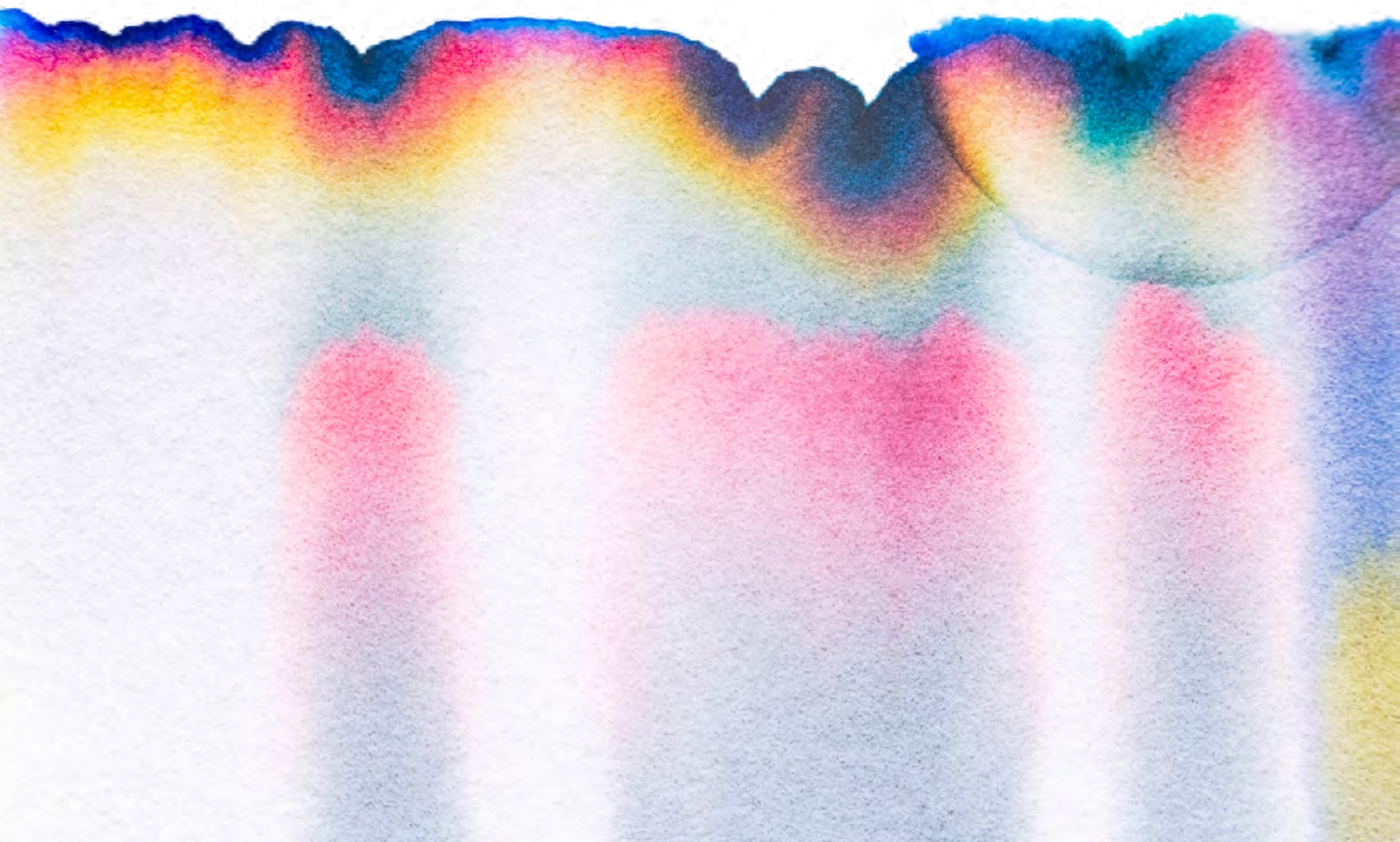


TESTAMENT

Testamentary practices
at the periphery of the
ius commune tradition:
freedom and oppression
(C. 1420–1620)

