



Paderborn University is a high-performance and internationally oriented university. Within interdisciplinary teams, we undertake forward-looking research, design innovative teaching concepts and actively transfer knowledge into society. As an important research and cooperation partner, the university also shapes regional development strategies. We offer our employees in research, teaching, technology and administration a lively, family-friendly and opportunity-oriented working environment with short decision-making paths and a wide range of opportunities. **Join us to invent the future!**

The **Faculty of Arts and Humanities**, Institute of Human Sciences/Philosophy – Applied Ethics – offers one position starting as soon as possible as a

### Postdoctoral Researcher (f/m/d)

(Salary group 13 TV-L)

with regular working hours of 100 %. The position is limited for a fixed term of 53 months corresponding to the job profile within the approved project period. The opportunity for further scientific qualification is given.

The position is financed as part of an ERC Synergy Grant on the “Cultures of the Cryosphere. Infrastructures. Politics, and Futures of Artificial Cooling” (CultCryo), which, is an internationally highly visible research project. As a historically oriented postdoc you will be working in an interdisciplinary, international team at the forefront of cultural studies! **CultCryo’s overarching objective is to historically reconstruct and map the emergence of the “cryosphere” (the modern dependency on artificial cooling) starting in the 1950s, and to analyze its dependence on cultural factors** (norms, values, practices, time regimes, concepts) in four paradigmatic research fields (food, air condition, biomedicine, computing), comparing different world-regions. **The postdoc-position serves to critically review the manifold relationships between sustainability and digitalization, particularly in terms of the cooling/energy demands of IT infrastructures (data centers, cables, end devices) and corresponding politics (green IT etc.). The goal is to provide both an overview of the interplay of social justice and environmental costs of digital infrastructures for different world regions and to undertake case studies addressing the political epistemology of sustainable IT.** The project started in September 2024 and will run for six years: <https://cryocultures.org/>. If you have any questions, please contact: [suzana.alpsancar@uni-paderborn.de](mailto:suzana.alpsancar@uni-paderborn.de)

#### Scope of work:

- Research in the context of the ERC Project “CultCryo” (90%)
- Contributing to teaching on the ethics and politics of sustainability and digitalization
- Critically review and contextualize policies of green IT, particularly for data infrastructures/centers
- Case studies on the sustainability of data centers/infrastructures, particularly in terms of social justice and data pollution
- Deconstruct the values, norms, and imaginaries perpetuating digital sustainability
- Add to a normative epistemology of cooling data centers
- Add to an analysis of the expectation of permanent digital availability
- Preparing and analyzing research data for mapping the cryosphere (GIS) and the digital conceptual history (using SCoT, DiaCollo)
- Cooperation with other researchers from CultCryo (“computing”, “values, norms, imaginaries”)
- Advising team-members in analyzing values, norms, and imaginaries
- Contribution to the “Cryogenic Cultures Archive” (a collection of alternative ways of cooling)
- Creation of (joint) scientific publications
- Co-organization of and participation in project-related scientific events (regular workshops and internal team meetings)
- Presentation of project results at national and international conferences
- Project management, reporting-duties

#### Hiring requirements:

- Academic university degree (Master) in either Science and Technology studies (STS), Philosophy, Media Studies or related fields
- Doctorate in Science and Technology Studies (STS), Philosophy, Media Studies or related fields
- Expertise around green ICT politics, political philosophy, ethics, social justice, sustainability politics
- A very good command of written and spoken English, basic German (or willingness to develop this)

#### We offer:

- Participation in one of Europe’s most visible research projects
- Exciting, highly relevant research topics in a vibrant team environment
- Flexible work arrangement including mobile work
- Wide range of health, counseling and prevention services
- Attractive fringe benefits such as childcare facilities and sports activities
- Opportunities for internal and external training and development
- Additional benefits in accordance with the collective agreement of the federal states (TV-L) such as annual bonus and capital-forming benefits as well as

Applications from women are particularly welcomed and, in case of equal qualifications and experience, will receive preferential treatment according to state law (LGG). Part-time employment is generally possible. Likewise, applications of disabled people with appropriate qualifications are explicitly requested. This also applies to people with equal status according to the German social law SGB IX.

Applications including cover letter, CV, list of publications, copy of one publication using the **Ref. No. 6856** should be sent by **March 10, 2025** to: [suzana.alpsancar@uni-paderborn.de](mailto:suzana.alpsancar@uni-paderborn.de)

Information on the processing of your personal data can be found at: [www.uni-paderborn.de/zv/personaldatenschutz](http://www.uni-paderborn.de/zv/personaldatenschutz).

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