

Starting the Postdoctoral Search: Some General Advice/Learnings

- Start Early & Apply for positions as much as possible
- Creating an Excel file/database with details of all labs & research groups relevant to your research area
 - ChatGPT/AI would be of great help (generating contact list of relevant groups)
 - Proceedings/Book of Abstracts from recently held conferences in your area
 - Use of Google scholar to find out relevant profiles
- Active use of LinkedIn to come across potential vacancies (Update your profile, Follow as many University pages, people, etc.)
- Preparation of a good cover letter and CV template upfront (Tweak it for different applications)
- **Helps if we are mentally prepared to not receive responses for cold emails & applications;**
Apply Everyday/Send out Emails/Interests frequently no matter what!!

Postdoctoral search: Where to look/potential avenues

- 1) CNRS Jobs portal: <https://carrieres.cnrs.fr/en/> (Updated everyday, highly recommended)
- 2) EURAXESS Portal: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs> (Both Job & hosting offers)
- 3) Helmholtz Centres <https://www.helmholtz.de/karriere/jobs/> (18 centres across Germany)
- 4) Max Planck Institutes <https://postdocprogram.mpg.de/all-postdoc-positions>
- 5) A Lot of the jobs are posted on either the University's pages/by the Prof. on LinkedIn
- 6) A very few of them go under the radar & post it with limited visibility (Only their Institute websites (a few French labs), so it helps to check such institute websites regularly)
- 7) CEFRA COR: <https://www.cefracor.org/en/jobs> (Job Offers/Applications specific to Corrosion research)

A Few other Interesting/Relatively less known Fellowship programs:

- 1) Lotus Postdoctoral fellowship (Japan- Specific to India)
- 2) Specially appointed Assistant Professor (Research) – Tohoku University, Japan (Fixed term research position)

Few Other Perspectives/Learnings

- **Applying to places that have Alumni/Contacts always helps;**
 - Most PI's feel confident about hiring from known circles (Hard Truth)
 - Try to include previous instances of meeting a PI at a conference in the cover letter/Mail
- **Best to plan & attend a conference just before the start of the postdoctoral search** (One can invite the potential PI's to their posters/oral session & also tell them about their wish for working with the group)

Wishing you the best!!