

Florence, November 2023

Chair in Early Modern History, c.1500-1800

Please find enclosed information about this vacancy and about the Department of History and Civilisation.

NB: After having submitted your application online you will receive confirmation of receipt by email; **if not**, contact us at applypro@eui.eu or by phone +39.055.4685.377 to make sure that your application has safely arrived. For any questions about the application procedure please contact applypro@eui.eu.

The Academic Service assures the confidentiality of the application procedure. The deadline for receipt of applications is **15 January 2024**.

Further and more up-to-date information about the Institute is available on our website: [European University Institute \(eui.eu\)](http://eui.eu).

Thank you for your interest in the European University Institute.

Yours sincerely,

Sébastien Huber
Director ad interim
Academic Service

Chair in Early Modern History, c.1500-1800

The Department of History and Civilisation invites applications for a Chair in Early Modern History, c.1500-1800. The successful candidate is expected to have a wide range of research and supervision experience in the history of Europe in the sixteenth to the eighteenth century, from a global perspective. The Department particularly welcomes applications by candidates who focus on the history of the Atlantic and Iberian worlds.

The Institute is an equal opportunity employer, and is committed to balanced gender, geographical and minority representation.

Successful candidates will be expected to provide major input in research, teaching, supervision and administration, as follows:

Research:

- To develop and lead research in the fields mentioned in the profile;
- To promote the integration of their research with other research interests within the Department of History and Civilisation as well as interdisciplinary research with the other Departments and Centres of the EUI. Candidates are invited to take into consideration the research priorities and existing research projects of the [Department of History and Civilisation \(eui.eu\)](http://eui.eu);
- To maintain a high research international profile of publications in books and in internationally recognised journals;
- To acquire research funding on an individual basis and in collaboration with others.

Teaching and supervision:

- To offer a variety of research and training seminars to postgraduate researchers;
- To provide high quality doctoral supervision and attract PhD researchers to the EUI;
- To act as mentors for Max Weber fellows and other postdoctoral fellows.

Administration:

- To make a significant contribution to the promotion of the EUI, and to contribute to the transition of EUI alumni into professional life;
- To make the best use of their research budget and try to supplement it with outside funding;
- To provide support for the Head of Department, amongst others by serving on appropriate Committees, and to contribute fully to the life the Department and the Institute;
- To contribute to the promotion of cultural diversity in the Department and the EUI.

Working in the European University Institute

The European University Institute (EUI) is a postgraduate research institute set up in 1976 by the Member States of the European Union. It is not an institution of the European Union, but an intergovernmental organisation in its own right, funded directly by the signatory Member States.

The EUI consists of four academic departments: Economics, History and Civilisation, Law, and Political and Social Sciences; an interdisciplinary postdoctoral training programme: the Max Weber Programme; an interdisciplinary research centre: the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies; and the School of Transnational Governance, focussing on teaching and training of governance beyond the State. The PhD researchers of the EUI are drawn mainly from the graduates of universities in the Member States, with a smaller number of researchers from third countries globally.

There are no special citizenship requirements for faculty members. In order to work effectively at the EUI, the professors have to be fluent in English and have a working knowledge of at least one other EU language. Teaching is mostly done in English. PhD theses and seminar papers are mainly written in English, but a number of them are written in French, German, Spanish, Italian or in other European languages.

The Department of History and Civilisation

The Department of History and Civilisation focuses on the history of Europe in the World from the 15th century to the present. Its members share a common endeavour to rethink the history of Europe with an expanded focus on transnational connections and circulation of ideas, goods and people, and with specific attention to Europeans' diverse roles and places in the world. The Department strives to see the history of the continent not as the sum of the histories of nation states and empires, but as a dynamic and shifting balance between universalizing and particularistic institutions, ideas and practices. The Department specializes in the comparative, transnational and global history of Europe in a long-term perspective, in order to make sense of long cycles of transformation and of the sedimentation of ideas, institutions, social and political formations that have defined Europeans.

