

JOB DESCRIPTION RESEARCHER SSHOC PROJECT

Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics, CEE (UMR 8239)
Sciences Po

Background

We are seeking to appoint a Researcher to work with Prof Laura Morales in the project “Social Sciences and Humanities Open Cloud (SSHOC)”, grant number 823782, of the H2020 programme INFRAEOSC-2018-2 funded by the European Commission.

SSHOC is a large-scale collaborative project and, within its larger scope, the team led by Prof Morales at CEE will take care of a sub-project in coordination with COST Action 16111 ETHMIGSURVEYDATA in order to consolidate a comprehensive (and constantly updated) database that lists all the hundreds of quantitative surveys undertaken with ethnic and migrant minority (sub)samples across Europe in a way that it complies with the FAIR principles. Additionally, the team at CEE will lead the development of a pilot sub-project that will allow assessing the feasibility of setting a full stream of the European Question Bank (EQB) dedicated to the ethnic and migrant minority (EMM) survey data that will be compiled by the COST Action ETHMIGSURVEYDATA, in coordination with other partners in the larger SSHOC project. The appointed research will thus join a large international team of experts from all across Europe on the integration of EMMs and on survey research and will have the chance to work on a research project that will break new ground in these fields. This is, thus, a unique opportunity to build a career in survey research focusing on this specific sub-population.

More specifically, the first sub-project will involve:

1. Ensuring that the database conforms to current international standards (DDI, Dublin Core, RDA recommendations, etc.);
2. Ensuring that the database is hosted in a research infrastructure that will ensure its sustainability over time and its constant update;
3. Ensuring that the database is generated with a technology that allows future data producers to add the metadata of their own surveys in an autonomous and decentralized fashion;
4. Ensuring that the database is, in itself, also Accessible and Interoperable and can be linked to OpenAire, the CESSDA Product and Service Catalogue, and any future European Open Science Cloud systems;
5. Ensuring that the database is integrated with the new platform that will be created by the recently awarded H2020 project CROSS-MIGRATION;
6. Ensuring that data producers and owners of the original survey datasets who have not previously deposited the data on a data archive/repository deposit the data in one of the social science data archives in Europe (ideally, integrated in CESSDA).

The second sub-project will involve:

1. Finding solutions for the automated retrieval of the questions from several hundreds of survey questionnaires that have for the most part not been processed as yet and in several languages;
2. Ensuring that the EQB links to the ETHMIGSURVEYDATA survey metadata database produced in the first sub-project and conforms to current international standards;

3. Exploring the ways that will allow future data producers to add the questions of their own surveys into the EQB in an autonomous and decentralized fashion so that it is constantly updated;
4. Exploring the ways that will allow for this stream of survey question metadata to be made Accessible and Interoperable, linked to OpenAire, the CESSDA Product and Service Catalogue, and any future European Open Science Cloud systems;
5. Exploring the ways in which this stream of survey question metadata in the EQB can be integrated with the new platform that will be created by the H2020 project CROSS-MIGRATION.

Contract details

The appointment is full-time and available from 18th February (or as soon as possible thereafter, and always before 11th March) with a contract duration of 24 months (renewable subject to funding).

Type of contract: Fixed-duration contract (CDD)

Gross salary (salaire brut): between €2,500 and € 3,000 per month depending on qualifications and experience.

Other contributions: partial contribution for transportation card within Paris, and restaurant tickets.

How to apply

Please send (1) a cover letter outlining precisely the qualifications and skills that match the requirements for the position, as well as the expected salary, (2) a CV and (3) an example describing previous work managing large-scale survey data or similar tasks to those involved in this project to linda.amrani@sciencespo.fr by 5 pm on Friday 25th January 2019.

Interviews will be planned for the week of 4th February.

Tasks

The RA will be expected to:

- Coordinate the team at CEE and within the COST Action ETHMIGSURVEYDATA with the SSHOC teams in order to achieve the goals of the two sub-projects;
- Prepare and undertake all the necessary tasks relating to the two sub-projects;
- Document the technical and research processes, outcomes and options emerging from both sub-projects and contributing to the writing and publication of all research papers and reports stemming from the two sub-projects;
- Responsible for the maintenance and version control of the data compiled. This will also include inputting of data and its safe storage using the agreed protocols, as defined by the research team Sciences Po's research data protection policy and any such protocols used within the SSHOC project;

- Identify and understand work requirements prioritising tasks and responsibilities within an agreed timeframe agreed with the Principal Investigator;
- The post holder will be required to effectively manage their time to deliver on the priorities of the project. The post holder will need to plan ahead to ensure the research is delivered in accordance with the overall research objectives and deadlines. This may include defining tasks and schedules, organising meetings, preparing intermediate reports on data and findings, and contributing to the project final report;
- Any other tasks that might be necessary for the proper undertaking of the role and the successful completion of the two sub-projects.

Requirements (please, do not apply if you do not meet those outlined as Essential)

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential:

- A postgraduate (MA/MSc) degree in any Social Science with a strong methodological focus relevant to the project, particularly involving the management of survey data. European degrees directly giving access to a PhD programme in their home university system will be regarded as equivalent to an MA/MSc/MRes for the purposes of this job application.*
- Demonstrable training in survey research methods and techniques at postgraduate level.*
- An expertise, backed up by research experience, in survey research and/or data science.*
- Prior research experience in externally funded projects.*
- Proficiency in English.*

Desirable, but not essential:

- Research experience in topics relating to ethnic and/or migrant integration.*
- A track record of international collaboration in social science research or consultancy experience.
- Postgraduate training at PhD level.
- An ability to communicate in French (active and passive use of the language).

Skills, Abilities and Competencies:

Essential:

- Proven ability of social science data input, management and analysis with Excel.*
- Proven ability of social science data input, management and analysis with Stata or R.*
- Proven ability to write up research findings.*
- Ability to take initiative, self-manage and contribute intellectually to the overall project.
- Expertise with relevant office packages.
- Ability to work as part of a team.
- Good oral and written communication skills.*
- Attention to detail.*

Desirable but not essential:

- Familiarity with international standards for the production, documentation and archiving of survey data (e.g. DDI, Dublin Core, RDA recommendations, etc.)
- Intermediate-level quantitative analysis skills (e.g. up to multivariate regression analysis).*
- Advanced quantitative skills (e.g. multilevel modelling, time-series analysis, etc.).*
- Evidence of coherent research activity (such as involvement in successful grant applications and publications).

*(*Criteria to be used to shortlist candidates for interview)*