



The EUI has an open vacancy for a

## Research Fellow in the

# Department of Political and Social Sciences

Florence, 16 October 2023

Reference: V/RF/SPS/8/2023

### 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 Political and Social Sciences (SPS) is one of Europe's leading centres for research on comparative politics, political behaviour and political sociology, the sociology of inequality, analytic sociology, and international relations and security and is European and international in character.

### Employment details

<b>Contract type</b>	Full-time (30/30, 40 hours/week)
<b>Length of contract</b>	Up to 3 years (negotiable). Start date: to be agreed with Project Director  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.
<b>Salary indication and grade</b>	Grade: CDR3 step 1  The basic net monthly salary after taxes is approximately 3.640 Euro, plus allowances if applicable.  More information about conditions of employment is available <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>Place of work</b>	Florence, Italy

## About the project

**Project Director(s)** Prof Elias Dinas

**Project details** The Post-Authoritarian Norms and the Ideological Legacy of Dictatorships (POSTNORM) project started in September 2023 and will last five years.

The research team aims to unpack the ways in which past authoritarian regimes affect the hearts and minds of citizens and political elites, upon democratic transition. The idea here is to examine how the ideological associations with the old (authoritarian) regime serve as a focal point for norms about what are appropriate political positions for voters and parties, and what are not. We will search into ways to shed light on this process by disentangling private from revealed preferences. The project consists of two packages, the first looking at public opinion through survey experiments and the second looking at both semantic and programmatic choices made by political elites. The major challenge in the first package will be to innovate in detecting the role of social pressure and beliefs about appropriateness in the expression of political preferences. The major challenge in the second package is to innovate in the usage of political text as a way of looking at how elites respond to the presence of such political norms.

**Job description** The research fellow will carry out research work in an independent manner and collaborate on the research work of the project. The research assistant will provide research assistance to the Project Director(s).

Main tasks include:

- Supporting the conduct of survey experiments;
- Retrieving and analysing parliamentary speeches and other sources using text-as-data methods;
- Assembling data about parties across multiple countries over time;
- Contributing to the statistical analysis and the writing-up of academic papers.

## Qualifications and experience

**Qualifications and Experience**

**Essential:**

- PhD in political science or other relevant field in social sciences (PhD students about to defend their thesis are eligible conditional on the successful thesis defence by the contract start date);
- Publications in the field of comparative politics, or related fields;
- Demonstrated expertise in quantitative methods, in particular proven experience in causal inference and statistical learning methods.

**Desirable:**

- Demonstrated ability in programming with R and/or Python programming languages.

## 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 ~~15 November 2023~~ **30 November 2023** at midnight (Florence time)

### Contact details

For more information contact Manuela Corsini ([manuela.corsini@eui.eu](mailto:manuela.corsini@eui.eu))

### How to apply

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

Please submit in one single pdf document:

- An **application letter** describing motivation and qualifications related to the position and the project
- **CV**

In addition, please send directly to [manuela.corsini@eui.eu](mailto:manuela.corsini@eui.eu):

- 2 reference letters
- 2 research papers.

### 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.