CALL FOR PhD STUDENT - QLAB / Group 1

The Director of the MAB QLAB Centre announces a recruitment process for a **PhD student** position in Group 1 - Quantum-secure communication of MAB QLAB, financed under International Research Agendas (MAB), Measure 2.1 of the European Funds for a Modern Economy 2021-2027 Programme (FENG), project FENG.02.01-IP.05-B013/25, Center for Hybrid Quantum-Classical Information Technologies – QLAB. The successful candidate will be offered an employment contract (umowa o pracę) at the University of Warsaw for a technical position, outside of the academic teachears group. Concurrent enrolment in a UW doctoral school is required.

> IMPORTANT - two-track recruitment. The position requires concurrent admission to the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences (Szkoła Doktorska Nauk Ścisłych i Przyrodniczych) of the University of Warsaw. **Successful candidates of the QLAB recruitment must, in parallel, apply to that Doctoral School.** Should the candidate be selected by QLAB but not admitted in the standard intake of the Doctoral School, the University of Warsaw will accept them conditionally (proceed towards) and process the application via the "beyond-the-limit recruitment" (rekrutacja pozalimitowa) procedure. Only after successful admission to the Doctoral School can the PhD student start working at the QLAB project and signing the employment contract.

About the programme/project:

Title of programme/project	Center for Hybrid Quantum-Classical Information Technologies – QLAB
Type of programme/project	International Research Agendas (MAB), Measure 2.1 of the European Funds for a Modern Economy 2021-2027 Programme (FENG)
Funding institution	Foundation for Polish Science (FNP) – Intermediate Body
Duration of the project	01.01.2026 – 31.12.2029
Head of the project / Group leader	Dr hab. Magdalena Stobińska-Moretto, prof. UW (Principal Investigator / Director of MAB QLAB Centre; Leader of Group 1)
Description of the project	The MAB QLAB Centre has been established at the University of Warsaw as a joint undertaking with Sorbonne Université. The Centre develops scalable hybrid quantum-classical technologies in four pillars: (i) quantum-secure communication, (ii) quantum infrastructure and photonic information processing, (iii) quantum imaging and metrology, and (iv) quantum computation and artificial intelligence. Group 1 – Quantum-secure communication – works on security proofs for quantum communication protocols, hybrid solutions combining quantum and post-quantum cryptography, and research on quantum networks and their integration with critical infrastructure.

Position details:

Position title	PhD student - technical position, referent outside of the group of academic teachers with the possibility of changing after 1 year to a research position
Organisational unit	Group 1 (Quantum-secure communication), MAB QLAB Centre, University of Warsaw
Number of positions	1
Form of engagement	Employment contract (umowa o pracę) at the University of Warsaw, full-time. Position outside the academic-teacher group. Concurrent enrolment in the UW Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences is required - the doctoral-school statutory scholarship is paid by the school in addition to the project salary. For candidates admitted through the non-quota recruitment procedure, the statutory scholarship is not awarded.
Remuneration	Monthly salary set in line with the budget of project FENG.02.01-IP.05-B013/25 and the salary table of MAB QLAB Centre of 9.500,00 zł gross, in the event that the statutory scholarship is awarded. If admitted to the Doctoral School through the non-quota procedure without a scholarship, the remuneration is PLN 9.700,00 gross.
Expected date of commencement	01.12.2026 (subject to admission to the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences). For candidates admitted via the beyond-the-limit recruitment procedure - start date adjusted to the Doctoral School's calendar.
Period of employment	Contract up to 36 months in total, not exceeding the eligibility period of the project (31.12.2029, with possible extension).
Other working conditions	Workplace: MAB QLAB Centre, University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland. No teaching obligations under the employment contract. Start-up package available (travel, conferences, computational resources). Mobility opportunities with QLAB partners.
Basic responsibilities	1. Conducting research within Group 1 (Quantum-secure communication) of MAB QLAB under the supervision of the Group leader. 2. Timely realization of the doctoral programme at the UW Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences. 3. Realization of the project tasks defined in the MAB QLAB. 4. Preparing publications, conference presentations and dataset/code releases according to the QLAB open-science policy. 5. Active participation in QLAB seminars, project meetings and joint activities with partners. 6. Periodic reporting to the Group leader and to the Beneficiary, in line with FNP/FENG rules. 7. Following the FNP Code of Ethics for Laureates and Beneficiaries.
Conditions for entering the recruitment	1. MSc degree or equivalent in physics, computer science, mathematics, or a related field. 2. PhD student status at a Doctoral School at the time of signing the contract or willingness and eligibility to enroll in the UW Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences (no prior doctoral degree). 3. Good knowledge of quantum mechanics, linear algebra, and probability theory.

