2020 FFJ/Banque de France Fellowship


Call for Applications - Deadline: 5 January 2020

The Fondation France-Japon (FFJ) of the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS) and the Banque de France are pleased to announce the opening of the call for applications for the FFJ/Banque de France Fellowship on “Macroeconomics and Economic Policy: Which Lessons from the Japanese Experience?”.

This call marks the renewal of our Fellowship for five years, in the wake of the successful first edition (2015-2019). This year, the theme of the Fellowship is expanding beyond monetary policies to include fiscal and structural policy issues.

Scientific Rationale

Japan's macroeconomic trajectory from the mid-1980s to the present day has appealed to a large number of researchers, beyond the circle of Japanese specialists. In addition to prediction errors concerning the latter, the main reason for this interest is the recognition of the possibility for other major OECD economies of learning from the Japanese experience.

The analysis of Japanese macroeconomics has in fact led to a renewal of macroeconomic theories, which in turn has prompted reflection on economic policies and their implementation. From this point of view, if the "Abenomics" have recently attracted the attention not only of researchers but also of economic policy makers and the general public, it is in fact all the economic policies implemented during this period that merit being analyzed and compared with European experiences in this field.

The purpose of the FFJ/Banque de France Fellowship is to analyze Japanese macroeconomic dynamics since the early 1980s and the policies implemented by the Bank of Japan and the Japanese government. We therefore encourage projects that focus on monetary policy, fiscal policy and structural policies, for example in the areas of the labour market, openness to trade and international finance. The political economy of the conditions for implementing these policies and the evaluation of public policies are also part of the objectives of this Fellowship. Finally, emphasis may be placed on a comparative perspective with the European experience in this field.

Objectives of the Fellowships

The core objective of the fellowships of the Fondation France-Japon (FFJ) at EHESS is to lead to a close collaboration between the fellow, FFJ, and its partner. The FFJ Fellowships enable the fellows to pursue their research work, according to the research project they presented in their application with objectives specific to their stay in Paris (comparative analysis, access to French resources, etc.). They will benefit from the large network of researchers in social and human sciences, as well as the international and interdisciplinary environment of the Parisian academic institutions. Besides, the collaboration with strategic and research departments of the partner will be an excellent opportunity for
them to access a network of extra-academic experts. The fellows will be hosted at EHESS in Paris and will share an office; they will benefit from administrative assistance, and have access to meeting rooms and libraries.

**Responsibilities of the Fellow**

The fellow is expected to take part in the scientific activities of FFJ in a spirit of fair exchange and mutual development with the other FFJ research fellows. The FFJ places paramount importance in the capacity of the fellow to bond with other fellows and initiate collaborations with researchers in the Paris region, and in Europe.

The fellow is required to:
- submit a text introducing the research project (2 pages, in English) ahead of the beginning of the fellowship;
- participate in regular work meetings with the FFJ team and to meetings with Banque de France;
- take part in a Banque de France research seminar;
- organize a workshop at EHESS at the end of the fellowship;
- submit a working paper (25 to 50 pages in English) at the end of the fellowship in order to share the main findings of his or her research work in Paris.

**The Fellowship Grant**

The fellowship may last 5 up to 10 months, between 1 September 2020 and 31 July 2021, depending on the fellow's availability.

The fellow will receive a grant, designed to cover his or her expenses related to transport and his or her stay in Paris on the one hand, and on the other hand the expenses directly linked to the realization of his or her research work. This grant can be combined with other sources of funding, on condition that the fellow is located in Paris.

**Eligibility and Evaluation**

The call for applications is open to junior or senior distinguished international scholars, as well as government and business professionals. Applicants must be able to prove their capacity to conduct research, but they are not required to hold a Ph.D.

After the call is closed, the Scientific Committee of FFJ will examine the applications and select the laureate. The main criteria of evaluation are the scientific quality of the project, but also its viability and the legitimacy of staying in Paris in the framework of the project. The applications will be examined regardless of the applicants’ age, nationality, place of residence, or country of their affiliated institution. The Committee will announce the results to the applicants in March 2020, before the public announcement.

**Application**

The application files are required to include:
- the application form with a research project;
- a curriculum vitae including a list of publications;
- two recommendation letters for Ph.D. candidates and applicants who earned their Ph.D. over the last five years.

All the documents are to be submitted by email to applications_ffj@ehess.fr by 5 January 2020, at midnight (Paris time). Further information is available via the same mentioned-above email address.