

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (MA) – One vacancy

The Centre for Social Studies (CES) – Associate Laboratory - University of Coimbra (Portugal), calls for applications for **one position for Research Assistant** (CES/18/2024-RA-INSITU) within the project “IN SITU: Place-based innovation of cultural and creative industries in non-urban areas” (Grant Agreement 101061747), funded by the European Research Executive Agency (REA) of the European Commission under the framework programme Horizon Europe 2021-2027, and coordinated by the Principal Investigator (PI) Nancy Duxbury (http://www.ces.uc.pt/investigadores/cv/nancy_duxbury.php).

A. Project Description:

The IN SITU project combines research and experimental actions to advance the innovation-related practices, capacities, and potential of CCIs based in non-urban areas of the EU, a constituency of the CCI sector that has grown in visibility and significance over the last decade in Europe and internationally but which is still vulnerable due to the lagging attention of research and policy to its needs, characteristics, and potentials. The project aims to advance understanding of the forms, processes, and governance of innovation involving cultural and creative industries (CCIs) located in non-urban areas of Europe and to advance the ability of non-urban CCIs to act as drivers of innovation, competitiveness, and sustainability for the locales in which they are located. IN SITU brings together leading approaches to investigating economic evolution and diversification, a challenge-oriented approach to processes of innovation, non-urban place-based planning and development, and creative industries entrepreneurship to investigate the situation of CCIs in non-urban areas. The project couples this with a pragmatic capacity-building programme to enable CCIs to address some of the key issues of their communities/region.

The core defining aspect of IN SITU is the interlinking of research and practice through place-based IN SITU Labs, hubs for case studies in 6 non-urban regions across Europe, located in Portugal, Ireland, Iceland, Finland, Latvia, and Croatia. Involving both Europe-wide research and place-based experimentation, IN SITU will provide an in-depth knowledge of the direct and indirect effects, cross-sectoral connections and spillovers, innovative strategies and systems, and needs of CCI practitioners in non-urban areas. Complementary to this, the project will assess and advance the multi-level innovation and culture policy and planning frameworks that contextualize and can enable this work. For more information, see the project website: <https://insituculture.eu/>

Expected duration of project execution: 48 months, starting July 1, 2022

B. Scientific Field: Social Sciences

C. Candidates' Profiles:

The selected researcher is expected to have some experience in supporting the implementation of the project's scientific tasks, valuing flexibility, a spirit of initiative and the ability to work in a team. Fluency in English and Portuguese, spoken and written, is a fundamental condition.

D. Work plan, tasks:

The selected researcher is expected to contribute to the implementation of the project's scientific tasks, as well as to support any activities associated with the project's general goals. The selected candidate must support the scientific execution of the project, responding directly to the PI.

More specifically, s/he will work directly with the Principal Investigator, supporting the team in the following tasks:

- a) Carry out research, including conducting interviews, developing transcripts, document analysis, comparison and synthesis of findings under supervision of the PI;
- b) Contribute to fieldwork in a collaborative context involving project partners; gather and organize data;
- c) Actively contribute to the organization of activities, meetings, and other dissemination actions developed by the project;
- d) Contribute to drafting the project reports to be submitted to the EC;
- e) Contribute to the project's daily management tasks.

E. Applicable Legislation and Regulations:

Labour Code Law No. 7/2009, of February 12th (and subsequent amendments).

F. Workplace:

Research will be performed at the Centre for Social Studies facilities in Coimbra, Portugal. Researchers will occasionally need to travel to other locations to perform research tasks. Successful candidates are expected to move to Coimbra for the duration of the contract.

G. Duration of the Contract:

A temporary contract ("termo certo"), fulltime, will be signed for the sole purpose of the execution of the project, in exclusive dedication.

The contract, expected to start in late January or early February 2025, will last six months, renewable up to a maximum period of one year, depending on the scientific needs, the financial provisions of the project and the assessment by the CES coordination team of the RA performance. Moreover, according to Article 112 of the Labour Code, paragraph 2 a), a trial period of 30 days is established.

If the selected candidate does not meet all the conditions to start the contract within the defined period: 1 – the duration of the contract can be reduced; 2 – the contract can be assigned to the applicant classified in the next position; or 3 – the position may not be awarded.

