

RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

Call for applications – 1 (one) vacancy

The Centre for Social Studies (CES) – Associate Laboratory - University of Coimbra (Portugal), opens a call for applications for 1 research studentship (CES/10/2026-BI-CLICK) in the project “CLICK - Connecting Families, Educators and Policymakers to Improve the Well-being of LGBTIQ Children through an Intersectional Approach”, GA 101144381, funded by Horizon Europe under the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027), and coordinated at CES by Mara Pieri.

CES provides a stimulating intellectual environment in the domain of social sciences and humanities. The project is part of the research line Democracy, Justice and Human Rights, that examines the socio-legal, cultural and political frameworks that define power relations in contemporary societies with special attention to the emancipatory potential of social struggles mobilized in the name of democracy, justice and human rights.

a. Project Description:

CLICK - Connecting Families, Educators and Policymakers to Improve the Well-being of LGBTIQ Children through an Intersectional Approach

Violence against children can take many forms and constitutes a serious violation of human rights. The European Union has shown increasing concern about this issue, as reflected in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, which establishes the right to protection, care, and well-being of children (Art. 24). Furthermore, the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child recognizes that many children still face discrimination and violence due to gender and sexual orientation, recommending support for children in vulnerable situations and the promotion of safe and inclusive school environments. Ensuring the protection of LGBTIQ children is therefore essential to safeguarding their right to be protected "from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury, or abuse" (Art. 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child).

Duration of project implementation: 24 months, starting June 1st, 2025.

b. Scientific field:

Social and human Sciences - preferred specialization in gender, sexuality, childhood/adolescence, or inclusive educational intervention.

c. Work plan, tasks:

The selected researcher is expected to have the following responsibilities: to contribute to the implementation of the project's scientific tasks designed by the Principal Investigator, as well as to support the execution of the project scientific tasks designed by the Principal Investigator, as well as to support any activities associated with the project's general goals. In particular, the selected researcher will be asked to guarantee administrative support in research management and networking with partners; to support the PI in designing working methods and implementing training activities (WP3 and WP4), as well as in planning and developing dissemination activities (WP5) – this includes scientific and outreach events, drafts for outputs and dissemination material, among other tasks.

d. Applicable Legislation and Regulations:

Portuguese Law nº 40/2004, of 18 August (Scientific Research Fellow Statute) and following amendments; FCT's (National Agency for Science and Technology) Regulations for Advanced Training and Qualification of Human Resources, and Regulations for Fellowships at the Centre for Social Studies.

e. Work place:

The tasks will be performed at the Centre for Social Studies facilities or in other locations when necessary for the good implementation of the work plan, under the scientific supervision of the Principal Investigator.

f. Duration of the fellowship contract:

The fellowship will last **12** months, starting on July 1st, 2025.

g. Application dates:

From 15 May 2026 to 29 May 2026.

h. Application process:

Applications must include:

- a letter of intent/motivation in English with the call reference (CES/10/2026-BI-CLICK), e-mail and phone number;
- detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- copies of degree certificates (note: candidates must meet the eligibility conditions and the requirements indicated in point k.);

- d) copy of the enrolment in the PhD in the academic year 2025/2026 or copy of the enrolment in a non-academic degree, but integrated in the pedagogical project of a higher education institution (note: candidates must meet the eligibility conditions indicated in point k.);
- e) other relevant documents for eligibility purposes.

Applications should be sent by email to concursos@ces.uc.pt until the final deadline, and will be valid only after a reading receipt is sent. Applications must include a clear indication of the reference of this call (CES/10/2026-BI-CLICK).

SKILLS/ QUALIFICAÇÕES

Applicants will be selected based on their curricular evaluation. In case of equivalent curricular evaluations, the strongest applications will be evaluated through an interview, meant to assess the applicant's potential in integrating the project scientific dynamic and his/her motivation in pursuing studies related to the project's thematic areas. In case interviews are carried out, they will have a 50% weight in the final evaluation grade.

The jury has the right to decide not to select any of the applicants.

i. Preferred selection criteria and their weighing:

1. Motivation letter (10%);
2. Previous research experience in projects and academic track record in the field of gender, LGBTQ+ issues, education and knowledge of the public policy framework and current legislation in Portugal (10%);
3. Experience with quantitative and/or qualitative methods, including participatory methodologies with children, youth, and families, as well as a solid knowledge of the Portuguese context in the project's thematic areas (20%)
4. Experience in preparing, organizing, and facilitating activities, workshops, or participatory sessions with diverse audiences (15%)
5. Experience in scientific dissemination activities, communicating research results, and producing educational or multimedia materials (10%);
6. Excellent communication skills, including both written expression and public presentations, in Portuguese and English, including the ability to produce reports and scientific publications (15%);

7. Ability to work collaboratively and autonomously in coordination with institutional and community partners. (10%).
8. Availability for travel occasionally and participate in project activities in Coimbra and Lisbon (10%);

The jury reserves the right not to select any candidate.

BENEFITS/CONDIÇÕES

j. Monthly Allowance

The monthly stipend is 1.359,64 euros according with the Regulations for Fellowships at the Centre for Social Studies and at FCT (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM_atualizacao-2024.pdf). The payment of the Voluntary Social Insurance and the Personal Accident Insurance adds up to this amount.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA/ELEGIBILIDADE DAS CANDIDATURAS

k. Mandatory requirements

1. Be a doctoral student or have a master's degree and be enrolled in a course that does not confer an academic degree but is part of the educational project of a higher education institution (see associated conditions in a);
2. Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in the area of Social Sciences (see associated conditions in b);
 - a) Applicants must provide proof of enrolment in a doctoral or non-academic degree course, in the current academic year. If at the time of application, the applicant does not have a valid document proving their enrolment, they must send a declaration of honour in which they state to undertake the enrolment within a maximum period of 30 days after the communication of the results, under penalty of not contracting the scholarship;
 - b) 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:

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

In case of selection, the fellowship contract can only be signed after the recognition of the academic degree by the Portuguese authorities, under the terms of the Law-decree n.º 66/2018, August 16. The selected candidate must deliver the recognition of the degree within 30 days after the communication of the results. After the 30 days, the jury may decide to 1. either extend the deadline for the candidate to prove the recognition; 2. assign the studentship to the second place; 3. or not award the fellowship.

SELECTION PROCESS/PROCESSO DE SELEÇÃO

I. Selection process

Applicants will be selected based on their curricular evaluation. In case of equivalent curricular evaluations, the best-positioned applicants should be short-listed for an interview, meant to assess the applicant's potential in integrating the project's scientific dynamic and his/her motivation in pursuing studies related to the project's thematic areas. Each of the two methods of selection applied will have a rating of 50% in the final classification.

m. Selection panel:

- Mara Pieri (President)
- Mafalda Esteves (Permanent member)
- Daniel Seabra (Permanent member)
- Tatiana Moura (Substitute member)
- Júlia Garraio (Substitute member)

n. Communication of Results:

All candidates will receive the results by email. The meeting minutes of the selection panel will become available publicly. After the communication of results, applicants have 10 working days to present a redress to the evaluation and the result by email.

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Universidade de Coimbra

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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/INFORMAÇÃO ADICIONAL

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, territory of origin, and disability (Law nº 93/2017, 23 August; Law nº 4/2019, 10 January).

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 GPDR.

Contact/Contacto:

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