

BPD \_CIES\_DTS\_2025

## **Call for applications for a Postdoctoral Fellowship (BPD)**

**The Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology (CIES-Iscte)** of the Iscte Knowledge and Innovation Association - Centre for Technology Transfer and Valorisation is opening a competition for the award of one (1) Postdoctoral Fellowship in the context of the project “DTS - Digital Transitions in Science”, with reference 2023. 13739.PEX, funded by the Foundation for Science and Technology, in the context of the 2023 Call for Exploratory Projects in All Scientific Fields.

### **About the project**

This project addresses the theme of digital transition in the development of scientific careers and the experiences of people employed in research centers at Portuguese universities. The main objective is to explore how these processes have transformed the research profession, with positive and negative consequences for personal and professional development, including work-life balance and internationalization. Through evidence-based analysis, the project aims to help inform policymakers and stakeholders in the Research and Development (R&D) sector about these issues in Portugal and to create a better understanding of the impact of the digital transition on the lives of professionals in research communities. With regard to the empirical approach, the research questions aim to document not only the extent of digitization in research units, including the main tasks related to experimental work, field studies, and networking, and the normalization of remote work, but also the impact on the domestic sphere, with a cross-sectional approach covering researchers at different stages of their careers, thus allowing for the analysis of past and present situations. The main research, in the form of an online questionnaire and qualitative interviews, is accompanied by the analysis of existing data sets and previous work carried out by the research team. As would be expected from a proposal focused on the digital transition, dissemination approaches use digital platforms and traditional academic publishing, targeting national and international audiences. This includes the organization of online seminars and virtual events, including collaborations between projects.

The fellowship application process is open under the following conditions:

**Scientific Area:** Social Sciences

**Admission requirements:**

Applicants must hold a PhD in one of the areas of Social Sciences.

If the qualification was obtained from a foreign higher education institution, it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, in accordance with the provisions of Article 25 of Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16, which approves the legal regime for the recognition of academic degrees and higher education diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions, and subparagraph e) of paragraph 2 of Article 4 of Decree-Law No. 60/2018, of August 3, and any formalities established therein must be completed by the date of hiring.

Further information can be obtained at: <https://www.dges.gov.pt/pt/pagina/reconhecimento?plid=374>

According to point 3 of Article 7 of the FCT Research Grant Regulations, postdoctoral grants can only be awarded if all the following requirements are met:

- a) The doctoral degree was obtained within the three years prior to the date of submission of the grant application;
- b) The postdoctoral research is carried out at a host institution other than the institution where the research work that led to the award of the doctoral degree was carried out;
- c) The research activities do not require postdoctoral experience;
- d) The research activities have a development and execution period of three years or less;
- e) The scholarship recipient does not exceed, with the signing of the scholarship contract in question, including possible renewals, a cumulative period of three years in this type of scholarship, whether consecutive or interpolated.

**Preferential factos:**

- a) PhD in one of the following areas: Sociology, Geography, and Psychology.
- b) Research experience in Social Sciences, particularly in the study of science-society relations and digitization processes, will be privileged.
- c) Experience in quantitative and qualitative methodologies, including web surveys.
- d) Experience with qualitative and/or quantitative data analysis software (e.g., SPSS, R, MAXQDA).
- e) Fluency in spoken and written English.

**Work plan:**

The work plan is based on supporting research and dissemination activities within the scope of the DTS project.

The postdoctoral researcher will be responsible for the following tasks:

- performing daily project tasks and project events (expert interviews, workshops);
- participating in the development of methodological tools for quantitative and qualitative data collection;
- supporting the implementation of empirical research in Portugal, including sample design, participant selection, data collection, and data analysis;
- conducting interviews, transcribing, translating, and analyzing;
- provide general support for project implementation by producing reports and documents on the results and project dissemination activities.
- collaborate in the writing and submission of scientific papers.
- participate in project meetings and events.

**Duration of the fellowship:**

The fellowship will last for 12 months, starting in September 2025.

**Applicable legislation and regulations**

Statute of Scientific Research Fellows, as amended by Decree-Law No. 123/2019, of August 28, Regulation on Research Fellowships of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I. P., Regulation No. 950/2019, Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16 (Legal regime for the recognition of academic degrees and higher education diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions) and other applicable rules.

**Workplace and scientific orientation:**

The work will be carried out at the Center for Research and Studies in Sociology (CIES-Iscte) of Iscte - University Institute of Lisbon, under the scientific guidance of Dr. David Cairns.

**Monthly maintenance allowance:**

The amount of the fellowship, on an exclusive and full-time basis, corresponds to €1,851.00, according to the table of scholarships awarded directly or indirectly by FCT, I.P. in Portugal ([https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela\\_valores\\_SMM\\_2025.pdf](https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela_valores_SMM_2025.pdf)), paid monthly by bank transfer to the holder. The scholarship holder may also be reimbursed for the amount corresponding to Voluntary Social Security, if they join this scheme.

**Selection methods:**

The selection process will be based on curriculum evaluation. If several candidates demonstrate that they have the appropriate profile to carry out the work plan, the jury reserves the right to invite the three highest-ranked candidates in the curriculum evaluation to an interview, which will account for 40% of the final score. If the jury considers interviews unnecessary, the curriculum evaluation will have a final weighting of 100%.

The curriculum evaluation criteria are based on:

- a) academic background (30%);
- b) research experience (40%)
- c) experience demonstrated in the items indicated in the preferential factors (30%).

The curriculum evaluation of candidates will be carried out in accordance with the criteria indicated, on a scale of 0 to 100.

The jury reserves the right to:

- a) invite the highest-scoring candidate for the position in question, following the order established in the final ranking list, whenever the selected candidate does not meet the requirements for formalizing the contract or in case of unavailability.
- b) not award the fellowship if none of the candidates match the desired profile.

**Composition of the Selection Committee:**

Candidates will be selected by a jury composed of: Dr. David Cairns (CIES-Iscte/Iscte – University Institute of Lisbon), who will chair the jury, and members Mara Clemente (CIES-Iscte/Iscte – University Institute of Lisbon) and Ana Espírito Santo (CIES-Iscte/Iscte – University Institute of Lisbon).

**Publication/notification of results:**

The results of the evaluation will be published in the form of a list of admitted and excluded candidates and a final ranking list, with all candidates being notified by email. The period for interested parties to be heard will run for 10 working days following the communication of the results.

**Application deadline and submission method:**

The competition is open from June **16 to July 7, 2025**.

Applications must be formalized by submitting the following documents on the Iscte – Knowledge and Innovation Recruitment platform at: <https://recrutamento.conhecimentoinovacao.iscte-iul.pt/jobs>

- i) Letter of motivation describing research experience and reasons for interest in the position, as well as research interests and future career plans;
- ii) Detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- iii) List of publications;
- iv) Copy of doctoral degree certificate.

Applications sent by other means will not be considered.