

Call for applications CES/18/2026-RA-TRACE

RESEARCH ASSISTANT – 1 (one) vacancy

The Centre for Social Studies (CES) – Associate Laboratory - University of Coimbra (Portugal), opens a call for applications for one (1) Research Assistant in the project TRACE – Tracing Queer Citizenship over Time: Ageing, ageism and age-related LGBTI+ politics in Europe – Grant Agreement 101044915, funded by the European Union within the scope of the European Research Council (ERC), and coordinated at CES by Ana Cristina Santos.

CES provides a stimulating intellectual environment in social sciences and humanities. The project is part of Thematic Line 2 "Democracy, Justice and Human Rights" of the Centre for Social Studies.

a. Project Description:

TRACE – Tracing Queer Citizenship over Time: Ageing, ageism and age-related LGBTI+ politics in Europe. In recent years, ageing has been considered a priority area in both governmental policies and research agendas. Sitting at the intersection between Gender and LGBTI Studies, on the one hand, and Age, Ageing and Life Course Studies on the other, and bringing together distant memories and the current daily management of intimate life, TRACE sociologically explores the impacts in later life of growing up in a time when legal recognition was not available for LGBTI+ people. TRACE pays particular attention to issues related to health and well-being, care and intimacy.

Taking queer citizenship as a set of criteria through which democracies can be evaluated, TRACE also explores the extent to which the EU has influenced local political and socio-legal advancements in LGBTI+ rights, narratives and experiences over time. To respond to this aim, TRACE develops an innovative age-sensitive, analytical lens focused on ageing, ageism and age-related LGBTI+ politics through which progress and backlash in countries that experienced substantial changes in their intimate citizenship regimes are investigated.

Expected duration of the project: 48 months, started on January 1, 2023.

b. Scientific field:

Educational Sciences and/or Gender Studies.

c. Work plan, tasks:

The selected candidate is expected to have the following responsibilities:

- Adjusting outputs to different audiences and age groups, especially to children and teenagers;
- Co-designing and implementing social media strategies;
- Updating the project's website;
- Supporting the PI and the team in designing and disseminating policy-briefs, research summaries, executive reports and other scientific outputs;
- Supporting the PI and the team in dissemination and communication events, including social awareness sessions in schools, care facilities and other educational and/or health-related settings;
- Supporting the PI and the team in liaising with journalists, policy-makers, healthcare staff and other forms of stakeholders engagement;
- Supporting the PI and the team in events organized by the project, and other required dissemination, communication and networking activities.

All of the above tasks require proficiency in written and spoken Portuguese and English.

d. Applicable Legislation and Regulations:

Labour Code Law No. 7/2009, of February 12th (and subsequent amendments).

e. 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, Ana Cristina Santos.

f. Duration of the contract:

The temporary contract ("termo incerto") will be signed for the sole purpose of the execution of the projects and will automatically end with the completion of the activities foreseen in the activity plan. Moreover, according to Article 112 of the Labour Code, paragraph 2 a), a trial period of 30 days is established. The contract will be foreseeably starting in October 2026.

g. Application dates:

Opens on: July 31, 2026

Closes on: August 17, 2026

After August 17, 2026, 23h59 Lisbon time, applications will not be considered for evaluation.

h. Application process:

Applications must include:

- a) a letter of intent/motivation in English with the reference CES/18/2026-RA-TRACE, e-mail and phone number;
- b) detailed Curriculum Vitae in English, highlighting the items most relevant to the topic and work plan of the call;
- c) copy of Master's degree certificate and other relevant documents for eligibility purposes (candidates must meet the Mandatory Requirements and conditions indicated in point k.);
 - c1) Applicants need to have a Master's degree by the deadline of this call.

If, for the duration of the application period, the applicant does not have proof of recognition of their academic degree by the Portuguese Higher Education System (law DL66/2018), they must submit a declaration of honour committing themselves to deliver the recognition of the degree within 30 days after the communication of the application results (**Mandatory**).

