

PhD or PostDoc position in perceptions of renewable energy and net-zero emissions systems at the University of Geneva, Switzerland

Background

The [Renewable Energy Systems group](#), led by Prof. Evelina Trutnevyte, at the University of Geneva is looking to fill a PhD or PostDoc position in **perceptions of renewable energy and net-zero emissions systems**. We welcome applications from candidates with an interest in research on technology acceptance and public participation in the fields of energy transition and climate change mitigation. Applicants need to have a Master's or PhD degree in any of the following discipline: (environmental) economics, political science, environmental sciences, social psychology, other quantitative social sciences, or relevant interdisciplinary programs.

The successful candidate will work on eliciting preferences of European and Swiss citizens for pathways to reach net-zero emissions goals in terms of technologies, behavior changes, and policies. In particular, the novelty of this work will be to elicit these preferences in a way that can be integrated in energy systems models that are typically used for climate and energy policy support. The data collection will be based on large-N representative surveys or informed citizen workshops.

Located at the Faculty of Science and at the interfaculty Institute for Environmental Sciences, the Renewable Energy Systems group has three strategic research themes. First, it uses mathematical modeling and technology assessment tools in order to inform transition to renewable energy systems at all spatial scales, from neighborhoods and cities to countries and continents. Second, the group works with multi-disciplinary methods for improving quantitative long-range energy foresight for decision making under uncertainty. Third, the group investigates system-level socio-technical energy solutions that are techno-economically feasible, environmentally desirable, as well as acceptable. The scientific work in the group regularly involves interactions with practitioners outside academia, including policy makers, stakeholders, and the wider public.

The Renewable Energy Systems group provides a stimulating and innovative research environment to work on some of today's most pressing societal challenges – energy and climate change. It further offers excellent conditions for PhD and Postdoc students, including a competitive salary as well as funds for travel and further education. The city of Geneva consistently ranks among the most attractive cities worldwide to live. The city of Geneva takes pioneering action in promoting renewable energy as well as hosts multiple international organizations that foster global transition.

Application process and requirements

- Master's or PhD degree in (environmental) economics, political science, environmental sciences, other quantitative social sciences, or a relevant interdisciplinary program or equivalent.
- Excellent research skills with knowledge of diverse quantitative research methods, such as multivariate statistical analysis and designing surveys.
- Familiarity with Swiss and European energy discussions and policies.
- Strong interest in energy and climate change topics
- Excellent organizational and planning skills.
- Peer-reviewed journal publications as first author (for Postdoc applicants).
- Excellent communication and writing skills in English.
- French or German language skills are an important advantage.

Please use the following link to apply: [Apply here - social](#)
(Or please send an email to job-res@unige.ch with a subject: [Social_UniGEjob](#))

The applications shall include:

- Motivation letter in English;
- CV;
- Recommendation letters or work certificates of two referees; the letters can be submitted by the candidate directly or can be sent by the referees to the email address above;
- Sample document of academic writing in English, e.g. peer-reviewed publication as first author, Master thesis, semester thesis;
- Scanned copy of the Master's degree diploma with grades (for both PostDoc and PhD candidates). In the case of nearly completed Master's degree, the latest transcript of grades should be submitted;
- The email's subject should indicate the title of the position that you are applying to;
- If the size of the email exceeds 10 MB, only the motivation letter and CV shall be included in the email as well as a link for downloading the rest of the documents, e.g. Dropbox.

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The first deadline of applications will close on Monday, 25 April 2022. Further applications may be accepted because the positions will stay open until the suitable candidates are found. The starting date will be mutually agreed on. The successful candidates from outside Switzerland and European Union should count with additional 4-6 months for receiving their residence permit.

For questions, please send an email to [Apply here - social](#)
(Or please send an email to job-res@unige.ch with a subject: [Social_UniGEjob](#))