



The EUI has an open vacancy for a

Research Assistant in the Department of History and Civilization

Florence, 03 February 2023

Reference: **V/RA/HEC/1/2023**

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 **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 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.

Employment details

Contract type	Part time 30%, 9/30 (12 hours/week)
Length of contract	12 months. Start date 16 April 2023 (negotiable) 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.
Salary indication and grade	Grade: Astac1e, step 1 The basic net monthly salary after taxes is approximately 608.00 Euro, plus

allowances if applicable.

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

Place of work

To be agreed with Project Director, salary simulation based on place of work Florence, Italy.

About the project

Project Director

Prof. Laura Lee Downs

Project details

SOCIOBORD (Social Politics in European Borderlands. A Comparative and Transnational Study, 1870s-1990s)

SOCIOBORD is a 5-year ERC project started in September 2020. It seeks to reframe the history of welfare and social care in modern Europe by restoring to view the contribution of families and associations to shaping welfare systems in three borderland regions of north-western, eastern, and south-eastern Europe from the 1870s till the 1990s. By focusing on the interactions among local actors and following developments from the late 19th century to the 1990s, this project turns our attention to the co-construction of welfare by public and private actors in highly mixed borderlands, where the reach of central states often fluctuated and a range of local welfare structures, based on national, but also non- national forms of identity/solidarity (e.g., occupation, gender or religion) flourished.

We do this by conducting intensively researched local case studies in the chosen borderland regions: Galicia, the North-eastern Adriatic and the Franco/Belgian/German border regions. Each case study investigates how families and voluntary associations negotiated over entitlements to welfare, focusing in particular on support to children, veterans and working-class women. The case studies are then placed in comparative and transnational frameworks so as to facilitate the analysis of similarities and differences between north-western, eastern and south-eastern borderlands while tracing the circulation of ideas, people and practices. Rather than treating borderlands as peripheries, SOCIOBORD approaches them as laboratories for the development of social protection, thanks to the dense variety of actors competing for influence over their putative objects of assistance and for access to material resources. Ultimately, the goal is to restore to view the vital role that families and voluntary welfare associations have long played in creating and delivering new forms of social welfare in Europe's many borderland regions. For the long-range historical study of local actors' ideas and practices around social welfare in European borderlands has much to tell us about the development of welfare across Europe in general.

Job description

The research assistant will provide research support to the Director of the project. Main tasks include:

- Developing a case study on the veterans' welfare in the North Adriatic borderland post 1945 through the socialist period;
- Contributing to the development of SOCIOBORD's comparative and transnational methodology;
- Contributing to the project's collective publications;
- Contributing to the project's dissemination efforts.

Qualifications and experience

Qualifications and Experience

Essential:

- BA in History;
- Proven expertise in the fields of Borderlands studies, Social History, History of Modern Associational Life;
- Demonstrated familiarity with histories of veterans;
- Proven experience in working with the categories of age, gender, ethnicity and nationality in intersectional manner;
- Demonstrated experience in participating in international research collaborations.

Desirable:

- PhD, preferably in modern European social history;
- Proven familiarity with gender history;

Languages

Excellent knowledge of English, both written and spoken (CEFR level: C1 or above). Good knowledge (CEFR level: B1 or above) of Serbian, Croatian, Italian and/or Slovenian constitutes an advantage.

How to apply

Deadline

The closing date for applications is **22 February 2023** at midnight (Florence time)

Contact details

For more information contact Francesca Fazio, francesca.fazio@eui.eu

How to apply

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

1. CV in English (2 pages max);
2. Short description of a potential case study (1 page max);
3. Motivational letter (1 page max).