

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>