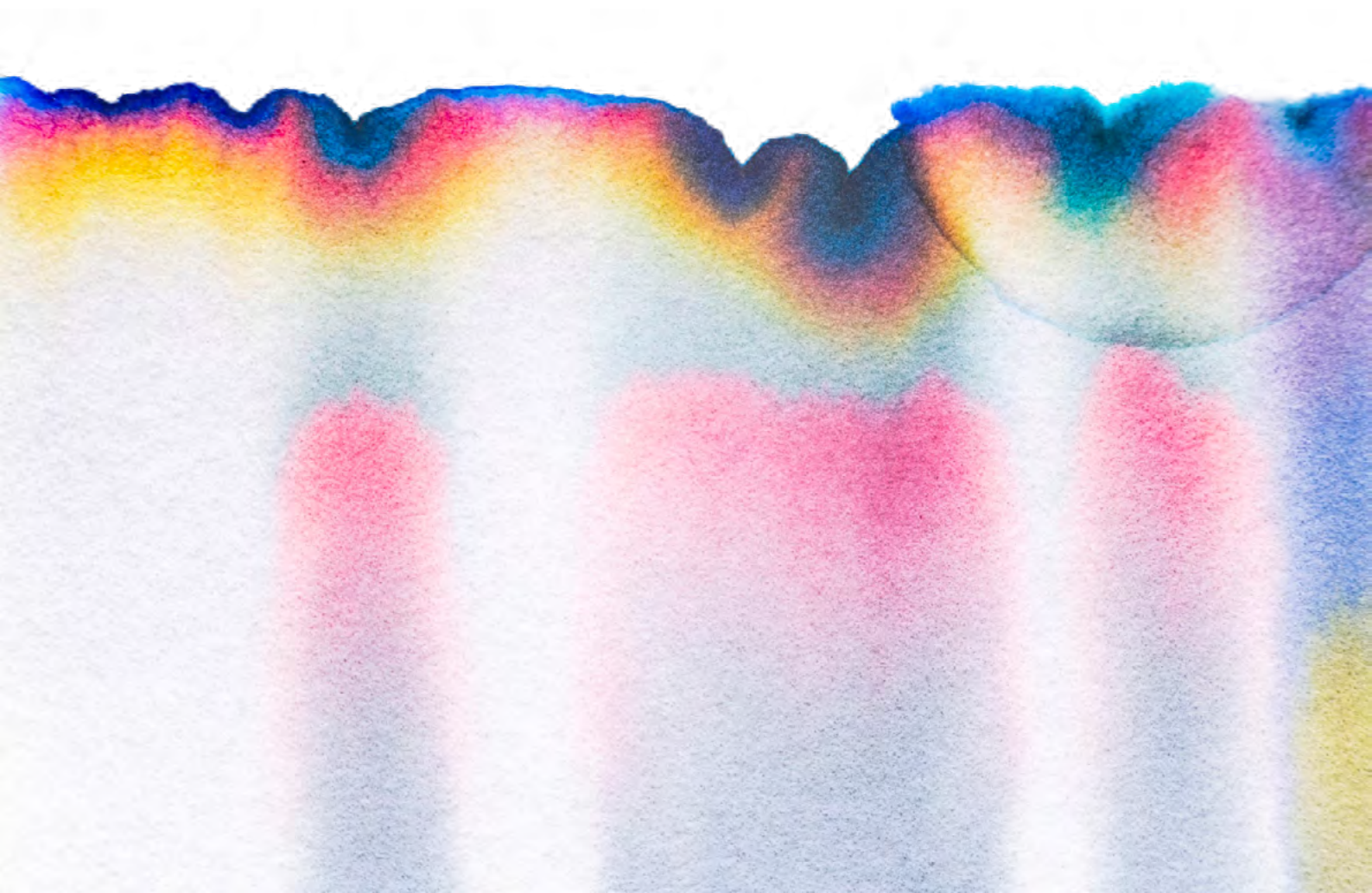


We are looking for you!

Are you fascinated by the legal and social history of the Late Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period? Do you want to be an active player in a truly international and interdisciplinary environment, within a prestigious MSCA Doctoral Network funded by the European Commission?

Do you want to know more about how earlier generations regulated the post-mortal transfer of patrimony, through last wills and related legal mechanisms? Are you interested in the interplay between societal dynamics, “learned law” and testamentary freedom?

Are you willing to leave your home country and start working as a Doctoral Candidate in law/history at a foreign university? Are you looking forward to a six-month research stay in another country, at another high-level university, and a three-month internship in a museum or archive?



Vacancies

Study in Leuven (DC1)	4
Study in Warsaw (DC2)	8
Study in Pragu (DC3)	12
Study in Jena (DC4)	16
Study in Leuven (DC5)	20
Study in Kraków (DC6)	24

Testamentary practices at the periphery of the ius commune tradition: **freedom and oppression** (C. 1420–1620)

Study in Leuven (DC1)

**Doctoral Candidate position within the MSCA Doctoral Network
TESTAMENT.**

About the location

Leuven, a vibrant and historic city, located 25 km east of Brussels, is known as a top European knowledge hub. It is home to KU Leuven, a university which recently celebrated its 600th anniversary. The town is known for its historic architecture. It is bike-friendly and walkable and hosts several museums and churches, the Great Beguinage (UNESCO World Heritage), as well as the “Old Market”, often called the longest bar in Europe.

Description of the project

For this position, KU Leuven Kulak in Kortrijk will be your home base. This campus combines the strength of KU Leuven with the proximity of a close-knit academic community and an educational concept that puts the human dimension at the center of its programs. KU Leuven Kulak has a strong interdisciplinary research profile and focuses on both regional and international collaboration. At KU Leuven Kulak, you will have the opportunity to develop innovative ideas and make a real impact in both research and education.

At the same time, you will be part of the Research Unit of Medieval History, part of the department of History at KU Leuven. Next to a research axis on the history of social, gender and political history, the research unit has a strong focus on power dynamics within families and communities in late medieval Europe.

The Doctoral Candidate (DC) will be supervised by prof. dr. Chanelle Delameillieure (social history, KU Leuven) and co-supervised by prof. dr. Marek Starý (Law, Charles University). In the course of this fellowship, the DC will work six months in Prague, and three months at the Museum Plantin-Moretus in Antwerp.

This DC will focus on generational dynamics within families in the urban Southern Low Countries. For this research, a variety of judicial sources will be used. The DC will study generational dynamics and age inequality in late medieval Brabant, with a focus on acts of last will or on all sort of arrangements with respect to property and inheritance.

