

Job - PhD position within the visuAAL Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network

PhD position

at *[the Department of Law](#)*.

The Department of Law is one of the largest departments at Stockholm University with about 200 employees and 6,500 students. More than 100 teachers are engaged full time to teach and to carry out the research on which the teaching is based. The Faculty employs about 40 professors in different areas. As a doctoral candidate at Juridicum, you will be part of a dynamic environment with high prestige research and a strong international character.

Details

Location	Stockholm University, Department of Law (SWEDEN)
Function types	PhD position
Scientific fields	Law Science
Hours	1 700 hours/year
Salary	See below
Education	Doctoral Programme in Law Science
Job number	visuAAL ESR 6
Employer	Stockholm University
Short link	www.jurinst.su.se

Job description

visuAAL is a four-year (2020-2024) Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Innovative Training Network, funded by the European Union, that aims at bridging the knowledge gap between users' requirements and the appropriate and secure use of video-based AAL technologies to deliver effective and supportive care to older adults managing their health and wellbeing.

visuAAL will seek to increase awareness and understanding of the context-specific ethical, legal, privacy and societal issues necessary to implement visual system across hospital, home and community settings, in a manner that protects and reassures users; outputs will stimulate the development of a new research perspective for constructively addressing privacy-aware video-based working solutions for assisted living.

visuAAL will provide a transdisciplinary and cross-sectoral combination of training, non-academic placements, courses and workshops on scientific and complementary

skills to 15 high achieving Early Stage Researchers (ESRs). These newly hired ESRs will contribute through their individual research projects to fulfil visuAAL's aims.

visuAAL brings together 5 universities:

- Chair of Communication Science, Human-Computer Interaction Center, RWTH Aachen University, Germany
- The Swedish Law and Informatics Research Institute (IRI), Stockholm University, Sweden
- The Trinity Centre for Practice and Healthcare Innovation, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
- Computer Vision Lab, TU Wien, Austria
- Department of Computing Technology, Universidad de Alicante, Spain (Project Coordinator)

This Consortium is complemented by 14 partner organisations from Austria, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and United Kingdom; that will contribute to the research and training activities.

For more information about visuAAL, see <https://www.visuaal-itn.eu/>.

In the framework of visuAAL, Stockholm University is recruiting a PhD candidate for a period of Four years.

Project description

Project title: "Digital twins" as a way to help insure legal compliance of video-based AAL technologies

Objectives: The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) offers strong protection for the individuals' integrity. At the same time, video-based AAL technologies present serious privacy concerns that threaten the long-term sustainability of these products. One way to speed up the implementation of important research within the context of AAL technologies is to simulate data in digital twins [here, agent based modelling should also be a powerful tool], thus helping to solve key future issues without compromising individual integrity. Investigating opportunities to carry out important research without having to use personal data, but instead data on "computer generated agents" or other simulations is the focus of this project.

Expected Results: This doctoral thesis will contribute to the current body of knowledge surrounding the approaches to anonymization in the context of data protection, particularly where it concerns highly sensitive data like health data. It will offer a possible solution to avoiding complex data protection rules through the application of "digital twins."

Supervisory Committee:

- Main Supervisor: Prof. C. Magnusson-Sjöberg (Stockholm University)

- Second Supervisor: Dr F. Florez (University of Alicante)
- Co-Supervisor: Ass. Prof L. Colonna (Stockholm University)
- Advisor: J. Eriksson Lundström (RINFO)

Planned secondment(s):

- **Secondment 1:** UA (Supervisor: Dr F. Florez) – M17-M19: Training and research on visual privacy protection
- **Secondment 2:** RINFO (Supervisor: Dr J. Eriksson Lundström, and will be assigned to one of the organisations connected to RINFO that is best suited for the project) – M33-M35: case study examination

Enrolment in Doctoral degree(s): Doctoral Programme in Law Science, Stockholm University

Qualification requirements

In order to meet *the general entry requirements* to doctoral studies, the applicant must have completed a second-cycle degree, completed courses equivalent to at least 240 higher education credits, of which 60 credits must be in the second cycle, or have otherwise acquired equivalent knowledge in Sweden or elsewhere.

