



## Postdoctoral Junior Leader "la Caixa" Fellowships

Alexandre Dauphin and Valentin Kasper receive prestigious fellowships from Obra Social i½la Caixa½

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Obra Social i½la Caixa½ has announced and awarded fellowships for the third call of their prestigious Postdoctoral Junior Leader i½la Caixa½ Fellowship programme. Of the forty-five fellowships awarded this year, two are for ICFO postdoctoral researchers.

**Alexandre Dauphin**, who earned his PhD in Physics in 2015 from the Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), joined ICFO in the end of 2015 as a postdoctoral researcher in the Quantum Optics theory group led by ICREA Prof. Maciej Lewenstein. His research focuses on the study of phases of matter with quantum simulators and machine learning. Alexandre received a Retaining Fellowship.

**Valentin Kasper** earned his PhD in Theoretical Physics at the Institute for Theoretical Physics at the Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg. After being a Feodor-Lynen fellow in the condensed matter theory group at Harvard University he joined the Quantum Optics theory

group led by ICREA Prof. Maciej Lewenstein. His research concentrates on non-equilibrium and non-perturbative aspects of quantum many-body systems. Valentin received an Incoming Fellowship.

The Postdoctoral Junior Leader fellowships programme is aimed at hiring excellent researchers, of any nationality, who wish to continue their research career in Spain or Portugal. **The objectives of this programme are to foster high-quality, innovative research in Spain and Portugal and to support the best scientific talent by providing them with an attractive, competitive environment in which to conduct excellent research.**

Within the Junior Leader programme, fellowships are awarded to attract incoming talent, and also to retain talented researchers of any nationality. Incoming fellows are offered a three-year employment contract to conduct a research project at accredited centres with the Severo Ochoa or Maria de Maeztu distinction of excellence. Recipients of fellowships who retain talent may carry out research at any university or research centre in Spain or Portugal. By means of a complementary training programme, these fellowships are intended to consolidate research skills and to foster an independent scientific career as an option for the future.

As part of this complementary training, Junior Leader fellows have to pursue a mandatory course. Congratulations Alexandre and Valentin!

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Dr. Alexandre Dauphin



Dr. Valentin Kasper