Responsibilities

In the framework of the MSCA Doctoral Network “TESTAMENT”, the Doctoral Candidate will have the following responsibilities:

- Researching generational dynamics and property transfers in urban families in late medieval Brabant (15th-16th centuries), and preparing a doctoral dissertation on this topic.
- Actively participating in the activities of the TESTAMENT-network (summer and winter schools, monthly online meetings, concluding conference).
- Presenting the research at at least one international conference.
- Writing at least one peer-reviewed scientific article.
- Actively participating in the activities of the Research Unit and of the Doctoral School of KU Leuven.
- Conducting a six-month research stay at the Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic (which can be divided in several shorter terms).
- Conducting a three-month internship at the Museum Plantin-Moretus, where the DC will be involved inter alia in collaborating with the museum’s volunteers and performing outreach activities related to the museum’s archival collection.

Profile

We are looking for a candidate who meets the following requirements:

- You are creative and ambitious, hard-working, and persistent.
- You have a master's degree in history or law or you will have it by August 2026.
- You have good communicative skills, and the attitude to partake successfully in the work of a research team.
- You have a good command of the English language (spoken and written).
- You have a good passive command of Dutch (or its late medieval/early modern variant) and/or French (or its late medieval/early modern variant). Active command of Dutch is an advantage.
- You have a passive command of Latin.

Eligibility criteria

Supported researchers must be doctoral candidates, i.e. not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment.

Recruited researchers can be of any nationality and must comply with the following mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary (Belgium) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

Offer

A meaningful job in a dynamic and ambitious university, in an interdisciplinary setting and within an international network. In addition, we offer you:

- Full-time employment for three years, with an intermediate evaluation (go/no-go) after 1 year.
- The gross amount of the doctoral scholarship (tax-free) will be approximately 3.055,61 euro per month if you are single with no dependent family members. It will be higher if you have a registered partner without income and/or dependent child(ren); it will be lower if you have a registered partner with income.
- Additional benefits are in accordance to KU Leuven regulations.
- High-quality training programs and other support to grow into a self-aware, autonomous scientific researcher.

Application process

Do you recognize yourself in this profile and would you like to know more? Please contact prof. Channele Delameillieure: chanelle.delameillieure@kuleuven.be.

We invite you to submit a complete application by using the online application tool. Only applications that are submitted in this way are taken into account.

The application should include a motivation letter (including the topic of your master thesis project), a curriculum vitae (including contact details of at least two references) and a list of your bachelor and master courses and grades (and ranking, if available).

Promising candidates will be contacted by email. Deadline for applications is Monday 20 April. After a first selection, candidates will be invited for a first round of interviews (online) on Wednesday 6 May 2026. A second round at the location of employment (KU Leuven) will be organized a few weeks later. The successful Doctoral Candidate will be employed from 1 September 2026.

Important Dates

Deadline: Monday 20 April

First round of interviews (online): Wednesday 6 May 2026

Second round: at the location of employment (KU Leuven), a few weeks later

Start date: 1 September 2026

Contact & Application

Contact: prof. Channele Delameillieure:
chanelle.delameillieure@kuleuven.be

Where to apply:

- Website **KU Leuven**: <https://www.kuleuven.be/personeel/jobsite/jobs/60633227?hl=en>
- Website **EURAXESS**: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/416595>

There are also vacancies for Doctoral Candidates at other faculties and institutions within the TESTAMENT-Consortium. For more information on those other DC-positions, please consult our project's website. Do not hesitate to apply for all TESTAMENT's vacancies you are eligible for.

Testamentary practices at the periphery of the ius commune tradition: **freedom and oppression** (C. 1420–1620)

Study in Warsaw (DC2)

**Doctoral Candidate position within the MSCA Doctoral Network
TESTAMENT.**

About the location

As Poland's capital, Warsaw combines a rich historical heritage with a vibrant and modern lifestyle. The city is home to world-class archives, research centres and universities with active history departments, and it hosts a wide range of academic activities that support doctoral research. Living in Warsaw means being part of a multicultural environment where English is widely spoken and international students are well integrated into academic and social life. The affordable cost of living and excellent public transport make everyday life convenient, while its many museums, monuments, and historical neighbourhoods provide endless sources of inspiration for a historian. From intimate cafés perfect for reading and writing, to centuries-old landmarks and lively cultural festivals, Warsaw encourages both serious study and personal enjoyment. It's not just a place to study – it's a place to live, discover and grow.

More info: <https://go2warsaw.pl/en/main-page/>

Description of the project

This Doctoral Candidate (DC) will be employed at the Faculty of History of the University of Warsaw, a leading center for research on the history of Poland and Central Europe. The Faculty conducts both team-based and individual research, aiming to address important questions in the study of the past. It also fosters methodological reflection on the nature of historical research, the status of sources, and the history of historiography.

The DC will be supervised by prof. dr hab. Agnieszka Bartoszewicz (social history, University of Warsaw) and co-supervised by prof. dr. Adrian Schmidt-Recla (legal history, FSU Jena). In the course of this fellowship, the DC will work six months in Jena and three months at the Museum of Warsaw.

This DC will focus on the analysis of wills drawn up by Warsaw burghers between 1543 and 1604 and partly in Latin, partly in Old Polish, preserved in the Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw, in order to reconstruct the social and economic structure, as well as the family relationships that influence the testators' decisions.

