

Klaipeda University
Strategic Research Direction
"Society and Culture on the Baltic Coast"
Postdoctoral Fellowship Application (2022–2024)

The topic for the Fellowship	Digital Technologies for School Improvement: Developing an Innovative Digital School Model
Field (s) of fellowship, affiliation unit, beginning date, duration	Social Sciences (Education) KU SHMF Department of Pedagogy Start - 2022 September. Duration - 2 years.
The aim of the research, tasks, results (up to 1000 characters)	The aim of the research is to develop and validate a model, which describes the key elements for improving schools with digital technology and helps to reveal differences between schools and identify their best practices and challenges. The model combines previous research on school improvement (Harris, 2010; Hargreaves, 2010), educational innovation (Fullan, 2001), digital technology in education and school management (Ilomaki, 2018). The model would be based on six main elements describing an innovative digital school: school vision, leadership, teaching / learning process, learning community, quality assurance, digital resources. Particular attention would be paid to the potential of digital technologies in answering the question of how they could be used to improve pedagogical and managerial practice. The research-based model of an innovative digital school could become a tool to help schools reflect on, understand and improve their practices in order to achieve sustainable pedagogical and managerial change through digital technologies.
Compliance of the topic with the goals and priorities of the strategic research direction (up to 500 characters)	The topic corresponds to the priority "Socio-educational research on human well-being". The results of the research would help to develop a model of inclusive education by ensuring equal opportunities for social and cultural groups; developing opportunities to apply innovative educational measures to the quality education of children and adults, ensuring the implementation of the essential provisions of inclusive education in the education system; factors of educational quality are analyzed in order to develop a creative and innovative society.
Planned interim and final results (scientific output: publications, reports, etc.)	Expected results: Annual (interim) report: 1 scientific publication (theoretical substantiation of the model), 2-3 reports at scientific events, popular science publication. Final report: research study, at least 3 scientific publications (theoretical and empirical substantiation of the model), at least 5 reports at research events, R&D project application, methodological tool for general education schools (how to apply the model), 2 in-service training programs for teachers and school leaders.

Other important information about the fellowship (intellectual property rights, necessary infrastructure, resources, social partners, etc.) (up to 500 characters)	<p>Scientific output is attributed to Klaipeda University.</p> <p>The candidate has the opportunity to use KU information resources.</p> <p>The candidate has the opportunity to conduct research in schools with which the Department of Pedagogy collaborates.</p> <p>The Center for Continuing Studies would provide an opportunity to implement in-service training programs.</p>
Involvement of the fellow in the activities of the unit (individual or team work, counseling / mentoring opportunities, etc.) (up to 500 characters)	<p>The topic of the postdoc fellowship is related to the research carried out by the research group DIMA_LT of the Department of Pedagogy of KU SHMF. A group of researchers is exploring the possibilities of artificial intelligence and learning analytics in education. The group is made up of researchers from different fields and offers a research environment focused on interdisciplinary national and international research. More information on research topics and projects covered by DIMA_LT can be found on the research group's website di-ma.lt We are looking for a postdoc, who has the ability to conduct research independently and qualitatively, and at the same time who wants to cooperate with colleagues and contribute to the further development of the DIMA_LT research group.</p>
Requirements for the Fellow's competence (up to 500 characters)	<p>The applicant must have a doctorate in the field of Education, Social Sciences.</p> <p>The following competencies will be taken into account in the evaluation of applicants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of the project description. • The importance and potential of the project to contribute to the priority of the research field “Socio-educational research on human well-being”, as well as to the DIMA_LT research group. • Applicant's academic and personal competence to carry out the project. • Good ability to collaborate and contribute to the research community. <p>Experience in high quality international publications in the relevant field of research would be an advantage.</p>
Fellowship supervisor and / or mentor	<p>Dr. Julija Melnikova</p>