	4. Basic knowledge of quantum information theory or cryptography (quantum or classical). 5. Programming and numerical computation skills (e.g. Python, Julia, C++). 6. Interest in the Group's research: QKD and DI QKD protocols, security proofs, hybrid quantum/post-quantum solutions, quantum networks. 7. Motivation for research work and ability to work in an international team. 8. Good command of spoken and written English (level B2 or higher). 9. Desirable: MSc thesis in quantum information, quantum optics or cryptography; first publications or conference presentations; experience with convex optimization (SDP); research or industrial internships. 10. During the employment period, the employee shall not be employed under another full-time employment contract from any other entity.
Criteria for the assessment of candidates	1. Academic record (degree mark, MSc thesis quality, awards) - 35%. 2. Match between the candidate's profile and Group 1 / QLAB research agenda - 35%. 3. Methodological skills (theory, computation, programming) - 20%. 4. Other relevant competences (mobility experience, recommendations) - 10%. 5. Recruitment criteria approved by the Director of MAB QLAB.

Recruitment rules:

Announcement reference number	QLAB/2026/G1/PHD/02
Keywords	PhD, quantum communication, quantum cryptography, post-quantum cryptography, security proofs
Deadline for submitting applications	18.11.2026
Method of submitting an application	Send an email titled "QLAB PhD G1/02 - <surname>" to qlab@uw.edu.pl, attaching all required documents in PDF. Confirmation of receipt will be sent within 3 working days.
Required documents	• Signed information clause on personal data processing (template attached). • Signed candidate's declaration (template attached). • Curriculum Vitae and motivation letter (max. 2 pages A4). • Copy of MSc or equivalent diploma (or, for finalists, certificate from the dean's office) and transcript of records. • Copy of the MSc thesis abstract. • Reference letters from two academic teachers (sent directly to qlab@uw.edu.pl). • Statement that the candidate has not previously obtained a doctoral degree (eligibility for the Doctoral School). • Candidates without PhD student status: acknowledgement that admission to the UW Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences is required for starting work and a declaration that the candidate

	will apply (or has applied) to that Doctoral School - including the beyond-the-limit recruitment path if applicable (please include this statement in the cover letter).
Stages of the recruitment	• Stage I - formal evaluation of documents. • Stage II - substantive evaluation of submitted documents by the Recruitment Panel. • Stage III - interview with shortlisted candidates (online or on-site). • Stage IV - final scoring of candidates. • Stage V - conditional decision; the Group leader issues a conditional offer pending admission to the UW Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences (standard or beyond-the-limit).
Anticipated date and method of notification	Up to 30 days after the application deadline. Candidates are informed individually by email. The result is also published on the QLAB website and on the EURAXESS portal.
Contact for any questions	qlab@uw.edu.pl - always quote the reference number QLAB/2026/G1/PHD/02. Accessibility needs should be indicated in the candidate's cover letter.

The recruitment is conducted in line with the Policy of Open, Transparent and Merit-Based Recruitment at the University of Warsaw: https://rekrutacja-i-rozwoj.bsp.uw.edu.pl/polityka-rekrutacji/

Recruiting unit:

Research profile of the unit	MAB QLAB - https://qlab.uw.edu.pl Group 1: Quantum-secure communication
Required Doctoral School	Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences of the University of Warsaw (Szkoła Doktorska Nauk Ścisłych i Przyrodniczych). Beyond-the-limit recruitment (rekrutacja pozalimitowa) available for candidates selected by QLAB but not admitted via the standard intake.
Other information	The Recruitment Panel acts under the supervision of the Director of MAB QLAB. The recruitment is conducted in accordance with: the FNP MAB rules (annexes to the funding agreement), the Statute of the University of Warsaw, the Doctoral School regulations and the European Charter for Researchers (HR Excellence in Research).

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

The University of Warsaw has implemented the procedure for whistleblowers reporting cases of law violation and for undertaking follow-up actions. For more information about this topic and the processing of candidates' personal data please follow: https://rekrutacja-i-rozwoj.bsp.uw.edu.pl/przydatne-dokumenty/

The University of Warsaw is a winner of the HR Excellence in Research award granted by the European Commission to institutions adhering to the European Charter for Researchers.

This recruitment is conducted within project FENG.02.01-IP.05-B013/25, "Center for Hybrid Quantum-Classical Information Technologies – QLAB", co-financed by the European Union under the European Funds for a Modern Economy 2021-2027 Programme (FENG), Measure 2.1 - International Research Agendas, implemented by the Foundation for Polish Science.

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given and family name

Information on personal data processing

Controller

Controller of your personal data processed in connection with the recruitment process is the University of Warsaw, ul. Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28, 00-927 Warszawa, as the Employer.