Particular attention will be paid to examining the position of the spouse, especially the widow, in the context of the law and the restrictions imposed both by the family and by the existing legal regulations. An important area of research will also be the role of children in wills and how testamentary practices reflect family relationships in Polish towns.

Responsibilities

In the framework of the MSCA Doctoral Network "TESTAMENT", the Doctoral Candidate will have the following responsibilities:

- Researching testators and their families in early modern Warsaw (Old & New Warsaw, 1543–1604), and preparing a doctoral dissertation on this topic.
- Actively participating in the activities of the TESTAMENT-network (summer and winter schools, monthly online meetings, concluding conference).
- Presenting the research at at least one international conference.
- Writing at least one peer-reviewed scientific article.
- Actively participating in the activities of the Research Unit and of the Doctoral School of the University of Warsaw.
- Conducting a six-month research stay at the FSU Jena (which can be divided in several shorter terms).
- Conducting a three-month internship at the Museum of Warsaw, where the DC will be involved, inter alia, in organising an online exhibition on Warsaw last wills.

Profile

We are looking for a candidate who meets the following requirements:

- You are creative and ambitious, hard-working, and persistent.
- You have a master's degree in law or history or you will have it by August 2026.
- You have good communicative skills, and the attitude to partake successfully in the work of a research team.
- You have a good command of the English language (spoken and written).
- You have a good passive command of Latin.
- Passive or active command of Polish is an advantage.

Eligibility criteria

Supported researchers must be doctoral candidates, i.e. not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment.

Recruited researchers can be of any nationality and must comply with the following mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary (Poland) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

Offer

- Full-time employment for three years, with an intermediate evaluation (go/no-go) after 1 year.
 - The gross amount* of the doctoral salary includes approximately:
Living allowance: 2 260–2 280 EUR (9 490–9 576 PLN); **Mobility allowance:** 710 EUR (2 980 PLN); **Family allowance**, if applicable: 660 EUR (2 770 PLN)
- *Gross amount includes compulsory deductions under national law, such as employer and employee social security contributions and direct taxes.
- Additional benefits are in accordance to University of Warsaw regulations.
 - High-quality training programs and other support to grow into a self-aware, autonomous scientific researcher.

Application process

Do you recognize yourself in this profile and would you like to know more? Please contact prof. Agnieszka Bartoszewicz: abartoszewicz@uw.edu.pl.

We invite you to submit a complete application by using the e-mail address provided below. Only applications that are submitted in this way are taken into account.

The application should include a motivation letter (including the topic of your master thesis project), a curriculum vitae (including contact details of at least two references) and a list of your bachelor and master courses and grades (and ranking, if available).



Important Dates

Deadline: Monday 20 April

First round of interviews (online): Wednesday 6 May 2026

Second round: at the location of employment (University of Warsaw), a few weeks later (the project will cover the cost of travel and accommodation)

Start date: 1 October 2026

Contact & Application

Contact: prof. Agnieszka Bartoszewicz: abartoszewicz@uw.edu.pl

Where to apply:

→ praca.historia@uw.edu.pl with the subject line: MSCA DN Testament

See also: EURAXESS - <https://www.euraxess.pl/jobs/414461>

TESTAMENT project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe programme: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) under the grant agreement No 101226689.

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

Testamentary practices at the periphery of the ius commune tradition: **freedom and oppression** (C. 1420–1620)

Study in Pragu (DC3)

**Doctoral Candidate position within the MSCA Doctoral Network
TESTAMENT.**

Description of the project

The DC will be supervised by associate professor dr. Marek Starý (legal history, CU Prague) and co-supervised by prof. dr. Maciej Mikuła (legal history, Jagiellonian University of Kraków). In the course of this fellowship, the DC will work six months in Kraków, and three months at the Centre of Medieval Studies in Prague.

This doctoral project will focus on the role of membership of the Hussite movement for the contents of last wills and the application and development of testamentary law in the fifteenth century. It is reasonable to assume that such major social and religious changes, reflected in the personal choices of individuals, were also important for the content of last wills in the Czech Kingdom.

The DC's task will be to verify the relevance of this hypothesis through broad-based research, which will also include the last wills and testaments of the inhabitants of the town of Tábor, which was one of the centres of the revolutionary movement and which was originally founded as an attempt to create a community on completely new ideological grounds.

Responsibilities

In the framework of the MSCA Doctoral Network "TESTAMENT", the Doctoral Candidate will have the following responsibilities:

- Researching the regulatory framework and societal and religious context of the testamentary practice in the Kingdom of Bohemia in the 15th-16th centuries.
- Preparing a doctoral dissertation on the role of membership of the Hussite movement for the contents of last wills and the application and development of testamentary law in the fifteenth century.
- Actively participating in the activities of the TESTAMENT-network (summer and winter schools, monthly online meetings, concluding conference).
- Presenting the research at at least one international conference.
- Writing at least one peer-reviewed scientific article.
- Actively participating in the activities of the Research Unit and of the Doctoral School of CU Prague.
- Conducting a six-month research stay at the Jagiellonian University of Kraków (which can be divided in several shorter terms).
- Conducting a three-month internship at the Centre of Medieval Studies (part of the Czech Academy of Sciences), where the DC will be involved in a project aimed at the creation of a database of historical sources, which will facilitate the gathering of material for the DC's dissertation.

