

## PhD Student/ Research Assistant (f/m/d) Synergistic Two-Color Photochemistry Enabling Gated Material Properties

Want to dive into photochemistry and materials science, collaborate across disciplines and be part of breakthroughs in multi-colour photochemistry? We are looking for an experienced young scientist to develop materials whose properties can be changed by virtue of two colours of light, working across the teams of Prof. Barner-Kowollik and Dr. Kocaarslan.

We offer a fully funded PhD position (by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation), fusing photochemistry and materials design, offering exceptional training for curious young scientists in an international environment at KIT.

**Please submit your applications by e-mail for a start date in 2027. The application deadline is November 1, 2026.**

**Job Description |** We are looking for a highly motivated Ph.D. candidate in organic chemistry to join our photo- and synthetic macromolecular chemistry-focused team under the supervision of Prof. Barner-Kowollik and Dr. Kocaarslan.

**Institute |** Institute of Functional Interfaces (IFG)

**Work Location |** Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Campus North, Karlsruhe/DE

**Requirements |**

- MSc. Degree in Organic Chemistry or Polymer Chemistry
- Knowledge of laboratory safety protocols and procedures.
- Strong synthetic skills in organic and polymer chemistry, excellent knowledge of physical chemistry, ideally photochemistry, the use of analytical instruments for the structural, thermal, and mechanical characterization of (macro)molecules.
- Fluency in oral and written English.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to work collaboratively with others.
- A meticulous and organized working style.

**We offer |** The possibility to research in a dynamic and international research environment in collaboration with industries and prominent universities from all over the world.

We offer an attractive and well-equipped laboratory environment with access to the excellent equipment of the KIT and a wide range of training opportunities in a vibrant intellectual environment.

**Application up to |** 01.11.2026

**Starting date |** 01.01.2027

**Contract duration |** Limited to 3 years

---

**Contact person in line-management |** For further information please contact Dr. Azra Kocaarslan or Prof. Christopher Barner-Kowollik

E-mail: [azra.kocaarslan@kit.edu](mailto:azra.kocaarslan@kit.edu), [christopher.barner-kowollik@kit.edu](mailto:christopher.barner-kowollik@kit.edu)

---

**Application |** Please send your CV plus publication list, one-page summary of your Master's thesis, a motivation letter and two recommendation letters to Dr. Kocaarslan and Prof. Barner-Kowollik. Send all documents as a single PDF; give the PDF a name that includes your name and year.

We prefer to balance the number of employees (f/m/d). Therefore, we kindly ask female applicants to apply for this job.

Recognized severely disabled persons will be preferred if they are equally qualified.

---