



# CALL FOR POSITION > EARLY STAGE RESEARCHER 7

**Mosque architecture and scripture in the contemporary Muslim world**

## INDIVIDUAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION >

Early Islam is known to have asserted authority through 'the art of the public text', expressed for example by large inscriptions on Fatimid monumental architecture. In an aniconic culture, architecture has long represented a major mode of mediating religion and power. Islamic scripture is still very much present in contemporary mosque architecture, but its content and impact may have utterly changed. The morphology of mosques has too. Since the 1990s, local traditions in mosque architecture in the Balkans, for instance, have been deeply impacted by the interventions of international sponsors, as well as by

diffused globalisation. The present-day selection (or scarcity) of sacred texts on religious architecture, the plan and form given to mosques and the way believers relate to calligraphic words on their walls can be meaningful indexes of change at both local and global levels that are worth monitoring and unveiling. The study may take into account the digital availability of sacred texts and its potential impact, if it can be measured, on their selection.

**The ESR will be under the supervision of Prof. Ahmet Alibasic (University of Sarajevo - pending approval) and co-supervision of Mrs. Adisa Dzino (CHwB). External tutor: Mercedes Volait (InVisu).**

- Location : **Sarajevo (Bosnia i Herzegovina)**
- Programme : **MSCA-H2020-ITN 813547-MIDA**
- University of enrolment: **to be determined**
- Employer: **NGO - Cultural Heritage without Borders**
- Work package: **Images and Materiality in Islam**

The applicant is expected to develop his/her own research project within the framework of the position description.

The applicant will interact on a regular basis with the other project partners and cooperate with the other Early Stage Researchers where required. Additionally, travel abroad will be necessary.

**Each applicant may apply for up to 3 Early Stage Researchers positions.**

## SECONDMENT >

- **German Institute of Global and Area Studies**, Hamburg (Jens Heibach)
- **InVisu**, Paris (Mercedes Volait)

## REQUIREMENTS >

### Essential criteria:

- Postgraduate or Master level degree (or equivalent) in Middle Eastern Languages and Studies, Art History, or other similar domains
- Fluency in spoken and written English. A proof of the language proficiency (C1 level Cambridge Proficiency ; IELTS 7.0-8.0 or equivalent) has to be enclosed if English is not the native tongue
- Fluency in written Arabic
- Commitment to collaborate in the general development of the project

### Desirable criteria:

- Experience in working in an interdisciplinary team
- Experience in working with relevant digital tools in visual and textual data management
- Relevant MA thesis

## BENEFITS >

Successful candidates will receive an attractive salary, based on the Marie Curie Program regulations.

Application form on :  
[www.itn-mida.org](http://www.itn-mida.org)

For further information about the project and the position, please contact : [info@itn-mida.org](mailto:info@itn-mida.org)

**Deadline : 1<sup>st</sup> of June**  
Candidatures received after the 1<sup>st</sup> of June will not be considered.

**Starting date : ideally in September 2019**

### Eligibility criteria:

- no residence in Bosnia-Herzegovina or more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately preceding the engagement date
- no PhD degree
- less than 4 years of research, Master excluded
- not restricted to EU citizens

### Application file:

- copies of degree certificates (Master degree or equivalent)
- curriculum vitæ
- list of publications (if applicable)
- reference letter
- 2-page research proposal
- short motivation letter