

Informality, informal or shadow economies, with a specific focus on the former USSR region (Southern Caucasus or Central Asia)

Dublin City University (www.dcu.ie) is a research-intensive, globally-engaged, dynamic institution consistently positioned in the rankings of the world's top young universities. Dublin City University is ranked in the top 150 in the world for politics and international relations by both the QS and Shanghai world rankings.

Dublin City University Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction invites applications from students for a PhD studentship in Politics and International Relations, valued at between €21,000 and €27,000 pa, for up to four years.

We welcome high quality applications from those interested in working within the following topic area

Informality, informal or shadow economies, with a specific focus on the former USSR region (Southern Caucasus or Central Asia)

The student will be working together with the research group from our recently started project SHADOW: An exploration of the nature of informal economies and shadow practices in the former USSR region.

SHADOW is a research and training programme with the goal of producing strategic intelligence on the region and train a generation of specialists on informality in post-Soviet spaces. Our goals are two-fold: 1) we intend to construct an index to provide an accurate measurement of the level of shadow activities in our target countries; 2) we aim to conceptualise a taxonomy of shadow practices in the post-USSR region in a cross-country and cross-regional perspective.

Criteria

Applicants must have a Masters Degree, fluent English and excellent academic grades. International students will need to meet the university's English language requirements: <http://www.dcu.ie/registry/english.shtml>

Informal Enquiries are welcomed and can be made to:

Dr Abel Polese
abel.polese@dcu.ie

We are happy to facilitate discussion on draft research proposals and to make connections with potential supervisors.

Further information:

- This PhD scholarship has a value of up to €21,000 to €27,000 (full fees, plus €16,000pa (usually tax free), for up to 4 years, subject to satisfactory progress.
- Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction website <http://iicrr.ie/>
- General Information on PhD's at Dublin City University <https://www4.dcu.ie/graduatestudies/postgrad-research.shtml#ProspectivePGRinfo>

Closing date for receipt of applications: 22 March 2018

Applications should be made to IICRR@dcu.ie and they should include

- a cv, including 2 academic referees
- a one page letter of application
- the grades achieved in your Masters degree with copies of transcripts
- a 2000 word research proposal, setting out your research question, how the research relates to existing academic literature and a brief description of your proposed methodology.