

# Postdoc Position at the UZH Social Computing Group



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Applications are invited to a postdoc position in the [Social Computing Group](#) at the University of Zurich (Switzerland), headed by [Prof. Anikó Hannák](#). We seek a candidate who will lead innovative computational social science projects around the topics of algorithms' role in societal problems, privacy and fairness on online platforms.

The group's research focuses on how digitization affects people and society, especially problems that arise due to automated decision-making and algorithms that curate smartphone apps and online platforms. We ask questions such as “how personalized are the search results we see on Google and why?” or “Are algorithms used by LinkedIn and other job search sites discriminating?”. Our work revolves around critically inspecting online platforms, and addressing fundamental social scientific questions using computational methods. Beyond research excellence, emphasis is placed on the social relevance and real-world impact of our topics.

The group is in its early stages, expecting quick growth in the next years. This means you can gather valuable experience in building the group, acquiring funds, and shaping the research direction for the next years. Thus, enthusiasm and experience in grant writing, mentoring students, managing larger research projects, organizing scientific events and teaching are welcome.

The lab is embedded in a network of vibrant academic collaborations with both first-class international partners, and a highly interdisciplinary local community. It is also important to mention that the computer science department at UZH dedicates a large part of its education and research focus on data science and people oriented computing.

## Qualification:

You should have a PhD (or be near the completion of a PhD) with a strong international publication record. Moreover, you should also be

- comfortable handling large amounts of unstructured data,
- experienced with Statistical/ML models
- have Strong programming skills
- and excellent communication skills in English, English is the working and teaching language in our department

Beyond the above, useful skills include: web scraping, dealing with large data sets, big data analysis, machine learning, modeling of social processes, economics and data visualization.

## We offer:

- a team of young and highly motivated colleagues who are passionate about research
- the team is embedded in a diverse and international network of collaborators
- access to diverse interdisciplinary collaborators through the [Digital Society Initiative](#), a Zürich-based organization and meeting place for researchers across all disciplines who are interested in the challenges of digital societies.
- a work environment that is equipped with the newest hardware and software technology
- strong support for your personal development and career planning
- an attractive work environment both within the research group and beyond: the University of Zurich is one of Switzerland's leading universities in the middle of a vibrant, cosmopolitan city that regularly ranks as one of the cities with the highest quality of life in the world
- a competitive salary of around 90,000 CHF per year

## How to apply:

If you fit the profile, like challenging tasks, have a critical and open-minded spirit, and are passionate about research then we would love to hear from you. To apply for the position, please send a detailed curriculum vitae, motivation letter, selected publications as PDF files by email to Prof. Aniko Hannak at [hannak "at" ifi "dot" uzh "dot" ch](mailto:hannak@ifi.uzh.ch).

Additionally, applicants should arrange for up three letters of recommendation to be sent to Prof. Hannák directly within two weeks after applying. The review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

The University of Zurich is committed to enhancing the number of women in scientific positions and, therefore, particularly invites women to apply.