Profile

We are looking for a candidate who meets the following requirements:

- You are creative and ambitious, hard-working, and persistent.
- You have a master's degree in law or history or you will have it by August 2026.
- You have good communicative skills, and the attitude to partake successfully in the work of a research team.
- You have a good command of the English language (spoken and written).
- You are able to work independently (perhaps with the partial help of a dictionary or AI) with historical texts written in Czech, German and Latin.

Eligibility criteria

Supported researchers must be doctoral candidates, i.e. not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment.

Recruited researchers can be of any nationality and must comply with the following mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary (Czech Republic) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

Offer

A meaningful job in a dynamic and ambitious university, in an interdisciplinary setting and within an international network. In addition, we offer you:

- Full-time employment for three years, with an intermediate evaluation (go/no-go) after 1 year.
- The gross amount of the doctoral salary (before taxes and insurances) will be approximately 80 000 Kč (cca 3 300 EUR) per month if you are single with no dependent family members. It will be higher if you have a registered partner without income and/or dependent child(ren); it will be lower if you have a registered partner with income.
- Additional benefits are in accordance to Charles University's regulations.
- High-quality training programs and other support to grow into a self-aware, autonomous scientific researcher.

Application process

Do you recognize yourself in this profile and would you like to know more? Please contact ass. prof. dr. Marek Starý: starym@prf.cuni.cz.

We invite you to submit a complete application by using the online application tools. Only applications that are submitted in the way specified below are taken into account.

The application should include a motivation letter (including the topic of your master thesis project), a curriculum vitae (including contact details of at least two references) and a list of your bachelor and master courses and grades (and ranking, if available).

Deadline for applications is Monday 20 April. In addition, the application must also be submitted in the required form via the website of the Faculty of Law of CU Prague at the latest on Thursday 30 April.

After a first selection, promising candidates will be contacted by email and invited for a first round of interviews (online) on Wednesday 6 May 2026. A second round at the location of employment (CU Prague) will be organized in June in the form of an interview before an expert committee. It primarily assesses the candidate's readiness for independent scientific work in the chosen program in the context of broader professional knowledge.

The successful DC will be employed from 1 October 2026.

Important Dates

Deadline: Monday 20 April

Additional CU form deadline: Thursday 30 April

First round of interviews (online): Wednesday 6 May 2026

Second round: June (in-person interview before an expert committee)

Start date: 1 October 2026

Contact & Application

Contact: ass. prof. dr. Marek Starý: starym@prf.cuni.cz

Where to apply:

1. Until April 20 via e-mail to testament@prf.cuni.cz (with the required, above-specified attachments)
2. Then until April 30 on <https://is.cuni.cz/studium/eng/login.php?do=prijimacky> (official application for the CU – you have to attach a dissertation project of about 7 pages, CV and list of professional activities)

EURAXESS: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/415052>

Testamentary practices at the periphery of the *ius commune* tradition: **freedom and oppression** (C. 1420–1620)

Study in Jena (DC4)

**Doctoral Candidate position within the MSCA Doctoral Network
TESTAMENT.**

About the location

In the centre of Germany, at a turning point of history in the chamber of the heart of the Protestant Reformation the University Jena and its Faculty of Law launched their ongoing project of understanding and teaching law as the proper means of solving conflicts by the power of thought and argument. Since then the Faculty has gained a prominent stake in jurisprudence. The Faculty raises her voice for liberty and equal rights and offers best conditions for study and research.

Jena nowadays is a Republic of Letters in one of Germany's most lovely quarters, surrounded by smooth hills carrying the ruins of medieval castles and fortresses over small vineyards along the banks of the river Saale. It is a vivid and modern city – together with Weimar and Erfurt it builds the so called „Thuringian axis of blessedness” only a stone's throw away from Leipzig.

Keen on a cup of coffee in Goethe's Summerhouse in Weimar or a glass of fruitful wine in Schiller's in Jena? Curious about the „Thuringian Pentagon”, about the most beautiful noblewoman of the Middle Ages in the Naumburg Cathedral or looking for challenging Mountainbike-trails along the „Saale-Horizontal”? Anyway: Jena will give you a warm welcome in Paradise.

Description of the project

You will be based at the Lecture for Civil Law, German and European Legal History and Medical Law and the Research Unit East German Law at the Faculty of Law of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena which is a dynamic and innovation-driven university centrally located in Germany. With a broad range of disciplines, it shapes the future through excellent research and teaching. Its scientific excellence is reflected in the profile areas Light – Life – Liberty, which provide pioneering insights and sustainable solutions for the society of tomorrow.

The Lecture and the Research Unit is a vivid centre of Legal History in Thuringia and Saxony and hosts a network of Ph.D. students which you are invited to. Medieval Civil Law and Socialist Law are the research axes of both. The Faculty in general is strong in Legal History and Philosophy and Methodology of Law.

You will be supervised by prof. dr. Adrian Schmidt-Recla (legal history, Uni Jena) and co-supervised by prof. dr. Wouter Druwé (legal history, KU Leuven). In the course of this fellowship, you will work in Jena and six months in Leuven, two months at the Thuringian State Archive in Weimar and two months at the Saxonian State Archive in Leipzig.

