



## Call Research

### 2 Research Fellowships

The Centre for Social Studies (CES) – Associate Laboratory - University of Coimbra (Portugal), opens a call for applications for 2 research fellowships (Master degree – Bolsa de Investigação) in the project “*EXCHANGE* - Forensic Geneticists and the Transnational Exchange of DNA data in the EU: Engaging Science with Social Control, Citizenship and Democracy” (Grant agreement no.: 648608), funded by the European Research Council, and coordinated by Dr. Helena Machado ([https://www.ces.uc.pt/investigadores/cv/helena\\_machado.php](https://www.ces.uc.pt/investigadores/cv/helena_machado.php)).

CES provides a stimulating intellectual environment in the domain of social sciences and humanities. The Exchange project will be hosted at the research group on Science, Economy and Society – NECES, which integrates a research line on Social Studies of Science. NECES is a renowned research group in the field of social studies of science and technology in Portugal, with several connections to other similar research teams in the EU.

#### Link:

CES: [http://www.ces.uc.pt/index.php?id\\_lingua=2](http://www.ces.uc.pt/index.php?id_lingua=2)

NECES: <http://www.ces.uc.pt/nucleos/neces/pages/en/presentation.php>

#### a. Project Description:

EU Law (Prüm Decision, 2008) obliges all Member States to create the conditions for the reciprocal automated searching and comparison of information on DNA data for the purpose of combating cross-border crime, terrorism and illegal immigration. Forensic geneticists play a crucial role in this scenario: they develop the techno-scientific procedures that enable DNA data to be shared across countries. *EXCHANGE* studies the close links between a highly specialised field of expert knowledge – forensic genetics – and surveillance in the EU.

The project’s key objectives are: 1. Provide a general picture of the implementation of the Prüm Decision in the EU; 2. Develop in-depth knowledge of forensic geneticists’ activities relating to Prüm, by resorting to interviews, ethnographic observation and analysis of criminal cases; 3. Understand national positionings in relation to Prüm by means of a comparative study involving the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal and the UK. *EXCHANGE* stimulates interdisciplinary dialogue between the social sciences and the forensic genetics.

**b. Scientific field:** Social Sciences (Social Studies of Science and Technology, Surveillance Studies).

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## c. Tasks

- Conduct field research according to the work plan (section d.)
- Write and complete a PhD dissertation and 3 articles in international journals within four years
- Participate in conferences, workshops, seminars and other scholarly activities

## d. Admission requirements and criteria, and their evaluation weighting:

1. A completed MA degree in a field of SSH, in a field relevant to the project such as Science and Technology Studies, Sociology, Criminology and Political Science (20%);
2. Documented training and experience in using qualitative methodologies in the social sciences, and documental analysis (20%);
3. Relevant research experience and/or publications (20%);
4. Interest in developing a PhD project within the scope of the project's thematic area (15%);
5. Proficiency in English (25%).

## d. Work plan:

The selected researchers are expected to contribute to the implementation of the project's scientific tasks, as well as to support any activities associated with the project's general goals. Especially, the selected researchers will be asked to gather, organize and analyse qualitative data, carry out a critical review of literature, conduct fieldwork, guarantee support in research management and networking with partners, among other tasks needed for a sound management and implementation of the project's goals.

Particularly, the 2 PhDs will be involved in the following tasks: a) Ethnographic observation of forensic geneticist's activities; b) Analysis of transnational criminal cases; c) In-depth interviews with scientists, law authorities and representatives of national data protection authority in The Netherlands, Poland and Portugal and the UK.

## e. Applicable Legislation and Regulations:

Portuguese Law nº 40/2004, of 18 August (Scientific Research Fellow Statute) and successive amendments, FCT's (National Agency for Science and Technology) Regulations for Advanced Training and Qualification of Human Resources 2013 (<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/regulamento.phtml.en>), and Regulations for Fellowships at the Centre for Social Studies (<http://www.ces.uc.pt/oportunidades/documentos/Regulamento de Bolsas CES 2008.pdf>).

## f. Work place:

The tasks will be performed at the Centre for Social Studies facilities or in other locations when necessary for the good implementation of the work plan, under the scientific supervision of the Principal Investigator.

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**g. Duration of the fellowship contract:**

The fellowship will last 12 months, starting on the 1st of September of 2015. The fellowship contract may be extended for equal or different time periods, during four years, depending on the Principal Investigator's assessment on the performance of the fellow and his/her developed activities as defined in their work plan.

**h. Monthly allowance:**

The monthly stipend is 1.250 euros, based on a full-time position (35 hours per week). The payment of the Voluntary Social Insurance and the Personal Accident Insurance adds up to this amount.

**i. Selection process:**

Applicants will be selected based on their curricular evaluation. In case of equivalent curricular evaluations, the strongest applications will be selected for a short-list that will be evaluated through an interview, conducted in English, meant to assess the applicant's potential in integrating the project scientific dynamic and his/her motivation in pursuing studies related to the project's thematic areas.

**j. Selection panel:**

- Helena Machado (President)
- João Paulo Dias (permanent member)
- Tiago Santos Pereira (permanent member)

**k. Results publication:**

All candidates will receive the results by email. The meeting minutes of the selection panel will become available publicly.

**l. Application deadline:**

Open on: 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2015  
Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2015

**m. Application process:**

Applications must include:

- a) a letter of intent/motivation in English;
- b) the detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- c) copies of degree certificates and other relevant documents for eligibility purposes (the degree certificate of the qualification must be obtained before the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2015); and
- d) two publications (max.).

The applications can be handed personally, at CES' facilities, or sent by postal mail, with stamp due until the final deadline, to the following address, with clear indication of the reference of this call and the name of the applicant:

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CES promotes equal opportunities.



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