H. Application Deadline:

Call opens on: December 5, 2024

Call closes on: December 19, 2024

I. Application process:

Applications must include:

- Presentation/Motivation letter in English (max. 2 pages);
- Curriculum Vitae of max. 5 pages, highlighting the items most relevant to the topic of the call;
- Sample of published writing in English;
- Copy of qualification certificates and other relevant documents for eligibility purposes. If, for the application, the applicant does not have proof of recognition of their academic degree by the Portuguese Higher Education System (Decree-Law 66/2018), they must submit a declaration of honour committing themselves to deliver the recognition of the degree within 30 days after the communication of the application results (cf. point L.).

Applications must be sent by email to concursos@ces.uc.pt until the final deadline.

Applications must be addressed to the President of the Jury, with the email Subject: Application to CES call CES/18/2024-RA-INSITU.

3. Requirements

3.2 Skills/Qualifications

J. Preferred selection criteria and their weighing:

- Academic interest and some experience in carrying out research on cultural and creative enterprises/initiatives in non-urban areas (25%);
- Some experience in conducting research using qualitative methodologies, such as interviews, and experience in analyzing and synthesizing policy documents and reports (30%);
- Excellent language skills in both oral and written English, including ability to independently write in this language, and experience publishing and presenting research findings for academic and other audiences (25%);
- Some experience in research management; previous experience in academic projects related with culture-based initiatives in non-urban areas will be valued (10%);
- Autonomy, critical thinking and availability for national and international travel (10%).

4. Additional info

Benefits

K. Monthly Allowance:

- Temporary contract ("termo certo").
- The gross monthly salary will be 1385,99 euros (TRU16), with the right to holiday and Christmas allowance and food allowance, in accordance with the Labour Code.

Eligibility criteria

L. Mandatory requirements:

1. Hold a master's degree in Social Sciences (see associated conditions in a)), with special focus on Urban Cultures, Sociabilities and Participation (defence process finalised);

a) Applicants with an academic degree and diploma issued by a foreign Higher Education Institution must present proof of recognition of the academic degree by the Portuguese Higher Education System, (law DL66/2018). Any candidate without the recognition of the degree(s) will be admitted to the competition, but during the evaluation process the selection panel, cannot:

- 1) recognize the candidate's grades and assess according to the possession of such grades;
- 2) give equivalence to, or validate, the grade of her/his degree;
- 3) use that note or its conversion as an evaluation parameter.

The selection of a candidate in such a situation can only proceed to the contract signature after the candidate provides the recognition of the academic degree made by the Portuguese authorities. The selected candidate will have to deliver the recognition of the degree within 30 days after the communication of the results. After 30 days, the jury may decide to 1. either extend the deadline for the candidate to prove the recognition; 2. assign the contract to the applicant classified in the next position; 3. or not award the position.

Selection process

M. Selection process:

The selection of the candidate will be made based on the curricular evaluation and, in case of a tie among the best candidates, interviews will be carried out in person or remotely. When applying the two methods of selection, curricular evaluation and interview, each will have a valuation of 50% in the final classification. In the interview, in order to clarify aspects related to the curriculum and previous experience, the candidate's ability to integrate the project, analysis and critical thinking, motivation and interest, and communication and verbal expression in English will be evaluated.

The jury reserves the right to not select any applicants for the positions, if applications do not meet the necessary standards and/or profiles in terms of absolute merit.

N. Selection Panel:

- Nancy Duxbury (president)
- Gonalo Canto Moniz (permanent member)
- Isabel Ferreira (permanent member)
- Antonieta Reis Leite (permanent member)
- Paulo Peixoto (substitute member)

O. Communication of Results:

All candidates will receive the results of the selection process by email. The minutes of the selection process will be made available for public consultation in the facilities of the Centre for Social Studies.

[Additional comments](#)

P. Other complementary information:

Equality of opportunities:

CES abides by the national law that regulates the prevention, prohibition and fighting against discrimination on the grounds of racial and ethnic identity, colour, nationality, family background, and territory of origin (Law nº 93/2017, 23 August).

Data protection:

By submitting your application, you are agreeing with the use of your personal data by CES administrative services for the sole purpose of the current call, namely to be contacted directly by CES services and allow the communication of results as in point n. of this call. CES abides by the principles of GDPR.

Contact:

Centro de Estudos Sociais
Colégio S. Jerónimo, Apartado 3087
3000-995 Coimbra, Portugal
concursos@ces.uc.pt

Website for additional job details

<https://www.ces.uc.pt/pt/agenda-noticias/emprego-bolsas-estagios>