You will deal with the role of jurists and interest groups in the preparation of and lobbying for particular stipulations in manorial regulations, especially through a study of the Kursächsische Konstitutionen from 1572, on inter alia testamentary law in the Electorate and the Duchy of Saxony. Thus, the research consortium will study different actors which determined policy making in this field of law and practice, and the extent to which they were able to use their power and influence to either widen or limit the degree of testamentary freedom.

You will examine this legislative process driven by interfering or contradictory perspectives and aims, in order to study whether *ius commune* has driven the regulations and practices into a special (Roman or Romanesque) direction or not. Archives, universities and libraries in Saxonia and Thuringia host plenty of material that has never been examined before to answer these questions.

Responsibilities

In the framework of the MSCA Doctoral Network TESTAMENT, you will have the following responsibilities:

- Researching the role of jurists and interest groups in the preparation of and lobbying for particular stipulations concerning last wills in manorial regulations in Saxony (16th-17th centuries), and preparing a doctoral dissertation on this topic.
- Actively participate in the activities of the TESTAMENT-network (summer and winter schools, monthly online meetings, concluding conference).
- Presenting the research at at least one international conference.
- Writing at least one peer-reviewed scientific article.
- Actively participate in the activities of the Lecture, the Research Unit and of the Doctoral School of Uni Jena.

- Conducting a six-month research stay at the KU Leuven.
- Conducting a two-month internship at the Thuringian State Archive in Weimar and another two-month internship at the Saxonian State Archive in Leipzig, where you will be involved in the registration of documents (concerning last wills).

Profile

You are creative and ambitious, hard-working, and persistent. We are looking for a candidate who meets the following requirements:

- You have a master's degree in law or you will have it by August 2026.
- You have good communicative skills, and the attitude to partake successfully in the work of a research team.
- You have a good command of the English language (spoken and written).
- You have a good passive command of German (written); active command of German (spoken) is an advantage.
- You have a passive command of Latin.

Eligibility criteria

Supported researchers must be doctoral candidates, i.e. not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment.

Recruited researchers can be of any nationality and must comply with the following mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary (Germany) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

Offer

A meaningful job in a dynamic and ambitious university, in an interdisciplinary setting and within an international network. In addition, we offer you:

- Full-time employment for three years, with an intermediate evaluation (go/no-go) after the first year.
- The MSCA contributions - consisting of a living allowance of €4.010 (*1,012), a mobility allowance of €710 and, if applicable, a family allowance of €660 – grant you a gross salary of €3.920 or €4.460 (including family allowance).
- High-quality training programs and other support to grow into a self-aware, autonomous scientific researcher.

Application process

Do you recognize yourself in this profile and would you like to know more? Please contact prof. dr. Adrian Schmidt-Recla: adrian.schmidt-recla@uni-jena.de.

We invite you to submit a complete application by using the online application tool. Only applications that are submitted in this way are taken into account.

Your application should include a motivation letter (including the topic of your master thesis project), a curriculum vitae (including contact details of at least two references) and a list of your bachelor and master courses and grades (and ranking, if available).

Promising candidates will be contacted by email. Deadline for applications is Monday 20 April. After a first selection, candidates will be invited for a first round of interviews (online) on Wednesday 6 May 2026. A second round at the location of employment (FSU Jena) will be organized a few weeks later. The successful Doctoral Candidate will be employed from 1 September 2026.

Important Dates

- **Deadline:** Monday 20 April
- **First round of interviews** (online): Wednesday 6 May 2026
- **Second round:** at the location of employment (FSU Jena), a few weeks later
- **Start date:** 1 September 2026

Contact & Application

Contact: prof. dr. Adrian Schmidt-Recla: adrian.schmidt-recla@uni-jena.de

Where to apply: Until April 20, 2026:

- **via the University portal:** PhD Candidate within the MSCA - Doctoral Network TESTAMENT (Testamentary practices in the periphery of the ius commune tradition: freedom and oppression (c. 1420-1620))
- **via EURAXESS:** <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu>

Testamentary practices at the periphery of the ius commune tradition: **freedom and oppression** (C. 1420–1620)

Study in Leuven (DC5)

**Doctoral Candidate position within the MSCA Doctoral Network
TESTAMENT.**

About the location

Leuven, a vibrant and historic city, located 25 km east of Brussels, is known as a top European knowledge hub. It is home to KU Leuven, a university which recently celebrated its 600th anniversary. The town is known for its historic architecture. It is bike-friendly and walkable and hosts several museums and churches, the Great Beguinage (UNESCO World Heritage), as well as the “Old Market”, often called the longest bar in Europe.

Description of the project

This DC will be based at KU Leuven, at the Research Unit Roman Law and Legal History. The KU Leuven Research Unit Roman Law and Legal History, which is a department of the Faculty of Law and Criminology, is an interdisciplinary and internationally oriented research group, which currently consists of four professors and about ten junior researchers. Next to a research axis on the history of international law and colonial legal history, the department has a strong focus on and track record in the study of *ius commune*, especially in the early modern period (15th-18th centuries).

The DC will be supervised by prof. dr. Wouter Druwé (legal history, KU Leuven) and co-supervised by prof. dr. Agnieszka Bartoszewicz (social history, University of Warsaw). In the course of this fellowship, the DC will work six months in Warsaw, and three months at the City Archives in Leuven.