Our faculty's commitment to making visible the complex links between societies, often in different parts of the world, demands agility and flexibility, since we mentor projects that link many parts of Europe and the world over many chronological periods. Our central concerns are the interconnections among European societies and cultures, processes of integration and disintegration, which we study using the methodological approaches of cultural and social history, politics and economics, intellectual history and the history of science. We examine Europe's place in the world by studying empires, patterns of globalization, cross-cultural contacts, colonialism and de-colonization, and attempts at developing systems of international governance.

The Department is committed to the promotion of innovative historiographical and methodological practices. Through its connections with the other departments of the EUI and the Robert Schuman Centre, the Department also works to promote interdisciplinary dialogue. The Department seeks to relate research on the past to current contemporary preoccupations.

The Department aims at full integration of all professors, researchers, postdoctoral fellows, and visiting scholars in its programme. Coming from many different intellectual

traditions, they all contribute to the rich diversity and plurality of approaches in the Department, and act as a stimulus to new thinking.

A list of current professors in the Department can be found at [People \(eui.eu\)](http://People.eui.eu).

Teaching and Supervision

As the Institute has only postgraduate students (generally referred to as researchers), teaching takes the form of seminars (which meet for one two-hour session a week), and continuous supervision of researchers. The Department's curriculum is structured around a small number of broadly conceived seminar series (called "Area seminars") which first- and second-year researchers are required to follow. These seminars have a broad, conceptual and diachronic focus, for example Gender and Sexuality, International History, Global History, Intellectual and Cultural History, History and Social Sciences, and so on. A second set of "Research Seminars" focuses on more specific topics of current interest to professors and students. Finally, "Writing Workshops" address the researchers' need for skills specific to dissertation writing. Professors usually teach one Area Seminar, one Writing Workshop, and one Research Seminar each year. Most seminars are co-taught.

Faculty members are obliged, by contract, to continue supervision of their PhD researchers even after they have left the Institute for another position.

Research

Apart from teaching and supervision, the major part of professors' work is devoted to research. Research at the Institute is supported by an excellent Academic Library. The Library's principal collection consists of traditional resources of printed books, documents and journals, and digital resources. The paper collections include some 538 current printed journals and more than 593,000 printed volumes in law, economics, history, political science sociology and international relations, completed with over 198,000 full text e-journals and over 610,000 e-books, numerous databases and networked CD-ROMs. The Library boasts a highly-qualified team of professionals, which includes information specialists and liaison officers, who provide support to the four departments, the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, the School of Transnational Governance and all post-doctoral programmes.

The ICT Service is user-oriented and has good resources for research in all areas of social and political sciences and the humanities.

The EUI hosts the Historical Archives of the European Union (HAEU), which preserve and make available to the public the documents produced by European Institutions, some European Agencies, as well as private archives and collections of European movements and personalities. The Department has a strong connection with the Alcide De Gasperi Research Centre on the History of European Integration based at the HAEU.

Each professor normally receives a flat allocation every year upon presentation of a short description of his/her project. Supplementary funding may be obtained on a yearly basis from the Institute's Research Council, which is composed of external advisors, for innovative projects and for co-operative projects involving several professors. Research projects should have an international dimension. Although no guarantee can be offered, EUI funding usually allows for the employment of a part-time assistant and for organising seminars and workshops. In addition, professors are strongly encouraged to

raise external funds. In so doing, they receive the assistance of the research support unit. The EUI has a very high success rate in seeking external funding for its research.

Applicants are requested to present a research project for the duration of about five years (which corresponds to first contract). If short-listed, this project will serve as a basis for discussion during the interview, and if appointed, be circulated to members of the Academic Council.

Administrative Duties

Departmental meetings are held monthly. One faculty member acts as Head of Department, and meets frequently with the Heads of other Departments and with the President of the Institute to prepare the meetings of the Institute faculty, the Academic Council. All professors are required to be present in the Departmental meetings and in the plenary sessions of the Academic Council.

Professors also have the responsibility of screening applications for the doctoral programme and for post-doctoral fellowships. Professors are expected to participate in committees to select new colleagues. Some colleagues serve on Institute-level committees, dealing with Library and ICT issues, Admissions, etc.

