



European
Research
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TraffLab
Labor Perspective to Human Trafficking



TRAFFLAB: LABOR PERSPECTIVE TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

European Research Council (ERC) Research Project

Call for Applications

For Post-Doctoral and Visiting Fellowships – 2020-2021

[TraffLab: Labor Perspective to Human Trafficking](#), a research project funded by a [European Research Council Grant](#) (ERC Stg) and directed by [Dr. Hila Shamir](#) at the [Buchmann Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University](#), invites candidates from a variety of disciplines to submit their applications to become a part of the project. We are looking for:

- One post-doctoral fellow (approx. \$30,000 per year)
- Visiting faculty/researchers (approx. \$1000-\$1,500 per month, between 1-2 months). We invite applications from fellows at different stages of their academic career, including doctoral students, post doctoral students, and faculty at other universities.

TraffLab (ERC), a five-year research project (2018-2023), studies the causes of human trafficking and its regulation, in order to develop a labor approach to human trafficking. The project explores the underlying structures that sustain the market for human trafficking and considers methods and possibilities to restructure them. The project expands the existing anti-trafficking tool kit – made up of mostly criminal law, migration restrictions, and human rights-based mechanisms – to include effective regulatory and market-based responses to severe labor market exploitation.

More information is available on the project's website: www.trafflab.org

Applicants should have knowledge and experience in relevant fields of research (e.g., law, sociology, anthropology, geography, political science, economics, labor and migration studies, international relations), and the ability and desire to work as part of a scholarly community and a research team. Fellows will be required to take residence in the vicinity of TAU for the duration of the fellowship, and participate in workshops and seminars on a regular basis.

Key selection criteria for the positions are previous research experience relating to human trafficking and modern slavery (or labor migration; precarious/informal work), analytical skills, methodological abilities, and the capacity for team-work as well as independent research. Successful applicants will be expected to both develop and pursue their own research within the overarching research agenda of the TraffLab project, as well as take part in an existing ongoing research project led by Dr. Shamir.



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We welcome research applications focused on:

- Regulation of migration - migration regimes and bilateral migration agreements
- Regulation of recruitment agencies
- Application and enforcement of national protective employment and labor laws to workers in sectors prone to severe forms of labor market exploitation
- Unionization and organization (including alt-labor) of workers in labor sectors vulnerable to trafficking
- Corporate responsibility and voluntary codes of conduct (including transparency and due diligence legislation)
- Theoretical contribution to understanding vulnerability in a global labor market and its regulation.

While we are looking for scholars in all the above fields of research, for the post-doc position we particularly invite applicants researching issues relating to enhancing workers' voice, solidarity, and raising and enforcing workers' rights in sectors vulnerable to severe forms of labor market exploitation. We will be focusing on issues related to organizing precarious workers (unionization, alt-labor, worker driven social responsibility, workers centers etc.) and institutional innovations that increase workers voice and enhance workers' rights enforcement.

The working language at TraffLab is English.

Application Information for post-doctoral fellows:

- Fellowship starting date: **October 2020**. There is some flexibility for a slightly earlier or later starting date.
- Fellowship period is for one academic year, with a possible option of extending the fellowship to two years.
- Scholarship rate: Approx. \$30,000 per year. Rates are determined according to Tel Aviv University (TAU) regulations: For more information please visit <http://www.tau.ac.il/acad-sec/postgo/index.htm>.
- Application Deadline: **March 2, 2020**.
- All applications should be submitted to the Project's PI Dr. Hila Shamir at hshamir@tauex.tau.ac.il and to the project's administrative director Debbie Siton trafflabor@gmail.com ; and should include the following documents:
 1. Cover letter describing your interest in the project, relevant research experience, and stating the nature and duration of position you seek with us.
 2. Detailed CV (including a list of publications).



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3. A preliminary research proposal (in English; up to 2-3 pages) for a research project you hope to pursue during your TraffLab fellowship.
4. An example of academic writing (article, research paper, or dissertation chapter).
5. Three letters of recommendation that speak to the applicant's qualifications for postdoctoral research, respectively (in English or Hebrew). These may be sent directly to hshamir@tauex.tau.ac.il, with the applicant's name in the subject line.
6. An authorization that the candidate is entitled to a PhD degree, noting the date it was awarded, or an administrative authorization that the doctoral thesis was forwarded to the referees.

Application and Fellowship Information for visiting researchers (visiting from outside of Israel):

- Fellowship duration: between 1-2 months during the academic year.
- Fellowship rates range from \$1,000-\$1,500 per month, depending on alternate sources of funding.
- Fellows need to be affiliated with a university outside of Israel and can be at different stages of their academic career, including doctoral students, post- doctoral students, and faculty at other universities.
- Application Deadline: We will begin review of a first round of applications on **March 2 2020**, and will continue to review applications on a rolling basis based on available funding.
- All applications should be submitted to the project's PI Dr. Hila Shamir at hshamir@tauex.tau.ac.il and to the projects' administrative director Debbie Siton trafflabor@gmail.com ; and include the following documents:
 1. Cover letter describing your interest in the project and stating the nature and duration of position you seek with us.
 2. Detailed CV (including list of publications).
 3. A preliminary research proposal (1-2 pages) for a research project you hope to pursue during your visit.
 4. *Doctoral candidates* who are interested in visiting us are required to send two letters of recommendation, one of which should be from their dissertation supervisor.

For more information about this call for applications, you may contact Dr. Hila Shamir at hshamir@tauex.tau.ac.il; or the projects' administrative director Debbie Siton trafflabor@gmail.com.

For information about TraffLab research, researchers and events, visit our website: www.trafflab.org