

Job offer: Assistant Researcher

Job reference: 20250409/001

Main research area: Law

Sub-research area: AI, digital law and cyberlaw

I – Object and scope

Job description:

COFAC - Cooperativa de Formação e Animação Cultural crl./Universidade Lusófona, opens a call for the recruitment of a PhD researcher, corresponding to the position of Assistant Estatuto da Carreira de Investigação Científica, with an open-ended Employment Contract, under the terms of the applicable legislation and within the scope of the Program Contracts between the Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, I.P (FCT), and the above-mentioned Cooperativa, supported by national funds included in the budget of the Foundation for Science and Technology - and carried out at Centro de Estudos Avançados em Direito Francisco Suárez.

Justification

The urgency of strengthening the institution's research capacity in the field of law, particularly in the context of international projects, reinforces the need for this position. The effective management of requests for external funding is key to the growth and development of the institution, ensuring a substantial contribution to the excellence of research and innovation. The hiring of an assistant investigator specialising in Artificial Intelligence, Digital and Cyber Law reflects our commitment to addressing the legal challenges posed by new technologies. This strategic measure places our institution at the forefront of legal education and research in these dynamic fields. By bringing in a candidate with expertise in AI, digital law and e-law, we aim to enhance our academic offerings, contribute valuable research knowledge and actively participate in shaping legal frameworks in the digital age.

Scientific profile

This position seeks a dynamic and research-oriented individual, with a predominant focus on research activities, particularly in the field of European and International Law, with a specialization in Artificial Intelligence, Digital and Cyber Law.

The main objective is to strengthen participation in research projects, with an emphasis on European initiatives, and to secure external funding. The selected candidate will also play a crucial role in developing and strengthening strategic networks, fostering scientific partnerships and facilitating collaborations to promote synergy among researchers.

The recruit will conclude an employment contract of indefinite duration, in the category for which this competition was opened, with a trial period of five years. The call is aimed at PhDs with high potential and research capacity who

wish to enter the university career.

The Joint Order No. 373/2000, of 31 March, of the Ministro da Reforma do Estado e da Administração Pública e da Ministra para a Igualdade, determines the obligation, in entrance and access competitions, to make the following mention:

" Em cumprimento da alínea h) do artigo 9.º da Constituição, a Administração Pública, enquanto entidade empregadora, promove ativamente uma política de igualdade de oportunidades entre homens e mulheres no acesso ao emprego e na progressão profissional, providenciando escrupulosamente no sentido de evitar toda e qualquer forma de discriminação." (In compliance with Article 9, h) of the Constitution, the Public Administration, as an employer, actively promotes a policy of equal opportunities between men and women in access to employment and professional progression, scrupulously ensuring that all forms of discrimination are avoided).

In this sense, terms such as "candidate", "selected", "recruited", "provided", "author", "teacher", among others that referred to the people who apply for the competition, are not used, in this Notice, to refer to their gender. Likewise, no candidate may be privileged, benefited, prejudiced or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty on the grounds of, in particular, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership. In accordance with Articles 37 to 51 of the ECDU and other applicable legislation, the following provisions shall be observed:

II — Place of work

Lusófona University, located in Campo Grande, 1749-024 Lisbon. The researcher to be hired will take up duties at the Francisco Suárez Centre for Advanced Studies in Law, where he will carry out research activity.

III — Conditions for admission to the competition

- a) Hold a doctoral degree, in accordance with the provisions of article 41-A of the ECDU, in Law, in the last 5 years, demonstrating adequate work capacity for the activities to be developed integrated in a multidisciplinary team.
 - i. Holders of a doctoral degree obtained abroad must have equivalence or recognition or registration of that degree to an identical degree granted by a Portuguese university
 - ii. Candidates who do not yet hold equivalence or recognition or registration of the degree, must apply for the recognition of the doctoral degree, in accordance with Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of 16 August, in its current wording, and this recognition must be obtained by the deadline that will be granted to the candidate, selected to occupy the job, to deliver the documentation proving that he/she meets the requirements for admission to the competition, and is therefore eligible to enter into the respective employment contract.
- b) Preferably, to have participated in national and/or international R&D projects and activities, and developed research and dissemination activity in Artificial Intelligence, Digital Law and Cyberlaw, considering the privileged focal areas of research of CEAD Francisco Suárez and specifically Digital Transformation.
- c) Demonstrated ability to formulate research proposals and conduct innovative research.
- d) Solid skills in building and maintaining national and international networks and in the establishing strategic partnerships with research institutions, academics and relevant entities.

