



Visiting Scholars Programme

The Brussels Laboratory for Data Protection & Privacy Impact Assessments (d.pia.lab) established the **Visiting Scholars Programme** in January 2018. Within this scheme, the Laboratory invites academics, researchers, practitioners and activists from multiple disciplines to spend time in Brussels, participate in the academic life therein and conduct research about impact assessments in the areas of innovation and technology development.

Visiting Scholars will be based at the Research Group on Law, Science, Technology, Society (LSTS) at the Faculty of Law and Criminology of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), of which the Laboratory constitutes a part of and builds upon its experience and expertise.

The Programme

1. Visiting Scholars will receive an opportunity to interact with the academic community at the VUB, including members of the Laboratory and other staff of the LSTS Research Group, as well as – more broadly – with the privacy and data protection community in Brussels.
2. Visiting Scholars will receive office space at the VUB, access to its academic resources (e.g. library, including its digital resources; university services and infrastructure), events, etc.
3. The minimum duration of a stay can range between two weeks and six months. However, both longer and shorter visits can be arranged on an individual basis.
4. While in residence, Visiting Scholars conduct either their own research project(s) or contribute to the research projects and activities carried out by the Laboratory, or both.
5. During their stay in Brussels, Visiting Scholars are invited to give at least one presentation concerning their work within the scheme of the Weekly Research Gatherings (WRG), maintained by the LSTS Research Group, or – upon agreement – in any other suitable format.

Formal matters

1. The majority of the work in the Laboratory is done in English. Nonetheless, the Laboratory invites prospective Visiting Scholars working in other languages too.
2. Visiting Scholars are self-funded. The Laboratory *does not* offer research allowance or any financial support for the incoming Visiting Scholars. However, should the prospective Visiting Scholar be applying for external funding, the Laboratory is able to support such applications.
3. In *exceptional* situations, the Laboratory will cover the costs of the Visiting Scholar incurred solely in relation to the research projects and activities carried out by the Laboratory.
4. Visiting Scholars must acknowledge the Laboratory in any publications prepared during their research stay in whole or in part.
5. Visiting Scholars must make their own accommodation, insurance and transportation arrangements.

6. Some Visiting Scholars may require a travel visa. It is the Visiting Scholar's responsibility to obtain an appropriate visa that allows them to undertake all the activities they plan to do while in Belgium. Applicants might wish to consult e.g. the webpages of the Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs.

Application

1. Applications must be submitted electronically to maciej.otmianowski@vub.be and contain:
 - a. A short, one-page motivation letter (with an indicative plan, that includes at least preparation of one seminar at LSTS, a timeline of research to be carried out during the visit, and a clear connection of the research to the Laboratory interests).
 - b. An up-to-date curriculum vitae.
 - c. A letter of recommendation (only for PhD students).
2. Applications are evaluated on an ongoing basis and thus there are no fixed deadlines for applications. Nevertheless, applications should be preferably sent three months prior to the start of the intended visit.
3. Due to space restrictions, not all applications might be successful. In such case, the Laboratory might propose another time to host the visiting scholar.
4. Practical guidance will be provided upon arrival.

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