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## Call for Application 1 Research Fellowship

The Centre for Social Studies (CES) – Associate Laboratory - University of Coimbra (Portugal), opens a call for applications for 1 research fellowship (Master degree – Bolsa de Investigação) in the project **'Enabling Multichannel Participation Through ICT Adaptations – EMPATIA'** (Grant Agreement no.: 687920 – EMPATIA – H2020-ICT-2015/H2020-ICT-2015), funded by the Horizon2020 Program of the European Commission and coordinated by Dr. Giovanni Allegretti ([http://www.ces.uc.pt/investigadores/cv/giovanni\\_allegretti.php](http://www.ces.uc.pt/investigadores/cv/giovanni_allegretti.php)).

CES provides a stimulating intellectual environment in the domain of social sciences and humanities. The EMPATIA project will be hosted at the DECIDE – Research Group on Democracy, Citizenship and Law, which has focused its activity on questions such as the organisation of the political community and its multiple relations with the State and experiences of democratic participation and decentralization, among others.

The project will be also associated with the Observatory on Participation, Innovation and Local Government (PEOPLES'), which is a meeting and exchange place on topics related to the participation of citizens in the construction of policies and projects for the territory. It is place to provide reflections on innovations that transform the structure, powers and organizational and political culture of the levels of government closest to the citizen.

### Link:

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

DECIDE: [http://www.ces.uc.pt/nucleos/decide/?id\\_lingua=2&pag=10901](http://www.ces.uc.pt/nucleos/decide/?id_lingua=2&pag=10901)

PEOPLES': <http://peoples.ces.uc.pt/pages/en/home.php>

H2020 Call ICT-10-2015:

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/922-ict-10-2015.html>

EMPATIA project (temp. website): <http://empatia-project.eu/>

### a. Project Description:

The EMPATIA project seeks to radically enhance the inclusiveness and impact of Participatory budgeting (PB) processes, increasing the participation of citizens by designing, evaluating and making publicly available an advanced ICT platform for participatory budgeting, which could be

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adaptable to different social and institutional contexts. EMPATIA is a 24-month project that seeks to design, evaluate, refine and widely disseminate such a platform as an open-source public good. EMPATIA aims at producing the first ICT platform capable of fully encompassing both the decision-making cycle and the implementation cycle of PB whose integration is considered indispensable by literature as the main driver of the self-sustainability process.

Three Pilots with citizens of three diverse PB communities - the municipalities of Lisbon (Portugal), Ričany (Czech Republic) and Bonn (Germany) - will implement, analyse and validate the EMPATIA platform.

## **b. Scientific field:** Social Sciences

## **c. Tasks:**

- Literature review, analysis and data collection on the use of collaborative platforms in the design and management of PB in Europe, in order to define a logical framework for research and analysis of multi-channel PB;
- Support knowledge transfer regarding Models, Methodologies, Scenarios & Requirements for the EMPATIA platform (and related ethic and legal issues) between the research team and the project partners in charge for software development and testing;
- Conduct fieldwork research, namely, conduct in-depth interviews with experts and high-level stakeholders and eventually support the team in charge of the monitoring of the Lisbon PB pilot in connection with the project partners;
- Organize and conduct Focus Groups and analyze the quantitative data gathered;
- Contribute to the production of EMPATIA project deliverables and participate in project meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars, dissemination activities and other scholarly activities;
- General administrative and logistical support to the organization of project activities and meetings, including a frequent presence in the seat of the project coordination in Coimbra;

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

1. A completed Master degree in a field of Social Sciences or other disciplinary fields relevant to the main topics of EMPATIA project (20%);
2. Documented training and experience in using quantitative and qualitative methodologies in the social sciences, and documental analysis (25%);
3. Research experience and/or publications in the field of Social Sciences and/or in the field of Information and Computer Sciences, relevant to the main topics of EMPATIA project (20%);
4. Experience or academic interest on one (or more) of the following fields: Citizen Engagement, Open Government, design and management of Participatory Processes, Social Inclusion (20%);
5. Proficiency in English and good knowledge of Portuguese (10%);
6. Computer literacy skills and proficiency in programming languages (5%);
7. Experience on Collaborative Software development and management would be considered an important added value.

## **f. Work plan:**

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The selected researcher is 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 researcher will be asked to gather, organize and analyse quantitative and 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.

In detail, the researcher will be asked to support the activities of the WP1 of EMPATIA project *Foundations and Models for Multichannel Participatory Budgeting*, focused on the following objectives:

- To assure a comprehensive study of existing works in the scope of Participatory Budgeting, exploiting new possibilities and proposing innovative solutions.
- To define reference scenarios for participatory budgeting, taking into account the potentialities of using ICT.
- To identify and evaluate the technical requirements for the system (functional and non-functional) derived from the created set of reference scenarios.

## g. 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 2015 (<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](http://www.ces.uc.pt/oportunidades/documentos/Regulamento_de_Bolsas_CES_2008.pdf)).

## h. 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.

## i. Duration of the fellowship contract:

The fellowship will last 1 year, starting on the 1st of March of 2016. The fellowship contract may be extended for equal or different time periods, until the end of the project (established on 31<sup>st</sup> of December of 2017), depending on the Principal Investigator's assessment on the performance of the fellow and his/her developed activities as defined in his/her work plan.

## j. Monthly allowance:

The monthly stipend can vary between 900 and 1100 Euros, depending on the level of experience, based on a full-time position (35 hours per week) and according with the Regulations for



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Fellowships at the Centre for Social Studies. The payment of the Voluntary Social Insurance and the Personal Accident Insurance adds up to this amount.

## **k. 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's scientific dynamic and his/her motivation in pursuing studies related to the project's thematic areas.

## **l. Selection panel:**

- Giovanni Allegretti (President)
- Ana Raquel Matos (permanent member)
- João Arriscado Nunes (permanent member)

## **m. Results publication:**

All candidates will receive the results by email. The meeting minutes of the selection panel will become available publicly. The candidates which will receive a score of at least 80 points will be contacted for an interview (in person or via videoconference) before the decision on the winner is taken.

## **n. Application deadline:**

Open on: January 26, 2016

Deadline: February 25, 2016

## **o. Application process:**

Applications must include:

- a) a letter of intent/motivation in English, including a reference about the topic that the candidate would like to propose for the PhD thesis;
- b) the detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- c) copies of degree certificates and other relevant documents for eligibility purposes;
- d) two publications (max.);
- e) certificates or other relevant documents to demonstrate language and computer proficiency



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skills;

The applications can be handed personally, at CES' facilities, 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 or sent to the following email address: [empatia@empatia-project.eu](mailto:empatia@empatia-project.eu)

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Reference: **CES-BI/2/2016**  
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CES promotes equal opportunities.