maciej Ptaszyński
Description of programme/project/undertaking	<p>The aim of this project is to explore how acts of violence influenced the development of the Reformation in Baltic cities. Typically, the Reformation's progress is portrayed as the result of preaching the Gospel and opposing the Catholic Church's errors. This project offers a fresh perspective, framing violence not as a destructive force but as a catalyst for profound social change and a factor ensuring social stability.</p> <p>A particularly interesting focus is Lutheranism, often seen as a peaceful, conformist, and conservative denomination that supported secular authorities. As noted by historian Otto Hintze over a century ago, following thinkers like Max Weber and Ernst Troeltsch: "The nature of Lutheranism was peaceful and apolitical; it produced neither bold warriors nor cunning diplomats." Contrary to this view, however, the early Reformation along the Baltic coast was marked by a remarkable wave of violence that swept through many cities.</p> <p>The central argument of the project is that physical, verbal, and symbolic acts of violence were essential to the Reformation's development. They played a decisive role not only in determining the movement's success or failure but also in shaping the emerging cultures of the mid-16th century. Yet, this foundational role of Reformation violence has been forgotten or downplayed. Confessional cultures often described these events as chaotic incidents or acts of vandalism perpetrated by the urban poor or women. Historians, in turn, have struggled to reconcile Lutheran iconoclasm with Lutheranism's supposed peacefulness, tolerance for church art, and preservation of many Catholic traditions.</p> <p>To investigate this, the project focuses on the Baltic region, which soon became dominated by Lutheranism. The Baltic offers a unique case of a multi-ethnic and multilingual area with a dense network of political, economic, and communication ties. At the dawn of the Reformation, this region experienced an unprecedented escalation of violence. Studying these conflicts will shed light on how religious violence served not only to resolve existing disputes and stabilize social structures but also to express emerging confessional identities.</p> <p>Additionally, the research examines the origins, course, and consequences of the Reformation in coastal cities from the perspectives of various</p>

	historical actors, including Catholic clergy, itinerant preachers, urban elites, the poor, and women, as well as animals (baptized, beaten, or used in rituals) and objects (destroyed, defaced, or looted). This comprehensive approach aims to provide a deeper understanding of the transformative power of violence during the Reformation.
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Position details:

Position title	assistant professor
Organisational unit	Faculty of History
Employment group	research
Position profile ¹	R2
Academic discipline ²	history
Number of positions	1
Form of employment and length of working time (proportionally to full-time employment)	Employment contract, full-time
Expected date of commencement of work and employment period	from 1 October 2026 at the earliest. 44 months, with the possibility of extension up to and including 48 months.
Remuneration	Basic remuneration PLN 140 000.00 gross/year plus the additional annual remuneration, allowance for years of service. More information: link
Other working conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Workplace: University of Warsaw (possibility of performing duties remotely – in accordance with the Work Regulations and other regulations in force at the University of Warsaw), Faculty of History, University of Warsaw – Professional development opportunities: work in an interdisciplinary team, access to the IDUB programme, development of skills in digital humanities and database management, support in preparing and submitting your own research projects resulting from activities undertaken in the position offered, more https://rekrutacja-i-rozwoj.bsp.uw.edu.pl/praca-na-uw/ – Business travel expenses (foreign conferences, research trips and stays) are covered by the project funds – University of Warsaw social package, including holidays in the countryside, etc. more: https://bssoc.uw.edu.pl/swiadczenia-socjalne/ <p>Note: in addition, in accordance with the appendix to NCN Council Resolution No. 84/2024 of 5 September 2024, the position created is a post-doc position, and therefore the person employed during the period of receiving remuneration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) will not receive any other remuneration from funds allocated as direct costs from research projects financed under NCN competitions, 2) will not receive remuneration from another employer on the basis of an employment contract, including an employer based outside Poland, 3) will not receive pension benefits from the social security system. <p><i>Career opportunities:</i> ... More information: link</p>
Basic responsibilities and obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – in consultation with the project manager, defining a monographic research topic within the scope of the project; – conducting archival and library searches; – recording data in local working databases and in the online database prepared as part of the project;

¹ Complete only in the case of competition for the position in the research employment group or the research and teaching employment group.

