Vacancy for Pre-Doctoral Research Assistant

Munich, January 27, 2026

Professor Claudia Steinwender (LMU) and Professor Gábor Békés (CEU) are searching for a highly skilled and motivated full-time (40 hours per week) **pre-doctoral research assistant (RA)** for a period of two years, starting sometime between June and September 2026. Employment will be at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, Germany.

The RA will support the professors on a joint research project **"Globalization and Industrial Policy: Evidence from the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy (IP-KuK)"** (https://gaborbekes.com/kukip), joining a team of researchers and PhD students from both universities. The RA will be expected to be responsible for locating, cleaning, digitizing and analyzing large-scale datasets, including regression analyses, and support the professors on other tasks such as researching historical literature and context. The RA will be able to benefit from mentoring and career advice by the professors.

Key requirements

- Very strong coding skills in multiple languages including Python; ability to learn quickly
  - Optional: experience with AI tools like Claude Code, cursor, GitHub Copilot or similar
  - Optional: experience with NLP, use of LLMs for text parsing
- Strong quantitative background
- Familiarity with identification problems in causal inference
- Soft skills: diligence, reliability, independence, proactive attitude, motivation
- Very good written communication skills in English
  - Optional: German and/or Hungarian language skills
- Previous RA experience is a plus; please include the contact information of a reference
- Must be based in Munich, Germany: The RA needs to secure a residence and work permit for Germany given our work contract.

The ideal candidate has an undergraduate or graduate degree in Economics (or related fields including Computer Science), and is planning to pursue a PhD in Economics at a top program after the RA-ship.

Please submit a cover letter (detailing how you satisfy the key and optional requirements specified above; relevant coursework and/or research experience, programming background including a link to a GitHub (or similar) repository if available, future academic plans, and potential start date) as well as your CV, latest academic transcript and contact information of a reference to: Claudia Pilizota, administrative assistant of Prof. Claudia Steinwender, at office.steinwender@econ.lmu.de **by February 23, 2026**.