

“Expression of Interest” for participating in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Networks

Institutions interested in participating in a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Network should use this template. Host institutions should be located in Germany.

1. Valid for the following MSCA-DN Call¹:

x 2025

2. Interested host institution:

Sorbisches Institut e. V. / Bahnhofstr. 6 / 02625 Bautzen

3. Institute/Department:

The Sorbian Institute (founded in 1992) is one of the largest and most extensively supported **minority research institutes** in Europe. With its predecessor, the Institute for Sorbian Folklore (1952-1991), it has more than seven decades of experience in **interdisciplinary research on the language, history and culture of the Sorbian minority in Lusatia**. It collects and archives the necessary materials, prepares them for research and makes them accessible to the public. In addition, the interdisciplinary research is aimed at the **current situation, the specificity and the comparison of small languages and cultures in Europe**.

Website: www.serbski-institut.de

4. Contact person (name and e-mail address):

Dr. Fabian Jacobs ; fabian.jacobs@serbski-institut.de

5. Valid for the following Doctoral Networks:

x Standard Doctoral Networks

☐ Industrial Doctorates

☐ Joint Doctorates

6. Position of interest:

x Coordinator

x Beneficiary

¹ MSCA Doctoral Networks are selected on the basis of annual calls for proposals. Forthcoming and open calls for proposals can be found on the [Funding & tender opportunities Portal](#) of the European Commission.

☐ Partner Organisation

7. Sector

Please tick:

☒ academic

☐ non-academic

8. Topic, discipline:

☐ Life Sciences

☐ Natural Sciences

☐ Engineering Sciences

☒ Social Sciences and Humanities

9. Interest/Offer/Contribution/Added value in the field ...

The Sorbian Institute is thoroughly integrated into the German research landscape, although with its **dual focus on Sorbian cultural research and its practical support for Sorbian language and culture** it can be considered as unique. This dual focus expresses the institute's understanding of its contemporary role based on **dialogue between science and society**. This results in the following capacities which can be used as added value in doctoral networks:

- **Knowledge building**, especially through digitisation projects on regional tangible and intangible cultural heritage
- **Experience in the scientific monitoring of social change**, especially with a focus on rural areas (e.g. by conducting field reports and emergency inventories, and accompanying research in the context of open-cast mining or by evaluating schools and language trainings)
- **Close interaction with civil society actors, municipalities and institutions in the region**

The research interests focus on **transcultural and intercultural phenomena on minorities** and within minority regions in Europe, including bilingualism and multiculturalism, history of the relationship between minority and majority, ethnic conflicts and dialogic encounters in historical and contemporary perspectives, and handling diversity and otherness. This results in the following fields of action for cooperation:

- **Preserving cultural diversity and enhancing the regional cultural (including linguistic) heritage**
- **Developing/strengthening regional identities in dialogue with local and civil society actors**
- **Activating cultural resources for regional development strategies**