



The EUI has an open vacancy for a

Research Assistant in the

Department of Political and Social Sciences

Florence, 15 March 2024

Reference: V/RA/SPS/1/2024

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

Contract type	Part-time 60% (18/30, 24 hours/week)
Length of contract	7 months, start date 16 May 2024
Salary indication and grade	Grade: ASTAC1e step 1 The basic net monthly salary after taxes is approximately 1,320 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. Anton Hemerijck

Project details

The *Normative Foundations of the Social Investment Welfare State* project. Over the past four decades, European welfare states have experienced a groundswell of reform. In the process, the Social Investment Approach (SIA) has emerged as an integrated policy framework aimed at adapting the welfare state to the new realities of post-industrial economies and ageing societies. By and large, social investment reform advocacy has been framed in terms of a positive-sum solution to the equity-efficiency tradeoff. However, the normative recalibration embedded in core aspects of the social investment turn —its focus on dual-earner families, (gendered) labour market transitions, cumulative disadvantage, capacitation, and inter-generational fairness— has gone under the radar. The objective of this project is thus to engage in a long overdue debate on the normative foundations of the social investment welfare states and to (re)connect positive social policy analysis and normative theory.

Job description

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

- Reviewing literature, historical reconstruction of the normative-ideational underpinnings of the post-war welfare state in Europe, contextualization of SIA within contemporary political philosophy;
- Supporting the normative and conceptual analysis of the key concepts pertaining to SIA, and the development of the normative framework of SIA based on the critical engagement both with classical, and more recent and interdisciplinary works social and political theory;
- Supporting the dissemination and communication of the research project outputs
- Contributing to the high-quality research toward the goals of the project, in an independent and collaborative manner;
- Working in a team together with PI and collaborating with other research project members on the topics of the project;

Qualifications and experience

Qualifications and Experience

Essential:

- BA (or equivalent according to EHEA) in social and political sciences or equivalent;
- Proven experience in normative research, political theory and philosophy;
- Demonstrated expertise in the Social Investment paradigm, the historical development of the welfare state, and EU political dynamics acquired through previous experience.

Desirable:

- MA (or equivalent according to EHEA) in social and political sciences or equivalent;
- Proven research focus on normative foundations of the welfare state or a similar topic.
- Previous experience in an international organisation and/or in an academic environment

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 **29 March 2024** at midnight (Florence time)

Contact details For more information contact claudia.fanti@eui.eu

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

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.