- e) Solid experience in project management, preferably in a research context.
- f) Strong organizational skills with the ability to perform various tasks and define priorities effectively.
- g) Knowledge of European funding programmes is an advantage.h) Have good knowledge of written and spoken Portuguese.
- i) Applicants of foreign nationality, except those from Portuguese-speaking countries, must, at the time of application, submit a declaration under oath that requires them to demonstrate, within one year after the signing of a possible contract, a level of knowledge of the Portuguese language (written and spoken) that allows the assignment of teaching service, without any limitations on communication in Portuguese with students.
- j) Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English.
- k) Not be the holder of a legal employment relationship for an indefinite period in careers Research Scientific, University Lecturer and Polytechnic Higher Education Lecturer, and/or indefinite in national institutions not covered by the Career Statutes.
- l) Had a temporary contract or fellowship as a doctoral student in an institution of the National Science and Technology System on a date prior to the publication of this notice.

Failure to deliver any of the documents that must instruct the application, within the deadline and under the terms indicated in Chapters VI and VII of this notice, determines the non-admission of the same, prior to the Jury's deliberation on the absolute merit.

IV — Main Functions

1. Design, coordination and execution of research projects: The candidate will be responsible for the design, coordination and execution of research projects. A key aspect of this role is the active search for funding opportunities, especially for European research programmes. It involves initiating and leading research projects exploring legal frameworks related to artificial intelligence, digital technologies and cyberlaw.
2. Proposal formulation: The ability to craft competitive proposals is vital. The candidate must have the necessary competence to carry out innovative research, contributing to the intellectual growth of the institution.
3. Ability to establish networks: the researcher is expected to demonstrate proficiency in the construction and maintenance of networks at national, national and international levels. Establishing strategic partnerships with research institutions, academics and relevant entities is essential to promote scientific collaboration and ensure the success of research projects.
4. Student tutoring: The recruit will play a key role in guiding and tutoring students, fostering their interest in the intersection of law and emerging technologies. This included supervising research projects and providing support to students seeking careers at the intersection of law and technology.

V — Contractual Terms

- a) The position of PhD researcher is made effective by means of an employment contract without term, funded by FCT for a maximum period of 6 years, under the terms of Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of 9 August, amended by Law No. 57/2017, of 19 July, and of the Portuguese Labour Code.

- b) The tasks to be performed in the fulfilment of this function are those considered within the scope of the Centro de Estudos Avançados em Direito Francisco Suárez.
- c) The contract to be signed is scheduled to start on June 1, 2025.
- d) The tasks included in the object of the employment contract take place at the facilities of the Campo Grande 376, in Lisbon or in the places considered necessary for the implementation of the research plan.
- e) Remuneration conditions pursuant to Article 15(1)(a) of Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of 9 August, amended by Law no. 57/2017, of 19 July, and to the first remuneration position of the initial level provided for in article 2 of Regulatory Decree no. 11-A/2017, of 29 December, corresponding to position 195 of the Statute of the Scientific Research Career, approved by Decree-Law no. 124/99, of 20 April.

Jurisdiction and opening of insolvency proceedings

- a) COFAC - Cooperative for Cultural Training and Animation, srl., the founding entity of the Lusofona University, author of the opening of this call.
- b) The publication of the procedure complies with the provisions of article 11 of Decree-Law no. 57/2016, of 29 August, amended by Law No. 57/2017, of 19 July.

VI – Submission and instruction of applications

Applicants to this call (announcement) should send their application by email, in PDF format, to the following email address: gestao.talento@ulusofona.pt with the subject: 20250409/001.