² Complete only in the case of competition for the position in the research employment group or the research and teaching employment group.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – participating in research meetings and consultations; – participating in all research tasks carried out within the project; – presenting research results at international conferences; – preparing at least two articles on violence during the Reformation in Scandinavia, intended for international journals. <p><i>More information:</i> Scope of responsibilities of the academic teacher</p>
Conditions for entering the competition ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Fulfilment of the requirements set out in Article 113 of the Law on Higher Education and Science (Journal of Laws of 2024, item 1571, consolidated text)</i> – academic achievements in the field of Reformation studies; – obtaining a doctoral degree no earlier than 12 years prior to the year of employment (taking into account documented career breaks, in accordance with the appendix to the NCN Council resolution); – doctorate obtained outside the University of Warsaw; in the case of a doctorate obtained at the University of Warsaw, a documented postdoctoral internship of at least 10 months outside Poland is required; – communicative knowledge of English.
In addition, we expect ⁴	<p><i>Desirable skills (not mandatory)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – at least basic knowledge of one of the Scandinavian languages; – knowledge of German; – knowledge of the history of the Reformation in the Baltic Sea region; – experience in working with archives. <p><i>If hired, we expect the University of Warsaw to be the primary workplace for the successful candidate.</i></p>
Criteria for the assessment of candidates in a competition	<p>Stage I: 60 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of preparation/qualifications relevant to the position based on previous scientific activity: 30 points. - Assessment of the compatibility of scientific plans with the project: 20 points. - Assessment of scientific experience (publications, participation in conferences, presentations, etc.): 10 points. <p>A maximum of 60 points in total from each member of the selection committee; candidates who obtain an average score of over 30 points will be invited for an interview.</p> <p>Stage II: 40 points</p> <p>The following will be assessed on the basis of the presentation and interview: compatibility of the proposed research topic with the objectives of the project; conduct of the interview (40)</p>

Position ~~related~~/not related⁵ to activities covered by the protection of minors.

Competition rules:

Announcement reference number	Whist-K-2026-06
Keywords	history, modern times, Reformation, Martin Luther
Deadline for submitting applications ⁶	1 June 2026
Method of submitting an application	e-mail to the following addresses: praca.historia@uw.edu.pl and m.ptaszynski@uw.edu.pl

³ Required by the Act, the Law on Higher Education and Science, the Statute of the University of Warsaw, as well as necessary for the position.

⁴ Additional conditions to be met; however, not meeting them will not lead to a negative formal assessment.

⁵ Delete as appropriate.

⁶ Not sooner than 30 days from the date of publication of the announcement.

Required documents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Personal questionnaire completed in English (form available on the website of the University of Warsaw Human Resources Office: Personal questionnaire for the person applying for employment) 2. Description of research plans related to the project – a proposal for research on a selected issue within the scope of the project topic on which the candidate would like to focus (2-4 pages, in English) 3. A copy of a scientific article published or accepted for publication (together with a certificate from the editorial office) in a journal or collective volume. 4. A copy of the doctoral diploma or a certificate of completion of the defence or a statement from the supervisor on the expected date of obtaining the doctoral degree. The doctoral degree must be obtained before the moment of employment. <p>Please ensure that your application is complete and submitted by the deadline indicated!</p>
The competition is the first stage of the recruitment process, please read the Policy of Open, Transparent and Merit-Based Recruitment at the University of Warsaw link	
Stages of competition	<p>The competition consists of the following stages:</p> <p>Stage I – formal evaluation of documents,</p> <p>Stage II – substantive evaluation based on the submitted documents,</p> <p>Stage III – interview with selected candidates, including presentation of a research plan</p> <p>Stage IV – final assessment of competences, experience and scientific achievements,</p> <p>Stage V – conclusion of the competition and announcement of results.</p>
Anticipated date and method of notification of the competition outcomes	1 September 2026 by e-mail
Contact for any questions relating to the competition	praca.historia@uw.edu.pl with the announcement reference number Accessibility needs should be indicated on the Candidate's Questionnaire, in: <i>Other relevant information from a candidate</i>

Employing faculty/unit:

Research profile of faculty /unit	https://historia.uw.edu.pl
Teaching profile of faculty/ unit	https://historia.uw.edu.pl
Other information	

The University of Warsaw has implemented the procedure for whistleblowers reporting cases of law violation and for undertaking follow-up actions. For **more information** about this topic and the processing of candidates' personal data please follow the [link](#)

The University of Warsaw is a winner of the HR Excellence in Research award granted by the European Commission to institutions adhering to the European Charter for Researchers.