- c2) Proficiency in the Portuguese language, unless the candidate is a native speaker of Portuguese.
- d) other relevant documents for eligibility purposes.

Applications should be sent by e-mail to concursos@ces.uc.pt by the application deadline date. The "Subject" field of the e-mail must contain the reference of the call and the applicant's name (i.e. CES/18/2026-RA-TRACE - NAME OF APPLICANT).

SKILLS/ QUALIFICATIONS

i. Preferred selection criteria and their weighing:

1. Adequacy of the CV to the project description, research objectives and work plan (20%);
2. Research experience in multidisciplinary teams within the fields of gender, diversity, equality and well-being (20%);
3. Demonstrated experience in methodologies of education, communication and dissemination, in particular in educational, policy and health-related settings, and to a variety of publics of all ages (20%);
4. Demonstrated experience in social media strategies and related adequate tools (e.g. Audacity, Canva and Wordpress) (20%);
5. Demonstrated experience in outreach activities and training, as well as other dissemination events, both as a co-organizer and spokesperson (20%).

The jury reserves the right not to select any candidate.

BENEFITS

j. Monthly Allowance

The monthly salary is 1387,63 euros gross (plus months 13 and 14), equivalent to level 16 of the TRU, meal allowance, and all social security charges, in accordance with the Portuguese Labour Code.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

k. Mandatory requirements

Hold a Master's degree in Educational Sciences and/or Gender Studies.

1. (see associated conditions in a) and b);
 - a) Applicants need to have a Master's degree by the deadline of this call.
 - b) Applicants with an academic degree and diploma issued by a foreign Higher Education Institution must present proof of recognition of the academic degree by the Portuguese Higher Education System, (law DL66/2018). Any candidate without the recognition of the degree(s) will be admitted to the competition, but during the evaluation process, the selection panel cannot:

- i) recognize the candidate's grades and assess according to the possession of such grades;
- ii) give equivalence to, or validate, the grade of her/his degree;
- iii) use that note or its conversion as an evaluation parameter.

If, for the duration of the application period, the applicant does not have proof of recognition of their academic degree by the Portuguese Higher Education System (law DL66/2018), they must submit a declaration of honour committing themselves to deliver the recognition of the degree within 30 days after the communication of the application results (**Mandatory declaration of honour**).

In case of selection, the contract can only be signed after recognizing the academic degree by the Portuguese authorities, under the terms of the Law-decree n66/2018, August 16. The selected candidate must deliver the recognition of the degree within 30 days after the communication of the results. After the 30 days, the jury may decide to (1) either extend the deadline for the candidate to prove the recognition; (2) assign the contract to the second place; (3) or not award the contract.

2. Proficiency in Portuguese and in English.

SELECTION PROCESS

I. Selection process

Applicants will be selected based on their curricular evaluation. In case of equivalent curricular evaluations, the best-positioned applicants should be short-listed for an interview, meant to assess the applicant's potential in integrating the project's scientific dynamic and the applicant's motivation in pursuing studies related to the project's thematic areas. Each of the two methods of selection applied will have a rating of 50% in the final classification.

m. Selection panel:

- Ana Cristina Santos (president)
- Inês Nascimento Rodrigues (permanent member)
- Ana Lúcia Santos (permanent member)
- Miguel Cardina (substitute member)
- Carlos Nolasco (substitute member)

– Inês Amaral (substitute member)

n. Communication of Results:

All candidates will receive the results by e-mail. The meeting minutes of the selection panel will become available publicly. After the communication of results, applicants have 10 working days to present a redress to the evaluation and the result by e-mail.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Equality of opportunities:

CES abides by the national law that regulates the prevention, prohibition and fighting against discrimination on the grounds of racial and ethnic identity, colour, nationality, family background, territory of origin, and disability (Law nº 93/2017, 23 August; Law nº 4/2019, 10 January).

Data protection:

By submitting your application, you are agreeing with the use of your personal data by CES administrative services for the sole purpose of the current call, namely to be contacted directly by CES services and allow the communication of results as in point n. of this call. CES abides by the principles of GDPR.

Contact:

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