This Doctoral Candidate (DC) will focus on the law of last wills within the university town of Leuven, with a special emphasis on joint last wills of spouses. For this research, a variety of sources will be used, including learned legal treatises, consultations by law professors, archives of public notaries and of the Leuven court of aldermen. The DC will study ways in which attempts were made to adapt the existing particular law on joint last wills of spouses to or on the basis of principles of Roman and canon law, and how these attempts were (or were not) the reflection of power relations.

Responsibilities

In the framework of the MSCA Doctoral Network “TESTAMENT”, the Doctoral Candidate will have the following responsibilities:

- Researching the regulatory framework and societal context concerning joint last wills of spouses in Leuven (15th-16th centuries), and preparing a doctoral dissertation on this topic.
- Actively participating in the activities of the TESTAMENT-network (summer and winter schools, monthly online meetings, concluding conference).
- Presenting the research at at least one international conference.
- Writing at least one peer-reviewed scientific article.
- Actively participating in the activities of the Research Unit and of the Doctoral School of KU Leuven.
- Conducting a six-month research stay at the University of Warsaw (which can be divided in several shorter terms).
- Conducting a three-month internship at the City Archives of Leuven, where the DC will be involved inter alia in a citizen science project on the transcription of relevant documentation from the Leuven court of aldermen.

Profile

We are looking for a candidate who meets the following requirements:

- You are creative and ambitious, hard-working, and persistent.
- You have a master's degree in law or history or you will have it by August 2026.
- You have good communicative skills, and the attitude to partake successfully in the work of a research team.
- You have a good command of the English language (spoken and written).
- You have a good passive command of Dutch (or its early modern variant) and/or French (or its early modern variant). Active command of Dutch is an advantage.
- You have a good passive command of Latin.

Eligibility criteria

Supported researchers must be doctoral candidates, i.e. not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment.

Recruited researchers can be of any nationality and must comply with the following mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary (Belgium) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

Offer

A meaningful job in a dynamic and ambitious university, in an interdisciplinary setting and within an international network. In addition, we offer you:

- Full-time employment for three years, with an intermediate evaluation (go/no-go) after 1 year.
- The gross amount of the doctoral scholarship (tax-free) will be approximately 3.055,61 euro per month if you are single with no dependent family members. It will be higher if you have a registered partner without income and/or dependent child(ren); it will be lower if you have a registered partner with income.
- Additional benefits are in accordance to KU Leuven regulations.
- High-quality training programs and other support to grow into a self-aware, autonomous scientific researcher.

Application process

Do you recognize yourself in this profile and would you like to know more? Please contact prof. Wouter Druwé:
wouter.druwe@kuleuven.be.

We invite you to submit a complete application by using the online application tool. Only applications that are submitted in this way are taken into account.

The application should include a motivation letter (including the topic of your master thesis project), a curriculum vitae (including contact details of at least two references) and a list of your bachelor and master courses and grades (and ranking, if available).

Promising candidates will be contacted by email. Deadline for applications is Monday 20 April. After a first selection, candidates will be invited for a first round of interviews (online) on Wednesday 6 May 2026. A second round at the location of employment (KU Leuven) will be organized a few weeks later. The successful Doctoral Candidate will be employed from 1 September 2026.

Important Dates

Deadline: Monday 20 April

First round of interviews (online): Wednesday 6 May 2026

Second round: at the location of employment (KU Leuven), a few weeks later

Start date: 1 September 2026

Contact & Application

Contact: prof. Wouter Druwé:
wouter.druwe@kuleuven.be

Where to apply:

- Website (KU Leuven): <https://www.kuleuven.be/personeel/jobsite/jobs/60632822>
- Website (euraxess): <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/415300>

There are also vacancies for Doctoral Candidates at other faculties and institutions within the TESTAMENT-Consortium. For more information on those other DC-positions, please consult our project's website. Do not hesitate to apply for all TESTAMENT's vacancies you are eligible for.

Testamentary practices at the periphery of the ius commune tradition: **freedom and oppression** (C. 1420–1620)

Study in Kraków (DC6)

**Doctoral Candidate position within the MSCA Doctoral Network
TESTAMENT.**

About the location

Pursue your PhD in one of Europe's most inspiring academic settings — at the Jagiellonian University in the heart of Kraków. Founded in 1364, Jagiellonian University is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in Europe. For centuries, it has been a place where tradition meets innovation — where groundbreaking research is conducted within historic walls, and where brilliant minds from around the world come together to shape the future.

Choosing doctoral studies at Jagiellonian University means becoming part of a vibrant international research community. But studying in Kraków is more than academic excellence. It is about living in a city that inspires creativity and reflection. With its stunning medieval architecture, lively cultural scene, charming cafés, and green spaces along the Vistula River, Kraków offers an exceptional quality of life.

The historic Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, provides a breathtaking backdrop to your daily academic journey. A PhD at Jagiellonian University is not only an investment in your academic career — it is an opportunity to grow intellectually and personally in a city where history, culture, and innovation coexist harmoniously. Join a tradition of excellence. Discover new perspectives. Shape the future — in Kraków.

Description of the project

This DC will be based at Jagiellonian University in Kraków, at the Laboratory of Edition of Primary Sources. The Laboratory, which is a department of the Faculty of Law and Administration, is one of the legal-historical units of the Faculty. The main area of the research are studies on the legal sources from the past, especially late Middle Ages and early modern period, which are supported by the database “IURA. Sources of Law from the Past” (<https://iura.uj.edu.pl>).

