



The EUI has an open vacancy for a

Research Fellow in the Department of Economics

Florence, 02 October 2023

Reference: V/RF/ECO/2/2023

Who we are

The **European University Institute** (EUI) at a glance:

- an **international organisation** set up in 1972;
- a research university focusing exclusively on **postgraduate, doctoral and post-doctoral studies**, and advanced research;
- located in the hills overlooking the city of Florence, Italy.

The Institute also hosts the Historical Archives of the European Union.

The EUI's **Department of Economics** (ECO) brings together scholars from all over Europe in a stimulating and innovative research environment.

ECO focuses on a wide range of topics in the fields of microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics. ECO runs one of Europe's leading Ph.D. programmes, a MRes in Economics and brings together scholars from all over Europe in a stimulating, innovative and outstanding research environment.

Employment details

Contract type

Part-time 80% (24/30, 32 hours/week)

Length of contract

Start date: Negotiable (to be agreed with the Project Director)

End date: 31 August 2027, of which:

- until 31 December 2025 on the DIPVAR project;
- from 1 January 2026 until 31 August 2027 on the DFG-funded project.

This contract may be further renewed (several times and conditional to the availability of funds), leading to an extension of the period of service up to a total of 5 years, including the first contract period.

This contract is subject to funding availability.

Salary indication and grade

Grade: CDR3 step 1

The basic net monthly salary after taxes is approximately 2.940 Euro, plus allowances if applicable.

More information about conditions of employment is available [here](#).

Place of work

Florence, Italy

About the project

Project Director(s)

Prof. Özlem Bedre Defolie

Project details

The research fellow is expected to work on the following two projects:

1. [Digital Platforms: Pricing, Variety, and Quality Provision \(DIPVAR\)](#) is a European Research Council Starting Grant, which runs until 31 December 2025. Its main goals are investigating the implications of digital platforms' business practices on variety and quality provision to buyers; on small rivals, and on potential platform entry.
2. "Consumer Behavior and Search on Platforms" is a German Science Foundation (DFG)-funded project, which runs until 31 August 2027. The main objectives of the project are to develop a general search model to study how consumers search on platforms for their best matches and how platforms can influence this search behavior via the different instruments that are available to them. The project considers fully rational consumer behavior as well as consumers with biases, like strategic naïvete and limited attention.

Job description

The research fellow will carry out research work in an independent manner and collaborate on the research work of the two projects described above. The research fellow will work in close collaboration with the Project Director (Prof. Özlem Bedre Defolie) and her team members (co-authors in these projects).

Main tasks include:

- Carrying out research on firms' strategies in pricing, recommendations, quality provision, data collection, innovation, etc, in digital markets, and consequences of these strategies on their rivals, consumers and welfare.
- Collaborating with the project leader on a research project analyzing the implications of marketplaces selling their own products in the marketplace.
- Working on the development of the general search framework for the DFG project: modeling consumer search behavior on platforms, modeling different platform instruments to influence consumer search, identifying potential distortions due to private incentives, and studying the implications of different policy interventions.
- Providing research assistance to the project leader on the analysis of research papers in the projects, literature review, verification of proofs, and simulations of theoretical models.
- Publishing research papers in the peer-reviewed top general economics and top IO field journals, like American Economic Review, Review of

Qualifications and experience

Qualifications and Experience

Essential:

- PhD in Economics from a structured and internationally recognized PhD programme;
- Proven knowledge of and expertise in microeconomic theory, industrial organization and applications of digital markets;
- Proven knowledge of software packages Mathematica and Latex.

Desirable:

- Demonstrated experience in doing independent research in the relevant topics of the projects.

Languages

Excellent knowledge of English, both spoken and written ([CEFR](#) level: C1 or above). Knowledge of other languages constitutes an advantage.

How to apply

Deadline

The closing date for applications is **01 December 2023** at midnight (Florence time)

Contact details

For more information contact Manuela Corsini (manuela.corsini@eui.eu)

How to apply

Fill in the [online application form](#) and upload documents as requested.

Candidates should submit in one single pdf document:

- **motivation letter**
- **CV**
- at least **one job market paper**

In addition, they should send three academic reference letters directly to manuela.corsini@eui.eu .

Data Protection

The purpose of processing the data submitted by candidates is to manage their application in view of a possible pre-selection and recruitment by the EUI. The information candidates provide in their application form is collected

for the purpose of the selection procedure. The EUI will ensure that candidates' personal data are processed as required by its Data Protection Policy ([President's Decision No. 10/2019 of 18 February 2019 regarding Data Protection at the EUI](#)).

Equal opportunities

The European University Institute applies a policy of equal opportunities, which, in accordance with Article 1d of its Staff Regulations, prohibits discrimination on any grounds such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation. Any reference in this notice to a person of the male sex must be deemed also to constitute a reference to a person of the female sex.