The Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies at the University of Tartu invites applications for a fully-funded PhD position in the academic year 2020/2021

Application deadline: 1 June/ 15 June 2020 for international/ local applicants (see details here)
Duration (nominal study period): September 2020 – August 2024
Funding: A monthly stipend of 1,060€ (conditions stipulated here)

You are invited to submit your application along with a research proposal on the following topic:

**Contemporary challenges to the process of European integration and their political and institutional implications**

The aim of PhD applications in this area of study is to explore and assess the impact of internal and/or external factors on the speed, direction, and intensity of the process of European integration.

The study would possibly highlight the political and institutional dynamics, the role of the key actors involved, and the related developmental trajectories.

Starting from the early 2000s, following the most ambitious enlargement in its history and the rejection of the Constitutional Treaty in 2005, the European Union has been facing multiple and successive challenges that have put to test the resilience of its decision-making and increased its degree of politicization at the society and partisan level.

The diverse nature of these challenges includes – but is not limited to – internal and external security threats, migration flows and humanitarian emergencies, party-based populism and Euroscepticism, economic crisis and financial instability, complex multicultural societies and identity-related dividing lines.

Both qualitative, quantitative, and mixed research designs are welcome.

Interested candidates are invited to prepare a research proposal outlining the specific research project they would pursue under this general topic. Admission requirements, including guidelines for the research proposal, can be found here.

Main supervisor: Dr Stefano Braghiroli, Associate Professor of European Studies at the Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies, stefano.braghiroli@ut.ee

Co-supervisor: to be determined according to the substantive focus of the proposed project.

Please contact Dr Stefano Braghiroli for an approval of your proposal ahead of the application deadline! However, please note that the prospective supervisor is not in a position to provide extensive comments or help develop project descriptions at the application stage, given the large number of applicants.