

The Fryske Akademy Foundation conducts scientific research into the Frisian language, the regional history of Fryslân, and its multilingual society. Through multidisciplinary research, the Fryske Akademy makes innovative contributions to the international scientific debate, contributes to the academic landscape of Leeuwarden and Fryslân, and generates inspiring fundamental and applied knowledge for and about the community. As such, the Fryske Akademy works on state-of-the-art research with an eye for social impact and a strong commitment to Fryslân and its inhabitants. The Fryske Akademy is firmly anchored in the region and is affiliated with the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW).

The Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning was established in 1987 at the initiative of the European Commission. As a part of the Fryske Akademy, Mercator endorses and strengthens the Fryske Akademy's mission. It does so through a special focus on the inventory, study, dissemination, and application of knowledge in the field of multilingualism and language learning, especially regarding multilingual education and policy. Mercator's work is mostly focused on the regional and minority language area of Europe. However, its activities do not only include autochthonous minority languages, but also migrant languages present here. As a research institute, Mercator makes use of the excellent opportunities the Frisian situation has to offer as a living laboratory on multilingualism. By being rooted in both academic, educational, and practical contexts, Mercator thus aims to function as a bridge between science and practice. The Mercator European Research Centre receives funding from the Provincial Government of Fryslân as well as from EU programmes through project funding. In other words, the Mercator European Research Centre brings Fryslân to Europe and Europe to Fryslân.

For the Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning
we are looking for a

Research Assistant

22.8 hours / 0.6 FTE per week (or more upon agreement)

As a research assistant, you will be working on ongoing projects regarding e.g. multilingual education. Additionally, you will work on editing Regional Dossiers in collaboration with international authors.

Job description

As a research assistant, you will have the following tasks:

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- Collaborate on research regarding multilingualism and language learning, both on a regional and international level;
 - Work on ongoing activities, for example the establishment of a platform showcasing outputs from previous projects;
 - Co-coordinate and support ongoing projects alongside the project manager;
 - Organise conferences and seminars with the team;
 - Collaborate on writing articles and items for newsletters.

This position's focus lies on educational projects with an international focus, as well as on editing Regional Dossiers.

Qualifications

- Completed Master's degree in the field of pedagogical and educational sciences, language, and/or multilingualism;
- Experience with writing research articles is a plus;
- Experience with research and project-based work;
- Familiarity with autochthonous minority languages in Europe and in education;
- Affinity with cultural youth education is a plus;
- Excellent editorial skills in English;
- Excellent interpersonal and communicative skills;
- The ability to work independently;
- Writing and speaking skills in Frisian, or the willingness to learn these.

Conditions of employment

The appointment is temporary, initially for one year. Depending on qualifications and work experience, the salary is a maximum of €4,484 gross per month (UFO profile research assistant level 3, scale 8, CLA Dutch Universities). In addition, you will receive 8% holiday allowance and an 8.3% end-of-year bonus.

The workplace is at the Fryske Akademy in Ljouwert/Leeuwarden.

About the Fryske Akademy

The Fryske Akademy is a research institute specialising in the study of the Frisian linguistic

and cultural landscape, as well as European minority languages (through its Mercator branch). The institute is the leading centre for Frisian studies in the Netherlands and plays a crucial role in minority language research within Europe. Embedded in national and international research infrastructures, the Fryske Akademy is affiliated with the KNAW and collaborates closely with KNAW institutes and universities.

As a relatively small institution with an extensive network and significant ambitions, we offer an environment where researchers enjoy considerable academic freedom. We operate within a flat organisational structure, where researchers work independently and collaboratively with enthusiasm and dedication. Collegial cooperation and space for initiative are fundamental to our working culture.

Information

For more information on the position, you can contact Dr Jelske Dijkstra, project manager.

- Telephone: +31 6 44 32 41 97
- Email: jdijkstra@fryske-akademy.nl
- Websites: fryske-akademy.nl and mercator.research.eu

Application

Applicants are to send a letter of motivation and CV to Mr Anne Mulder, HR Officer, at wurkje@fryske-akademy.nl with the subject 'Mercator 2025'.

Applications should be submitted before 17 November 2025.



KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSE
AKADEMIE VAN WETENSCHAPPEN

Acquisition in response to this vacancy is not appreciated.