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Press Release

JMI Scholar Appointed as Open Science Officer for EU's LONELY-EU Project

Prakhar Srivastava, a PhD scholar in the Department of Psychology at Jamia Millia Islamia under the supervision of Prof. Samina Bano, has been appointed as the Open Science Officer for the European Union-funded LONELY-EU Project. Backed by a €3 million Horizon Europe grant, this initiative aims to understand, track, and reduce social isolation and loneliness across Europe. A key outcome will be the Social Isolation and Loneliness (SIL) Network Europe, a platform uniting governments, researchers, and organizations to drive long-term solutions.

Led by Professor Maïke Luhmann at Ruhr University Bochum (RUB), Germany, the project brings together seven leading European research institutions, including Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU) in the Netherlands, Annecy Behavioral Science Lab (ABSL) in France, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (UCSC) in Italy, SWPS University in Poland, University of Milan "Statale" (UNIMI) in Italy, and Fioti (FIOTI) in the Netherlands. These institutions will work to deepen scientific understanding of loneliness, refine measurement tools, and develop evidence-based interventions.

Currently a Senior Researcher at ABSL, Prakhar will spearhead ABSL's open science initiatives within the LONELY-EU Project, ensuring that research is transparent, accessible, and impactful. His responsibilities include developing research data management guidelines, streamlining workflows for efficiency, and promoting open-access publications. He will also oversee data privacy protocols and facilitate the broad dissemination of findings to policymakers, healthcare professionals, and the public.

The project has received backing from European Parliament Vice President Evelyn Regner and collaborates with global organizations such as the Global Initiative on Loneliness and Connection (GILC), the OECD Centre on Well-being (OECD-WISE), and the World Health Organization (WHO). By integrating open science practices and global partnerships, the LONELY-EU Project aims to transform cutting-edge research into practical solutions that improve lives across Europe."


