

Post-doctoral researcher (36 months) - ERC GeoNuFE

Political Geography / Political Sciences / STS

Hungarian case study (ref: GeoNuFE_PostDoc1)

The ERC-funded project *Critical Geopolitics of Nuclear Fuel Supplies in Europe* (GeoNuFE), led by Prof. Teva Meyer, is seeking a **postdoctoral researcher** to join its interdisciplinary team at the Université de Haute-Alsace (Mulhouse, France) to work on the Hungarian case study.

Context:

The successful candidate will join an interdisciplinary research team hosted by the CRESAT laboratory, composed of the Principal Investigator (PI), a project manager, a GIS specialist, three postdoctoral researchers, and several research assistants.

In a context marked by renewed global interest in nuclear power and intensifying debates on its geopolitical implications, GeoNuFE investigates how nuclear fuel supply strategies are shaped by importing countries. Bridging critical security studies and critical geopolitics through materially informed assemblage thinking, the project addresses two main questions: Where does geopolitical power reside within the nuclear fuel supply chain? How do perceptions of these geopolitical dimensions influence the decisions of policymakers?

GeoNuFE compares the fuel supply strategies of four countries: France, the UK, Hungary, and Finland. Its three work packages focus on: (1) Locating geopolitical power within the nuclear fuel supply chain. (2) Assessing the role of the EU and Euratom in shaping national policies. (3) Analyzing securitization processes leading to specific supply strategies.

Role and missions in the research program:

The post-doctoral researcher will contribute to the Hungarian case study in all three work packages. Specific tasks include:

- Applying a *follow-the-thing* methodology to trace Hungary's nuclear fuel supply chain and identify nodes of geopolitical power
- Examining past controversies between Hungary and the Euratom Supply Agency (ESA).
- Analyzing the securitization processes underpinning Hungarian nuclear fuel policies, using methods from critical geopolitics.

The researcher will collaborate closely with two other postdoctoral fellows (responsible for the UK and Finland), supported by research assistants. Fieldwork will be conducted in Hungary, Brussels, and Luxembourg, and will involve semi-structured interviews, media analysis, and examination of legal and parliamentary documents.

The successful candidate will be expected to:

- Present findings at international conferences and engage in public debates on the geopolitics of nuclear power.
- Contribute to outreach activities, including press contributions and public lectures.
- Assist in the organization of scientific events (workshops, conferences).

Candidate Profile:

- PhD in geography, political science, STS, or sociology.
- Demonstrated expertise in qualitative methods, particularly semi-structured interviews.
- Research background in one or more of the following: energy geopolitics, European energy policy, Central and Eastern European studies.
- Excellent command of academic English (written and spoken).
- Willingness to work in a predominantly French-speaking university environment.
- Knowledge of Hungarian is an asset but not a requirement

Employment Conditions:

- **Start date:** January 1, 2026
- **Duration of employment:** 36 months (with possible extension up to 42 months)
- **Workplace:** Université de Haute-Alsace (Mulhouse, France), with shared office space in the GeoNuFE team
- **Extent of employment :** 35.00 hours/week, including five weeks of paid leave.
- **Teaching:** Optional teaching opportunities in undergraduate history and geography programs.
- **Salary:** €2,500–3,000/month (gross), with welfare benefits and pension contributions.

How to apply :

Applications must be submitted in English and include the reference **GeoNuFE_PostDoc1**. Please send the following documents to **teva.meyer@uha.fr** no later than **1 November 2025**:

- A Curriculum vitae
- A cover letter detailing your experience and skills relevant to the position (2 pages)
- Two sample publications (journal articles or seminar papers)
- Contact of one referee