The DC will be supervised by dr. hab. Maciej Mikula, prof. of JU (legal history, JU Kraków) and co-supervised by prof. dr. Chanelle Delameillieure (social history, KU Leuven). In the course of this fellowship, the DC will work six months in Leuven, two months at the Jagiellonian University Archive and one month at the Archive of Science of the Polish Academy of Science and Art.

This Doctoral Candidate (DC) will focus on the law of last wills of professors of the University of Krakow in the early modern period. The choice of topic allows us to look at a very diverse social group in terms of origin – most often Catholic clergy coming from the bourgeoisie, nobility, sometimes also peasants.

The set of research questions can be divided into two groups, dealing with the main types of sources: wills and court records documenting trials on the grounds of testamentary inheritance from university professors. The coexistence of multiple legal orders, to varying extents providing for testamentary freedom, reveals, as through a lens, the richness of legal regulation in Krakow in the early modern era.

In addition to answering questions of legal history, the analysis of professors’ wills will provide data on the assets, intellectual culture, family ties and careers of professors.

Responsibilities

In the framework of the MSCA Doctoral Network “TESTAMENT”, the Doctoral Candidate will have the following responsibilities:

- Researching last wills of professors of JU and court records concerning testamentary inheritance, revealing the complexity of overlapping legal orders and testamentary freedom in early modern Krakow while also shedding light on professors’ assets, intellectual culture, family ties, and careers, and preparing a doctoral dissertation on this topic.
- Actively participating in the activities of the TESTAMENT-network (summer and winter schools, monthly online meetings, concluding conference).
- Presenting the research at at least one international conference.
- Writing at least one peer-reviewed scientific article.
- Actively participating in the activities of the Research Unit and of the Doctoral School of Social Science at JU Kraków.
- Conducting a six-month research stay at the KU Leuven (which can be divided in several shorter terms).
- Conducting a two-month internship at the Archive of Jagiellonian University (where the candidate will acquire the skills to describe

archival collections and the ability to work with the database Corpus Academicum Cracoviense, which is essential to the Ph.D. work) and a one-month internship at the Archive of Science (where the student will acquire the essential skills for describing the metadata of archival collections).

Profile

We are looking for a candidate who meets the following requirements:

- You are creative and ambitious, hard-working, and persistent.
- You have a master's degree in law or you will have it by August 2026.
- You have good communicative skills, and the attitude to partake successfully in the work of a research team.
- You have a good command of the English language (spoken and written).
- You have a good passive command of Latin.
- A good passive command of Polish is an asset.

Eligibility criteria

Supported researchers must be doctoral candidates, i.e. not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment.

Recruited researchers can be of any nationality and must comply with the following mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary (Poland) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date. Compulsory national service, short stays such as holidays and time spent by the researcher as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention are not considered.

Offer

A meaningful job in a dynamic and ambitious university, in an interdisciplinary setting and within an international network. In addition, we offer you:

- Full-time employment for three years, with an intermediate evaluation (go/no-go) after 1 year.
- The gross amount of the doctoral salary (including tax and insurances – employee contract) will be: Living Allowance: approximately 8745–9500 PLN (ca. 2080–2260 EUR); Mobility Allowance: 710 EUR (2984 PLN); Family Allowance (if applicable): 660 EUR (2774 PLN); per month if you are single with no dependent family members. It will be higher if you have a registered partner without income and/or dependent child(ren); it will be lower if you have a registered partner with income.
- Additional benefits are in accordance to JU Kraków regulations.
- High-quality training programs and other support to grow into a self-aware, autonomous scientific researcher.

Application process

Do you recognize yourself in this profile and would you like to know more? Please contact prof. Maciej Mikuła: testament.project@uj.edu.pl.

We invite you to submit a complete application by using the e-mail address: testament.project@uj.edu.pl.

The application should include:

1. a curriculum vitae;
2. Personal data form for the person applying for employment;
3. copy of MA diploma (if available);
4. information about the Candidate's scientific, teaching and organisational achievements (information about education, research and professional experience; a list of scientific achievements – publications, participation in conferences, courses, training and workshops, scholarships, awards, and other achievements);
5. a statement confirming that the Jagiellonian University will be the primary place of employment;
6. a statement pursuant to Article 113 of the Act on Higher Education and Science;
7. a statement confirming knowledge and acceptance of the rules governing intellectual property management and commercialisation at the Jagiellonian University;
8. a motivation letter (including the topic of your master thesis project);
9. contact details of at least two references;
10. a list of your bachelor and master courses and grades (and ranking, if available);
11. a confirmation of language skills (English, Latin, other languages).

Declaration forms (Nos. 5–7) and the personal questionnaire template (No. 2) can be downloaded from: https://cso.uj.edu.pl/en_GB/dokumkandyd

Promising candidates will be contacted by email. The successful Doctoral Candidate will be employed from 1 October 2026.

Contact & Application

Contact: dr. hab. Maciej Mikuła: testament.project@uj.edu.pl

More information: Please also have a look at the page: https://praca.bip.uj.edu.pl/stanowiska-badawcze/-/journal_content/56_INSTANCE_WcArtJCmixxL/145868730/160539299

Where to apply:

- Via e-mail: testament.project@uj.edu.pl
- Euraxess: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/420720>

TESTAMENT project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe programme: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) under the grant agreement No 101226689.

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.