Contact with the controller:

- by traditional mail at: University of Warsaw, ul. Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28, 00-927 Warszawa (name the organizational unit to which your letter is addressed);
- by phone: 22 55 20 355.

Data Protection Officer (DPO)

Controller has designated Data Protection Officer whom you may contact via email at iod@adm.uw.edu.pl. You may contact the DPO in all matters relating to your personal data processing by the University of Warsaw and the exercise of rights in relation to the processing of personal data.

The DPO, however, does not proceed other matters, like handling recruitment procedures, collecting recruitment documents, providing information on current recruitment process.

Purpose and legal grounds of data processing

Personal data of candidates for employment shall be processed for recruitment purposes only.

Your personal data shall be processed in the scope as indicated by employment law[1] *(given name (names) and family name, date of birth, contact information as provided, education, professional qualifications, previous employment)* for the purposes of this recruitment process[2], whereas other data[3] shall be processed based on your consent which may take the following wording:

I agree to the processing of personal data provided in .... (e.g. CV, cover letter, and other submitted documents) by the University of Warsaw for realising my recruitment process.

If your documents include data as mentioned in Art. 9 section 1 of the GDPR (special categories of personal data), processing shall be possible upon your consent to processing such data[4] which may take the following wording:

[1] Art. 22[1] of the law of June 26, 1974 Labour Code (i.e. Journal of Laws 2019 item 1040 with subsequent changes);
[2] Art. 6 section 1 letter b of the Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council (EU) 2016/679 of April 27, 2016 on protection of individual persons with regard to the personal data processing and on the free flow of such data, and also repealing Directive 95/46/EC (general regulation on data protection) (Official Journal EU L 119 of 04.05.2016, page 1, with subsequent changes) (hereinafter as the GDPR);
[3] Art. 6 section 1 letter a of the GDPR;
[4] Art. 9 section 2 letter a GDPR;

I agree to the processing of special categories of personal data, as mentioned in Art. 9 section 1 of the GDPR, provided in ..... (e.g. CV, cover letter, and other submitted documents) by the University of Warsaw for realising my recruitment process.

The University of Warsaw shall be also processing your personal data in future recruitment processes upon your consent[5] which may take the following wording:

I consent to processing of my personal data for the purposes of any future recruitment processes at the University of Warsaw for the period of the next nine months.

You may revoke all such consents at any time by, for example, sending an email at ..... (email address due for the recruitment process).

Be advised that the revocation of your consent does not affect legal compliance of processing which had been completed upon consent before its revocation.[6]

Data retention period

Your personal data collected in this recruitment process shall be stored over the period of three months from the date the recruitment process is completed.

In case you agree to process your data in future recruitments, your data shall be used over the period of nine months.

Data recipients

Officers authorized by the Controller shall have access to your personal data, the processing of which is in the scope of their duties.

Recipients of personal data may be other subjects obligated by the Controller to provide specific services involving data processing, like

.....
(name all recipients of data)

Data transfer outside the European Economic Area (EEA)

Your personal data shall be disclosed to subjects authorized by law. Signing-in is through Google Forms. Your personal data may be also processed by our provider of G-Suit for education by Google Company in their data processing centres.[7] Your data shall be protected under the standards of the Privacy Shield, accepted by the European Commission.[8] This shall guarantee an adequate level of data security.

Rights of the data subject

Under the GDPR data subjects have the following rights:

- to access data and to receive copies of the actual data;
- to correct (rectify) your personal data;
- to restrict processing of personal data;

[5] Art. 6 section 1 letter a GDPR;
[6] Art. 7 section 3 GDPR;
[7] https://www.google.com/about/datacenters/inside/locations/index.html
[8] https://www.privacyshield.gov

- to erase personal data, subject to provisions of Art. 17 section 3 of the GDPR;
- to file a claim with the President of the Personal Data Protection Office, if you believe data processing violates law.

Information on the requirement to provide data

Providing your personal data in the scope resulting from law is necessary to participate in the recruitment process. Providing other personal data is voluntary.

.....	.....
place and date	applicant's signature

UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW

Declaration of the candidate

Required declaration

In connection with art. 113 of the Act of the Law on Higher Education and Science of July 20, 2018 (Journal of Laws of 2024, item 1571 as amended), I declare that:

1) I have full legal capacity,
2) I enjoy full public rights,
3) I have not been expelled from work at the university with a ban on working at universities for a period of 6 months to 5 years,
4) I have not been deprived of the right to practice as an academic teacher for a period of 10 years,

I have not been convicted by a final judgment for an intentional crime or an intentional fiscal crime.

…….
place and date

……
applicant's signature