

Florence, May 2023

Assistant Professor in Computational Social Science

Please find enclosed information about this vacancy and about the Department of Political and Social Sciences.

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 **14 September 2023**.

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
Acting Director
Academic Service

Assistant Professor in Computational Social Science

The Department of Political and Social Sciences at the European University Institute seeks to appoint an Assistant Professor in Computational Social Science, broadly understood. The position is advertised at the rank of Assistant Professor to commence in the academic year 2024/25.

We welcome applicants from candidates with a substantive research agenda either in political science or in sociology, and who integrate research ethics into their methods teaching and research.

Candidates should have a PhD by September 2024. The candidates should show strong research potential and a capacity for effective teaching and advising at graduate level.

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

The successful candidate 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 his/her research with other research interests within the Department of Political and Social Sciences as well as 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 Political and Social Sciences \(eui.eu\)](https://www.eui.eu);
- To maintain a high national and 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 teach effectively postgraduate students both in introductory and research seminars;
- To assist with high quality doctoral supervision and attract research students to the EUI;
- To act as mentor 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, especially in academic careers;
- To make the best use of his/her 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 general 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 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 research students of the EUI are drawn mainly from the graduates of universities in the Member States, with a small number of students from third countries globally.

There are no special citizenship requirements for faculty members. In order to work effectively 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 Political and Social Sciences

The Department of Political and Social Sciences (SPS) is one of Europe's leading centres for research and doctoral studies in comparative politics and public policy, political behaviour and political sociology, the sociology of inequality and social demography, analytic sociology, the welfare state and political economy, and international relations and security. We focus on contemporary challenges facing European politics and societies, with a meta-theoretical interest in the interplay of institutional dynamics with their behavioral context. Our faculty, doctoral researchers and postdocs come from a broad range of countries spanning all of Europe and beyond.

The Department favours a multi-faceted approach to research projects and theses, many of which cut across the conventional boundaries. The Department also encourages broader cross-disciplinary work. It has good working relations in both teaching and research with the departments of Law, History and Economics, and with the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, and is at the centre of extensive international networks. It hosts a number of large, collaborative projects financed by the European Commission Framework programmes or other external sources. The Department also has many individual projects resulting in single-authored books and articles.

Teaching and Supervision

The teaching contract requires Institute professors to conduct not less than 60 hours of teaching in the course of the academic year, in addition to their supervision of individual researchers. The teaching is organised in three terms: the first runs from October to December, the second from January to Easter, and the third from Easter to June. During the first two terms teaching mainly takes the form of ten two-hour seminars. In the third term more use is made of day-long workshops and other innovative methods, designed to meet particular training needs of small groups of researchers.

Typically, some 25 to 35 research students are admitted to the department's doctoral programme each year.

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

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 546 current printed journals and more than 589,000 printed volumes in law, economics, history, political science sociology and international relations, completed with over 142,000 full text e-journals and over 598,000 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.

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. These committees do not occupy more than a very small part of professors' time.

Staff in the Department

The Department of Political and Social Sciences currently comprises 12 professorial chairs, (two joint with the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies), a Departmental administrative coordinator and five administrative assistants. Details of the research and teaching interests of the professors are available on the Department's web page. Each year about five or six funded Fernand Braudel Fellows join the Department for limited periods, and a number of Visiting Fellows come for periods between half a year and a year. The Institute also hosts some fifty Max Weber postdoctoral fellows. This is a free-standing interdisciplinary training programme and around a dozen of these Max Weber Fellows are associated with the Department of Political and Social Sciences. In addition, a number of scholars visit the Department each year for shorter periods.

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 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). The Academic Service is in charge of the secretariat.

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 should be made by the end of October 2023;
- interviews and departmental presentations will take place 4-5 December 2023;
- 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 **14 September 2023** at midnight (CEST). For any queries about the application procedure you may contact applypro@eui.eu.

Practical information about life in Florence

Learning Italian

The Institute's Language Centre offers intensive Italian courses in September and less intensive courses throughout the year. Some other European languages are also taught. [Language Centre \(eui.eu\)](http://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.](#)

Daycare and Schools

The EUI has a Crèche which provides preschool childcare.

In addition to private and public Italian schools there is a French and an international 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 www.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: www.isfitaly.org.

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

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