



# POLSKA AKADEMIA NAUK INSTYTUT PALEOBIOLOGII

*im. Romana Kozłowskiego*

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**The Institute of Paleobiology of the Polish Academy of Sciences  
announces a competition for the postdoctoral position  
financed by the project “Global drivers of plesiosaur evolution during intervals of intense change  
in Mesozoic marine ecosystems”**

The Postdoctoral Research Position at the Institute of Paleobiology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland, provides training to a postdoctoral investigator to carry out a collaborative project in a research group led by Dr. Daniel Madzia. The project is aimed to explore the drivers of plesiosaur evolution during selected intervals of intense change in Jurassic and Cretaceous marine ecosystems. The project is funded through a National Science Center (NCN), Poland, grant no. 2023/51/B/NZ8/00899.

**Requirements and candidate profile:**

- R2 - Recognised Researcher (PhD in biological sciences or in Earth and environmental sciences, obtained no earlier than 2019, from an institution other than the Institute of Paleobiology, Polish Academy of Sciences. The time limit since obtaining the PhD may be extended by 18 months for each child born or adopted);
- Knowledge and expertise (documented in publications) in the following fields and methods: anatomy of fossil vertebrates (preferably marine reptiles), phylogenetic comparative methods, R (environment for statistical computing and graphics), 3D modeling;
- At least three published or accepted papers in international, peer-reviewed journals in the field of paleontology, phylogenetics, data analysis, and/or 3D modeling involving fossil organisms;
- Knowledge of English at a level sufficient for understanding and producing scientific texts;
- Availability to participate in domestic and international trips during the project;
- Ability to work in a team.

**Research tasks:**

The postdoctoral researcher will work closely with the project leader throughout the entire publication process - from data collection and analysis, through the preparation of manuscripts and illustrations, to revising papers after peer review and presenting the results at international scientific conferences.

- Collecting morphological data for phylogenetic and multivariate analyses;
- Preparing (and updating) a database covering the occurrences of plesiosaur fossils in time and space, supplemented with information on paleolatitudes, paleotemperatures, and sea levels;
- Modeling using 3D scans;
- Participating in the descriptions of new plesiosaur taxa;
- Performing phylogenetic analyses of data matrices (using parsimony and Bayesian phylogenetics);
- Conducting multivariate analyses using R.

**Required documents:**

- Cover letter including a brief description of the candidate's research interests and research plans.
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) addressing the above requirements and qualifications (including science communication activities, mobility, completed trainings, research and documentation methods, awards, distinctions, conference participation, and professional experience).

- Full list of publications (including conference abstracts).
- Copy of the PhD diploma (required at the time of signing the contract).
- Contact details (including e-mail address) of two referees who may provide an opinion on the candidate; the recruitment committee may contact the indicated persons, therefore candidates are kindly asked to inform them in advance about this possibility and the application deadline.
- In the cover letter, please include the following clause:

"I consent to the processing of personal data included in my job offer for the purposes necessary to carry out the recruitment process conducted by the Institute of Paleobiology of the PAS with its registered office in Warsaw, ul. Twarda 51/55, in accordance with Article 13 paragraphs 1 and 2 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (GDPR)."

**Application deadline: 10th November 2025**

**Form of application submission:**

Application documents in PDF format should be sent electronically to e-mail:

[dmadzia@twarda.pan.pl](mailto:dmadzia@twarda.pan.pl), copy to: [paleo@twarda.pan.pl](mailto:paleo@twarda.pan.pl)

Receipt of the documents will be confirmed electronically by the recipient.

**Employment conditions:**

Full-time employment for 1 year with the possibility of extension for a further period (planned total duration: 3 years) after a positive assessment.

Monthly gross salary: about 9700 PLN.

36 working days of vacation per year.

**Expected starting date:** January - February 2026

**Expected date of the competition results announcement:** first half of December 2025

For additional information, please contact Dr. Daniel Madzia ([dmadzia@twarda.pan.pl](mailto:dmadzia@twarda.pan.pl)).

The procedure and criteria for candidate selection are defined in the Recruitment Regulations for Research Positions at the Institute of Paleobiology, Polish Academy of Sciences:

<https://www.paleo.pan.pl/instytut/praca-i-kariera.html>

9th October 2025