



XIX. Call for the Junior Fund, 2026

Proposal for a research project

Faculty/institute/unit of CU:	Faculty of Arts
Department:	Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Research project title:	Digital Speech Acts
Project description:	<p>The aim of the project is to systematically study the impact of new technologies on the illocutionary level of communication. First, the project will develop a synthesis of both (1) recognition-based, score-theoretic approaches and (2) evolutionary, game-theoretic approaches to speech acts, which present costly and recognitive speech acts ('core speech acts') as central to the development and sustaining of norms of accountability. Second, the project will construct a model of how new technological affordances (for example amplification, anonymity, asynchronicity, context collapse, gamification, LLM mediation, and others) can erode norms of accountability in these new contexts. Third, the project will develop a new conceptual classification of different types of 'degenerated speech acts' that insulate speakers from taking responsibility by failing to recognize others as legitimate conversational partners in a cooperative dialogue. The successful candidate will contribute to one or more of these three goals and will have time to conduct independent research in Prague, as well as to collaborate with the department's contemporary theoretical and practical philosophy groups. Responsibilities include co-organizing workshops and conferences, teaching one seminar per semester on a research-related topic, and publishing in leading international philosophy journals. During the time of this project, the department will apply for a larger grant on a closely related theme. The successful candidate will also have the option to submit an individual grant application for a follow-up project during the second year of the fellowship.</p>
What do we offer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A two-year contract in Prague• Time to conduct independent research• Teaching experience• Perspective of a follow-up project
Profile of an ideal candidate:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed Ph.D degree (max. 8 years since its award);• Excellent command of English;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong background in philosophy of language. Competence and interest in formal methods and evolutionary, game-theoretic approaches to language are very welcome; • Ability to carry out excellent research; • Teaching experience is welcome; • Due to tax specification, the candidate cannot be employed in any other country than Czech Republic in course of the postdoctoral period <p>For more details, see: JUNIOR Fund (Post-Doc) - Charles University</p>
Position available from:	October 1, 2026
Workplace location:	Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles University
Supervisor(s):	Sybren Heyndels
E-mail:	sybren.heyndels@ff.cuni.cz
Application deadline:	May 10, 2026
Applicants must submit required documents to:	sybren.heyndels@ff.cuni.cz and in a copy to tomas.klir@ff.cuni.cz (Vice-Dean for Project and Grant Management, CU FA)