

ELLIS PhD Programme - Call for Proposals

(deadline October 31 midnight)

On October 1 2020, the ELLIS Society PhD programme opens its first call for applications. The ELLIS Unit in Amsterdam has funding available for three ELLIS PhD positions. We invite all ELLIS faculty of the Amsterdam ELLIS Unit to submit a proposal. Funding will be sufficient to cover the costs for appointing a PhD student for 4 years including a bench fee of at most €5000.

How does the ELLIS PhD programme work?

The [ELLIS PhD program](#) is a key element of the ELLIS initiative and its goal is to foster and educate the best talent in machine learning related research areas by pairing outstanding students with leading academic and industrial researchers in Europe. Due to delays in the review process at ELLIS concerning the appointment of 10 ELLIS faculty as ELLIS Fellows or Scholars we have decided that we will NOT participate in the central recruitment process of PhD students this year. However, after we have recruited the PhD students through the usual means at UvA, we will enroll them into the ELLIS PhD program at a later stage. If the appointments happen to come in time, the awardees have the option to recruit through the central process.

How to submit a proposal?

ELLIS PhD students at the Amsterdam ELLIS unit are supervised by an ELLIS fellow or scholar at the UvA and an ELLIS member from a different country. PhD students need to spend a total of 1 year with the ELLIS member in the other country. There are 10 faculty under review to become fellows or scholars¹. If you are on this list, you can directly submit a proposal. If you are not (yet) on this list, you can either 1) involve someone on the list to support your proposal, this support can be a just formal, without much commitment to supervise, or 2) submit your proposal with a co-supervisor from a different country that is an ELLIS fellow or scholar. All supervisors need to be ELLIS members. We strongly encourage all ELLIS faculty to submit their proposals, and apply to become a fellow/scholar at the next round of applications in March through the ELLIS unit.

Proposals for PhD positions consist of at most 4 pages A4 (minimal font size 11pt), containing the following information:

- The names of the supervisor at the Amsterdam ELLIS unit (and, if this supervisor is not an ELLIS fellow/scholar, the name of the supporting ELLIS fellow/scholar in the unit) and the second supervisor who is an ELLIS member in another country;
- A letter of commitment from the external supervisor that the PhD student will be hosted at the other institution for a total duration of at least one year during the PhD;
- The research proposal, including a statement of why the collaboration with the foreign ELLIS member is beneficial for this research (2 pages)
- A statement on how you will contribute to diversity and inclusion of the ELLIS Unit.

Deadline for submission: October 31, 2020, midnight.

Please send your proposal to f.e.arends@uva.nl with cc to m.welling@uva.nl.

Review procedure The proposals will be evaluated by a review board on the following criteria: research excellence, added value of the collaboration and contribution to diversity and inclusion.

¹ M. Welling, M. de Rijke, M. Worring, C. Snoek, R. Fernández, E. Bekkers, I. Groen, E. Gavves, H. van Hoof, C. Monz.