



GET fit FOR YOUR FUTURE

The FIT FORTHEM online boot camp for Early Career Researchers

30 May – 3 June 2022

hosted by *Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz*
and *FORTHEM partner universities*



Being an Early Career Researcher (ECR) means being in a crucial state of your professional career. You need to develop your academic independence, increase your visibility as a researcher, produce enough 'output', compete for grants, and gain international experiences. Many critical decisions need to be made in this phase. But have you ever taken a step back and thought about 'What happens if my Plan A does not work?' Do you have a Plan B or C? Being able to make conscious decisions is a great advantage and can lead to a more

successful and satisfying career planning. The FORTHEM Alliance aims at supporting and empowering its ECRs with targeted activities when it comes to facing an increasingly complex landscape of possible work environments and conditions throughout Europe both in and outside academia. It is planned e.g. to set up tailored trainings to develop research-related and transversal skills as well as to implement possibilities to showcase your research projects to peers and public by organizing annual conferences, yearly open science contests or other formats. For these endeavors, we would like to enter into a close exchange with the ECRs but also with the research managers to discuss together during the boot camp how a practical implementation of these ideas could look like.

Content

During the week, we would like to discuss what the needs of ECRs are, what requirements different labor market places on them, and what the FORTHEM Alliance can offer.

Target groups

Early career researchers, researchers, research managers including administrative and technical support staff, students, and externals

Registration

Participation in our boot camp is open to everyone interested in the topic. You can join sessions on all five days of the week or just visit single sessions you are especially interested in. Get registered under the follow link: <https://forschung.uni-mainz.de/get-fit-for-your-future-the-fit-forthem-online-boot-camp-for-early-career-researchers/>

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Agenda

To get registered for the boot camp
[click here](#)

DAY 1: Monday, May 30, 2022, 14:00 – 16:00 (CET)

International Career Pathway for Early Stage Researchers (ESR)

On day one of the event, we tackle the question of why international experience is important and how it can boost your career development. Experienced scholars with international curricular will give us insights into the challenges, pitfalls, and benefits that can come with it.



DAY 2: Tuesday, May 31, 2022, 14:00 – 17:00 (CET)

Multiple career options – find your way within or outside academia.

On the second day two sessions are planned. In the first session (14:00 – 15:15 CET), testimonials will give us insights into different career sectors, like academia, research management or the non-academic world. We explore the question to which extent career paths can be planned. Does a direction once taken mean that one can no longer change the path? Did special qualifications, further education, certificates or specific skills help? And what role can networks play in this context? What can FORTHEM offer you in this regard?

The second session (15:30 – 17:00 CET) will focus on concrete tools and techniques everyone standing at the career crossroad might use in order to more consciously and reflexively shape their career path. If you are in that place where you start asking yourself questions like: Am I on the right career path?, What do I really want?, How can I get there? What is blocking me? What are my options? - this workshop is for you. We will explore selected career coaching tools to help you navigate your career choices. All you need is your full awareness and openness to change.

DAY 3: Wednesday, June 1, 2022, 14:00 – 16:00 (CET)

FORTHEM perspectives to make your career a success

Once you have a clearer idea of your career, you can start looking at what skills and competences are needed to make it happen and how you gain them. On day three of the event, we take a closer look at different options available through the FORTHEM Alliance like co-supervision, *Cotutelle de these* or mentoring formats. Where are the advantages when upscaling them to an international level? Furthermore, you can learn about international associations for Early Career Researchers and their activities.





DAY 4: Thursday, June 2, 2022, 09:00 – 11:00 (CET)

Open WHAT? The idea behind Open Science

Open science is a term you have probably been confronted with already at the beginning of your academic career. On day four of our boot camp, we would like to discuss less the technical details that are necessary to establish the principles of Open Science. Rather, we want to explore the question of why science should actually open up? What are the drivers behind this movement? To what extent does a cultural change in the academic world has to happen? We will discuss with Open Science experts how you as a researcher can benefit from the Open Science movement in all its dimensions. We will show the opportunities FORTHEM offers to integrate Open Science activities into your scientific routine.

DAY 5: Friday, June 3, 2022, 09:00 – 11:00 (CET)

Wrap-up session: developing a road map and brainstorming on future actions

The last day of the boot camp is dedicated to the needs of Early Career Researchers and the future actions in the FORTHEM Alliance. In addition to a small survey, conducted in the forefront of the event, the rapporteurs previously selected will summarize the outcomes of day 1-4 of the boot camp. On this basis, a roadmap is to be developed and targeted actions are to be defined.



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