VII – Instruction of applications

The application must, under penalty of exclusion from the competition, be mandatorily accompanied by the following documents, in pdf format (allowing text copying, but not editing):

- a) Cover letter written in English, mentioning the reasons that justified the application.
 - b) Curriculum vitae referring to professional experience, accompanied by a list of publications
 - c) Doctoral certificate.
 - d) Document proving that he/she had a temporary contract or fellowship as a doctoral student in an institution of the National Science and Technology System on a date prior to the publication of this notice.
 - e) Personal data and contact information with the respective e-mail addresses - at least two renowned academics who can attest to the curriculum presented.
 - f) Other documents considered relevant by the candidate and that, from the perspective of the candidate, are relevant to attest and evaluate the scientific and professional history.
1. Excluding the elements mentioned in paragraph e), failure to comply with any of the requirements listed in the previous paragraph will determine the immediate rejection of the application.
 2. False statements made by applicants shall be punished in accordance with the law.

VIII – Deadline

Applications are open until May 4, 2025 at 17:00 (Lisbon time).

IX – Constitution of the jury

The jury is made up of three members appointed by the Board of Directors of COFAC, srl. In accordance with article 13 of Decree-Law no. 57/2016, of 29 August, amended by Law no. 57/2017, of 19 July, the following members were appointed:

President - Manuel José Damásio (Director of ILIND)

Members

- i. Prof. Dr. José de Faria Costa
- ii. Prof. Inês Godinho

Member of the alternate jury

Prof. Dr. Graça Canto Moniz

1. Competencies

- 1.1. The jury will evaluate the applications.
- 1.2. Minutes of each meeting of the jury will be drawn up, including the issues discussed and the votes of each Associate Professor and one of the members, as well as the reasons for the decisions taken.

2- Selection method

2.1. Applications admitted to the call will be evaluated taking into account the quality, compliance with deadlines and relevance of the scientific curriculum, scientific production and research experience appropriate to the strategic objectives of CEAD, as well as the professional curriculum of the candidates, in addition to the level of adequacy to the proposed work plan.

2.2. In the selection process, the jury will evaluate the set of elements listed below on a scale of 0 to 100:

- a) The candidate's scientific career, giving particular relevance to the scientific work carried out or published in the last 5 years in areas related to the work plan object of the call (up to 35% of the evaluation of this phase).
- b) The candidate's professional experience, with special emphasis on the activities of the last 5 years, carried out in areas related to the work plan object of the call (up to 55% of the evaluation of this phase).
- c) Cover letter in English (10% of the evaluation), to assess the candidate's motivation and interest for the activities to be carried out (5% of the assessment) and proficiency in English (5% of the assessment).
- d) If the jury chooses to interview the candidates, which is exclusively for clarification of aspects related to the results of their research (corresponding to a maximum of 10% of the total evaluation), up to 5 candidates from those who obtained the highest classification will be considered - in any case, only evaluations higher than 60% will be considered.

e) If deemed necessary, the jury may request the testimony of leading academics mentioned in Article 6, No. 6.1, line d).

2.3. In case of a tie, the final decision will be the responsibility of the president of the jury.

2.4. After the conclusion of the selection phases, the jury will prepare, within a period of no more than 7 working days, a draft that will include the final decision, a classification of the admitted candidates with their respective final grades, as well as a brief description of the recruitment, evaluation and selection process.

X - Prior hearing

The final decision of the jury, referred to in paragraph 2.4 of the previous paragraph, is communicated to the interested parties so that, in the exercise of the right of prior hearing provided for by the Code of Administrative Procedure, they may, within 10 working days, make their opinion.

XI – Approval

When the deadline for exercising the right to a prior hearing has expired, the final decision of the jury is certified by the President of the Executive Committee of COFAC, srl., who is also responsible for deciding on the recruitment of the selected candidate.

XII - Disclosure of results

The list of admitted and rejected candidates, as well as the respective final grades, will be posted at the premises of the Lusófona University - University Center of Lisbon, at Avenida do Campo Grande, no. 376, in Lisbon and, in addition, will be published on the website <https://cead.ulusofona.pt/>; Candidates will be notified by email.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy: COFAC/Universidade Lusófona actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, in which no candidate may be privileged, benefited, disadvantaged or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty based on, namely, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and trade union membership (Law No. 93/2017, 23 August).

Data protection: By applying, you agree to the use of your personal data by COFAC/Universidade Lusófona staff for the exclusive purposes of this public tender. The administrative staff of COFAC/Universidade Lusófona will use their contacts to contact you directly, and in the publication of the results, in accordance with the principles established by the GDPR.