Jobbnorge ID: 296305
Deadline: 06.05.2026
Website: http://www.uis.no/
Scope: Fulltime
Duration: Fixed Term

Postdoctoral Fellow in Law

Job description

The University of Stavanger invites applicants for a position as Postdoctoral Fellow in law at the UiS School of Business and Law, Department of Accounting and Law.

The Postdoctoral Fellow will be affiliated with the research project AUTO-MARE - Autonomous Technologies for Ocean Governance: Maritime Autonomy, Responsibility and Environment. The position is anchored in Work Package 3 (WP3): Maritime and AI Governance, led by UiS, and focuses on legal issues at the intersection of the law of the sea, environmental and climate law, and the regulation of autonomous and AI-based technologies.

Postdoctoral Fellow is employed for a period of three years. The employment period includes other career-enhancing work such as teaching and supervision of students.

The aim of the position is for the successful candidate to develop a research profile and gain the qualifications required to be eligible for a position as an Associate Professor. Additionally, the position may provide valuable experience and other competencies relevant to the postdoctoral researcher's career development.

If the person being hired does not already have pedagogical competence that meets the requirements for a position as Associate Professor, we will facilitate the acquisition of such competence during the employment period.

A career development plan will be drawn up, outlining the competencies the Postdoctoral Fellow is expected to acquire during the employment period. The Postdoctoral Fellow will also have access to career guidance throughout the postdoctoral period.

The qualifying project will be carried out at the University of Stavanger. It is assumed that the appointee will work full time on the project and that she/he will participate in the academic community.

The position is partially funded by NordForsk.

About the project and Responsibilities

The Project

AUTO-MARE examines how autonomous and AI-driven maritime systems are transforming legal frameworks, governance models, environmental management, and knowledge systems in the Arctic and northern regions.

The research will focus in particular on:

- legal regulation of autonomous vessels under international, Nordic, and national law
- liability, safety, transparency, and rule-of-law principles in the use of AI in maritime operations
- the interaction between technological development, environmental considerations, Indigenous rights, and geopolitics
- the need for legal reforms in the Arctic

The project is strongly interdisciplinary and involves researchers in law, social sciences, environmental studies, technology studies, and critical theory, in close collaboration with Nordic and international partners.

The successful candidate will:

- conduct independent legal research within the law of the sea, environmental and climate law, and/or technology and AI regulation
- analyse legal frameworks governing autonomous maritime operations at international, regional (Nordic), and national levels
- develop comparative and normative legal studies related to governance, liability, and sustainability in the Arctic
- collaborate interdisciplinary with researchers, technology environments, and relevant stakeholders, including Indigenous organizations
- publish in recognized academic journals and participate in international conferences
- contribute to policy and regulatory recommendations.
- Actively participate in project seminars, workshops, and dissemination activities

Project proposal

You must submit a 1-2 page description of a research project within the subject area and plan for its completion. The project proposal must show how you will proceed to carry out the research work, what the key issues and hypotheses will be, what theories and methods you will

apply, publication channels and a schedule for carrying out the work. It must be clear from the application in what way the project will add your competence. The project proposal will be included in the competence assessment.

The final project description and progress plan are drawn up in consultation with the supervisor (s) during the first three months of the employment period. It is a prerequisite that you complete the project during the employment period.

Qualification requirements

The successfull candidate must have:

- a PhD in law, the PhD thesis must have been submitted for evaluation within the application deadline for the position and approved before accession.
- documented expertise in one or more of the following areas:
  - arctic law and governance
  - environmental and climate law
  - law of the sea
  - law and technology, including AI, digitalisation, or autonomous systems
- excellent command of both oral and written English.

It is considered an advantage to have experience or research interests in:

- Environmental and climate law related to marine and Arctic ecosystems
- Law of the sea issues concerning jurisdiction, navigation, and liability
- Indigenous rights, especially in an Arctic context
- Natural resources and energy law in the High North and the Arctic
- Geopolitics, security law, and Arctic governance

In the assessment the following criteria will also be emphasised:

- relevance, quality and feasibility of the project
- submitted scientific work and your personal skills for completing the project within the time frame
- strong analytical and legal reasoning skills
- international experience and network
- good teamwork- and communication skills, and ability to participate in research communities across organisational units
- ability to work independently, in a structured and goal-oriented manner
- proficiency in Norwegian or another Scandinavian language

We offer

- varied duties in a large, exciting and socially important organisation
- an ambitious work community which is developing rapidly. We strive to include employees at all levels in strategic decisions and promote an informal atmosphere with a flat organisational structure
- free Norwegian language courses if you do not have proficiency in Norwegian, Swedish, or Danish at level A2 at the time of employment
- access to Lifekeys, a digital service for the preservation of personal mental health and well-being
- salary in accordance with the State Salary Scale, l.pl 17.510, code 1352, NOK 590.000 - 680.000 gross per year. A higher salary may be considered in special cases. From the salary, 2% is deducted as a contribution to the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund.
- automatic membership in the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund, which provides favourable insurance and retirement benefits
- favourable membership terms at a gym and at the university sports club, SiS sports club at campus
- employment with an Inclusive Workplace organisation which is committed to reducing sick leave, increasing the proportion of employees with reduced working capacity, and increasing the number of professionally active seniors
- Hjem-jobb-hjem, discounted public transport to and from work
- as an employee in Norway, you will have access to an optimal health service, as well as good pensions, generous maternity/paternity leave, and a competitive salary. Nursery places are guaranteed and reasonably priced.
- relocation programme

Diversity

Diversity is a resource in the working and learning environment at UiS. When we have different backgrounds and experiences, we can approach challenges from multiple perspectives and find better solutions. At UiS, we are committed to showing respect for each other's differences and accommodating employees with disabilities. We take into consideration your needs and your situation in various life phases.