In order to meet *the specific entry requirements*, the general syllabus for doctoral studies in the field of Law stipulates that applicants must have completed an LL.M, a Law Degree or equivalent. Eligibility can also be granted to applicants who, through professional experience or other training, are deemed to have acquired competence equal to that which is necessary to conduct studies at post-graduate level, both in terms of scientific skills and legal literacy relevant to the research area. Should the Research Committee consider that the applicant does not meet the specific entry requirements, it can be decided, upon admission, that the applicant shall complete a certain curriculum or meet any other condition that the Committee sees fit to fulfil the necessary requirements.

Applicants must not have been awarded a PhD degree.

At the time of recruitment, applicants must have less than four (full time equivalent) years of experience within a research career (measured from the date when the applicant obtained the first degree entitling him/her to embark on a doctorate, even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged).

Applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting institution for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the recruitment date.

Eligibility requires that the applicant has very good command of English.

The possibility of employment as a doctoral candidate is largely based on the applicant's deemed capability to carry out studies at a doctoral level.

The qualification requirements must be met by the deadline for applications.

Selection

The selection among the eligible candidates will be based on their deemed capacity to carry out studies at a doctoral level. This capability will be assessed based on the following criteria, stipulated by the Faculty of Law:

- The applicants' general knowledge
- The applicants' level of motivation
- The applicants' level of creativity and independency
- The applicants' general competence will be assessed through academic performance, essays and other writings that show the ability for clear presentation and critical analysis, as well as professional experiences and other similar activities that are relevant to the education.

Terms of employment

We offer a full-time four year contract. The term of the initial contract may not exceed one year. The employment may be extended for a maximum of two years at a time. However, the total period of employment may not exceed the equivalent of four years of full-time study. Only a person who will be or has already been admitted to a third-cycle programme may be appointed as a doctoral candidate.

The full-time gross salary amounts to SEK 26,500/month. After completing 50% of the programme, the monthly salary increases to SEK 28,400/month and after completing 80% of the programme, the salary increases to SEK 29,900/month.

Doctoral studies will be carried out in accordance with the general study plan of the Faculty of Law at Stockholm University. You will participate in the research training sessions in the framework of the visuAAL Marie Skłodowska Curie ITN project.

Please note that admission decisions cannot be appealed.

Stockholm University strives to be a workplace free from discrimination and with equal opportunities for all.

Contact

Further information about the visuAAL project can be obtained from Professor Peter Wahlgren, peter.wahlgren@juridicum.su.se.

For more information about the Doctoral Program, please contact the Director of Studies, Assistant Professor Jaan Paju, jaan.paju@juridicum.su.se.

Application

Submit your application to <https://www.visuaal-itn.eu/esr-vacancies>. Please, ensure that you select vacancy number ESR6.

The following documents must be submitted with your application:

- Written documentation concerning prior education, including a certified copy of your Master certificate and list of grades (with certified translation for languages other than English or Swedish);
- A personal letter of motivation, indicating why you wish to conduct this research project offered by Stockholm University, and why you expect that you will be able to complete the research and training programme successfully;
- Detailed curriculum vitae, including – if applicable – relevant publications;
- Two references from academic referees; (who will be contacted by the Consortium using standardised forms),
- The applicant should have a minimum level of proficiency in English language, which could be demonstrated by providing an English language certificate and that will be confirmed in a later interview, if needed.
- Draft project proposal, including timeline (max length. 3000 words)
- A substantial piece of writing in English, such as a (draft) master thesis or research paper.

Selection procedure

Applications can be submitted at any moment while the position is open. Submitted applications will be evaluated every two weeks and applicants will be contacted with the outcome of this evaluation. Those applicants shortlisted will be invited to an interview with the Supervisory Committee.

You are welcome to apply!