

# GRADE Postdoc Peer Groups

As a postdoc, you face new challenges and more responsibilities, but a new career stage also offers various options for development. Working in academia, everyday routines and a high workload do not leave much time to address problems and conflicts in a systematic fashion or to strategically explore new avenues. The Goethe Research Academy for Early Career Researchers (GRADE) offers interested postdocs the opportunity to meet in interdisciplinary groups for personal development through cooperative feedback, supported by a professional coach.

- **WHO?** All postdocs of the Rhine-Main University Alliance; working language will be English.
- **WHAT?** Regular peer-group meetings over the course of one year in interdisciplinary teams: kick-off meeting with professional trainer and introduction of the method "peer group supervision"; regular meetings of your peer group in accordance with your needs and interests during the year; two additional meetings with professional external supervision in the middle and at the end of the year.
- **WHY?** Offering an opportunity to reflect on and discuss individual challenges in your daily routine (i.e., team and conflict management); supporting career development and career decisions of early-career researchers. Important: Group meetings are not designed for an exchange on research questions.
- **WHEN?** The kick-off meeting is already scheduled for February 23, 2026 (10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in person). Please submit an application only if you can definitely come to the first meeting. Joining later is not possible!
- **AIM?** Developing a professional work style; gaining more confidence and assertiveness; improving your individual strategies for career progress; networking

**Application:** Submit your CV and a cover letter. In this letter, please illustrate your expectations and specify topics that are relevant in your current situation (max. 1 page DIN A4). **Please also let us know whether you would personally prefer an online or a face-to-face format.** Applicants should e-mail both documents (in one PDF file) no later than January 26, 2026 to:

**Goethe Research Academy for Early Career Researchers**

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**Please note that the deadline for applications is January 26, 2026!**