If you find this position interesting, we encourage you to apply, regardless of gender, disability, cultural background, or whether you have been out of the workforce for a period.

If there are qualified applicants with disabilities, gaps in their CV, or immigrant backgrounds, we will invite at least one applicant from each of these groups for an interview. If you fall into any of these categories, feel free to indicate it when applying for the position. Learn more about the criteria for being considered an applicant in these specific groups here.

The university aims to recruit more women within the subject area. If several applicants are considered to have equal qualifications, female applicants will be given priority.

Application

To apply for this position please follow the link "Apply for this job". Your application letter, relevant education and work experience as well as language skills must be registered here. In the application letter, you must state your research interests and motivation for the position.

The following documents must be uploaded as attachments to your application:

- project proposal. 1-2 pages
- CV with a full summary of your education and experience
- documentation of approved PhD. If you have not completed the PhD, you may enclose a confirmation from the institution on the expected date of obtaining the doctoral degree.
- complete list of academic publications with information on where they are published. You may also upload up to 3 publications, including your PhD thesis or published monograph based upon the thesis.
- transcripts and certificates, and other documentation that you consider relevant

Applications are evaluated based on the information available in Jobbnorge on the application deadline. You should ensure that your application shows clearly how your skills and experience meet the criteria which are set out above.

The documentation must be available in either a Scandinavian language or in English. If the total size of the attachments exceeds 100 MB, they must be compressed before upload.

Please note that information on applicants may be published even if the applicant has requested not to be included in the official list of applicants - see Section 25 of the Freedom of Information Act. If your request is not granted, you will be notified.

UiS only considers applications and attachments registered in Jobbnorge.

General information

The engagement is to be made in accordance with the regulations in force concerning State Employees and Civil Servants, and the acts relating to Control of the Export of Strategic Goods, Services and Technology.

Employment as Postdoctoral Fellow is regulated in Regulations to the Universities and Colleges Act, chapter IV.

We put emphasis on the quality, relevance and significance of the research work and not on where the work is published, in accordance with the principles of The San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA).

UiS has signed The Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment (CoARA), committing to recognizing various forms of results, practices, and activities in the evaluation of research and researchers.

Your qualifications for the position, based on documentation registered in Jobbnorge, will be assessed by an internal expert committee. Based on the committee's statement, relevant applicants will be invited to an interview before any recommendations are made. References will also be obtained for relevant candidates. More about the hiring process on our website.

UiS has an Acquisition of Rights Agreement for the purpose of securing rights to intellectual property created by its employees, including research results.

The appointee will be based at the University of Stavanger. It is a prerequisite that you have a residence which enables you to be present at/available to the academic community during ordinary working hours.

The position has been announced in both Norwegian and English. In the case of differences of meaning between the texts, the Norwegian text takes precedence.

UiS - challenge the well-known and explore the unknown

The University of Stavanger (UiS) has about 12,000 students and 2,200 employees. The university has high ambitions. We strive to have an innovative and international profile, and be a driving force in knowledge development and in the process of societal change. Our common direction is driven by consideration for green and sustainable change and equitable social development, through new ways of managing natural resources and facilitating better cities and local communities. Energy, health and welfare, learning for life are our focus areas.

In constant collaboration and dialogue with our surroundings, regionally, nationally and internationally, we enjoy an open and creative climate for education, research, innovation, dissemination and museum activities. Academic life at the University of Stavanger is organised into six faculties comprising various departments/schools and National Research Centres, as well as the Museum of Archaeology. We are a member of the European Consortium of Innovative Universities. The university is located in the most attractive region in the country with more than 300,000 inhabitants. The Stavanger region has a dynamic labour market and exciting cultural and leisure activities.

Together with our staff and students we will challenge the well-known and explore the unknown.

The University of Stavanger School of Business and Law carries out research and offers study programs across all areas of business. The study options include bachelor programs in Business Administration, Digital Service Leadership, Accounting & Auditing, and Law. The school also offers master programs in Economic Transformation and Innovation, Business Administration, Accounting & Auditing, Service Leadership in International Business and Executive MBA, as well as research education (PhD). The Centre of Innovation Research is part of the school. There are currently 130 employees and 2,200 students at the school.

The UiS School of Business and Law is organized in three departments; Department of Innovation, Management and Marketing, Department of Accounting and Law and Department of Economics and Finance.

Additional information

Contact persons:

- Lana Bubalo, Avdelingsleder
  Phone: | E-mail: lana.bubalo@uis.no
- Helene Engelsgjerd Figved, senior HR-rådgiver
  Phone: | E-mail: helene.e.figved@uis.no
- Dr. Romain Chuffart, Prosjektleder AUTO-MARE
  Phone: | E-mail: romain@unak.is

Place of service:
Ullandhaug 4036 Stavanger (Stavanger Municipality)