Staff in the Department

The Department of History and Civilisation is currently composed of 12 full-time professors, a part-time professor, a departmental coordinator, and five administrative assistants. Each year about six to eight funded Fernand Braudel Senior Fellows join the Department for limited periods of time. The Institute also hosts some sixty Max Weber postdoctoral fellows. This is a free-standing interdisciplinary training programme and around ten of these Max Weber Fellows are associated with the Department of History and Civilisation. The fellows often work closely with an individual professor or group of professors. In addition, a number of other fellows and scholars visit the Department each year for shorter periods, offering brief lecture courses in their fields of interest.

Conditions of employment – salary – benefits

The European University Institute is an equal opportunity employer.

Full-time professors at the EUI are appointed on a five-year contract with possibility of renewal for further three years.

The EUI offers a competitive salary and several benefits, including family allowance packages and generous severance grant.

In particular,

- The amount of take-home salary varies and depends on seniority, eligibility to expatriation, household, dependent children and other allowances.
- Under the terms of the Convention establishing the Institute, EUI professors are exempt from income tax on their salary paid by the Institute anywhere in the Contracting States. In lieu of national taxes, a deduction is carried out by the Institute.

Summary of Conditions of Employment and Benefits

- Expatriation or foreign residence allowance of 16% or 4%, depending on circumstances;
- Household allowance;
- Dependent child allowance;
- Pre-school allowance (for children aged less than 6);
- Education allowance (for children up to the age of 26 in educational or vocational training);
- Possibility to opt for the Institute's social security scheme for the risks of sickness, maternity, accident and occupational disease, invalidity. The health insurance administered by the EU Joint Sickness Insurance Scheme (JSIS) for the contract holder and dependent family. An average of 80% of medical or dental expenses may be reimbursed upon presentation of invoices and/or upon prior authorisation;
- Possibility either to opt for the Institute's social security scheme for the risks of invalidity, death and old age/severance, or for a payment to be made into a national or private social security fund. In the former case, 10,25% of an EUI professor's salary is withheld monthly; twice this amount is contributed by the Institute. Upon departure a generous severance grant, corresponding to approx. 30% of the aggregate of the basic salary is paid.
- Installation (and reinstallation) allowance;
- Reimbursement of removal costs upon entry/termination of service, if applicable, up to a maximum equivalent of a monthly basic salary;
- Travel expenses upon entry/termination of service and annual flat-rate payment of travel expenses based on distance from Florence to the place of origin, if entitled to expatriation or foreign residence allowance;
- Other benefits which may apply.

The Human Resources Service is available to provide more information based on the actual family situation of the short-listed candidates.

The recruitment procedure at the EUI

The rules governing the selection procedure of full-time Professors are laid down in Annex III the Conditions of Employment of the Teaching Staff of the EUI ([CETS](#)).

When a chair is vacant, the Department (in case of a Joint Chair, together with the RSC) submits a profile for the chair to be filled to the Academic Council, which sets up the Selection Committee.

The selection committee is composed of professors from the EUI, external experts, the President of the EUI (consultative voice) and a representative of the researcher students (consultative voice).

According to the Annex III of Conditions of Employment of the Teaching Staff of the EUI, the Selection Board shall:

- assess how well the academic curriculum and experience of candidates fit the profile of the post to be filled;
- take candidates' publications into consideration;
- assess candidates' suitability to fit in the Department's and the Institute's work programme in consultation with the Department;

- assess the interest to the Institute of research planned by candidates.

In the shortlisting process, the committee members first assess the eligibility and the suitability to the advertised profile of the applications submitted. In a second step, after consensus has been reached among the Committee regarding the first step, the Committee discusses the candidates that fulfil the criteria, and in a comparative evaluation, taking into account the needs of the hosting academic unit regarding the position, sets up the final shortlist.

Having set up a shortlist the Committee subsequently interviews the shortlisted candidates and submits a recommendation of one or more candidates to be appointed.

The Committee's recommendation is transmitted to the Academic Council, which acts as a sovereign body for appointments.

