

**List of questions**

to be answered in the statement of the academic mentor

Please prepare a statement on your organisation’s letterhead of **no more than 1,200 words**, confirming matching academic specialisations and research interests of the candidate and yourself as the academic mentor, assessing the academic profile of the candidate, their academic potential, and the quality of the research proposal. This statement should demonstrate a suitable professional match and your commitment to supporting the candidate and their research. This statement is requested in order to ensure applications are not based on solidarity alone without adequate attention to academic merit. The statement should be confidential, i.e. it should not be shared with the candidate.

The following questions are designed to assist you in preparing your statement.

* Do you know the candidate personally, and/or are you in contact with their current institution?
* How do the candidate’s academic specialisation and research interests align with your own?
* How would you assess the candidate's academic career, academic achievements to date (such as publications) and profile – taking into account the respective circumstances under which the candidate has been working thus far?
* How would you assess the proposed research project of the candidate, especially in regard to academic (methodological) quality and feasibility of pursuing this research at the host institution?
* How will the research project overlap/interact with other work being carried out at your institution?
* To what extent were you involved in drawing up the candidate’s research proposal?
* How would you assess the candidate’s perspectives for further academic qualification and success during the fellowship period?
* How would you assess the candidate’s potential for future academic achievements beyond the fellowship period?
* Which specific measures are you planning in order to support the candidate in navigating academic and professional challenges and in preparing for opportunities after the funding ends?