Tentative schedule for the present procedure

The schedule we would like to adhere to is the following:

- shortlisting decisions are expected to be made by around mid-February;
- interviews and departmental presentations are expected to take place around mid-March 2024 (exact dates to be announced here shortly);
- the Selection Committee proposal will be submitted to the first available Academic Council;
- the successful candidate is expected to commence in September 2024 or as soon thereafter as can be satisfactorily arranged.

Application file

Your file should contain the following elements.

- 1) **Application form** (to be filled in [online](#)) in which you are invited to provide your personal data, and to indicate two “**signature publications**” which you consider most representative of your work, one of them an article and the other one either a monograph or an article. Normally they should be single-authored. If you submit jointly authored work please specify the contribution of each co-author. Please provide the full bibliographic citation and if available, also a link to the publication.

Please submit four names of possible **referees** whom the EUI may contact. The referees should not include members of the professorial staff of the EUI. Please give us the names and e-mail addresses of referees who know you in both your teaching and research functions.

The Selection Committee may consult other external experts if it considers that helpful to its deliberations.

Attach the following documents as PDF files to the online application form:

- 2) **Cover letter**
- 3) **CV**: Please present a **short** CV of maximum 5 pages including education, professional experience, prizes and other major achievements.

- 4) **List of publications:** Please present a list of your books, contributions to books, journal articles, and other relevant publications.
- 5) **Research project:** The research project should be designed to cover a five year contract and correspond to the profile. It should specify the objectives and scope of the project and give indications on the background, especially how it relates to work you have already undertaken and published. It should also give some preliminary indications about the methodology you intend to follow in exploring the proposed hypotheses or theories; indications as to the empirical components and sources; management of the research especially its organisation and the possible running of a research team. It should also include some preliminary indications on the type of outcome you have in mind. The project should preferably be written in English, and have a length of up to 2000 words.

Formal applications should be submitted [online](#) by **15 January 2024** at midnight (CET). For any queries about the application procedure you may contact applypro@eui.eu.

Practical information about life in Florence

Learning Italian

The Institute's Centre for Academic Literacies and Languages offers intensive Italian courses in September and less intensive courses throughout the year. Some other European languages are also taught. [Centre for Academic Literacies and Languages \(CALL\) \(eui.eu\)](#).

There are several private language schools in Florence.

Housing

Rents are very variable, likely figures for Florence and its immediate surroundings are € 550-650 for a studio, € 700-850 for a one-bedroom flat, and from € 900 for a two-bedroom flat. Larger flats with three or four bedrooms run from € 2000, depending on size and location.

The Real Estate and Facilities Service has a Housing Office through which you can be offered accommodation at the EUI flats [EUI Residential Accommodation • European University Institute](#).

Accommodations on the private market are instead offered by Florence Housing Service - the Real Estate Agency which offers free service exclusively for the EUI members.

For more information you may consult [EUI4U Housing Service • European University Institute](#).

Day care and Schools

The EUI has a Crèche which provides preschool childcare.

In addition to private and public Italian schools there is a French, an International School and a Canadian School in Florence:

The French school offers a programme that goes from Maternelle to Terminale, a good programme that many at the Institute take advantage of. Further information is available at [Lycée Victor Hugo - Un établissement de la Mission laïque française \(vhugo.eu\)](http://vhugo.eu).

The International School of Florence (ISF) offers an elementary through to high-school programme in English. Places should be reserved as soon as possible and are expensive. The high school offers the International Baccalaureate, which is recognised for university entrance throughout the world. Its American high school diploma is also recognised by the Italian government as equivalent to that of a *liceo linguistico*. Further information: [The International School of Florence \(isfitaly.org\)](http://isfitaly.org).

The Canadian School of Florence is an international school that promotes global education in an international environment, and offers programmes from Kindergarten to Senior School: [Home - Canadian School of Florence \(csflorence.it\)](http://csflorence.it).

More detailed information about day care and schools is available in our website at [About the Crèche • European University Institute \(eui.eu\)](http://eui.eu)
[Nurseries, Preschools, Schools • European University Institute \(eui.eu\)](http://eui.eu).

Potential applicants requiring information beyond that contained in these further particulars are welcome to contact the Head of Department, Prof. Corinna Unger (e-mail: corinna.unger@eui.eu).