



LABORATÓRIO DE INSTRUMENTAÇÃO E FÍSICA EXPERIMENTAL DE PARTÍCULAS

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE OPENING OF A POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The Laboratory of instrumentation and Experimental Particle Physics (LIP) is opening a position for a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship to perform research in the scientific area of Computational Social Sciences. This vacancy is open under the Project *FARE, Fake News and Real People* - Grant Agreement: 853566, funded by European Research Council.

1. Application requirements:

The candidate should have a PhD degree (obtained less than three years ago) in computer science, network science, informatics, bioinformatics, theoretical biology, mathematics, physics, or a related field, experience after the PhD in a quantitative field, and should have experience with cryptography. Expertise with computational analysis tools such as MATLAB, Mathematica or Python is required.

2. Work plan:

Recent events have raised serious concerns about the influence of the so-called fake news (FN). FARE will enrich current efforts, which mostly confront FN spreading from an applied perspective, by offering a *theoretical framework* that allows to make *testable predictions*. FARE argues that sharing of FN is a deviation from pure rationality and aims at understanding:

- 1) What are the role(s) that cognitive biases play in FN susceptibility and spread?
- 2) What are the role(s) that network features play in FN dynamics?
- 3) How do cognitive biases and network features interact to impact on FN spread?
- 4) How can we tackle such question in an ethical and society-focused manner?

The project will be developed in six main tasks:

- 1) Fake News Extraction and Classification;
- 2) Behavioural Framework and Cohort Creation;
- 3) Social Networks Dataset Creation and Analytics;
- 4) Theoretical Framework Development and Testing;
- 5) New Tools for Ethical Handling of Big Data;
- 6) Expert Panels and Results Dissemination

This is a very interdisciplinary project and the selected candidate will be participating in all tasks of this project (with a particular emphasis in Tasks 1 and 3), involving several members of the group, and is expected to be part of other research activities, such as journal club discussions and group meetings.

3. Applicable Legislation:

A fellowship contract will be celebrated according to the “Regulations for Research Grants of the Foundation for Science and Technology” in force, (<https://dre.pt/application/conteudo/127238533>), and to the Status of Scientific Research Fellow

(Law nº 40/2004, of 18 august, and its successive amendments). In the event of the PhD degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, the degree must comply with the provisions of the Decree-Law nº. 66/2018, of 16 august (<https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diplomarecognition>). The selected candidate must provide the recognition of the degree when signing the contract.

4. Duration: 12 months, starting on November 2020, eventually renewable following the FCT regulations (<https://dre.pt/application/conteudo/127238533>) and the duration of the Project.
5. Workplace: Research activities will be based in Lisbon (LIP and IST).
6. The monthly amount of the grant 1.616,00 € is in accordance with the values stipulated in the FCT Regulations (<https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores.phtml.pt>). This amount may be increased depending on the experience demonstrated by the candidate. The fellowship will be paid on a monthly basis through a bank transfer.
7. The selection method will consider: candidate's *curriculum vitae* and its relevance to the needs of the research project (60%), motivation letter (20%) and recommendations (20%).
8. Selection Panel: Prof. Mário Pimenta, Prof. Joana Sá and Prof. Patrícia Gonçalves
9. Advertising / notification of results: The results of the evaluation will be communicated by email through a list sorting the candidates, according to their attributed mark; in case of disagreement, the candidates have a period of 10 working days to contest the decision, as provided for in the Code of Administrative Procedure in a preliminary hearing. At the end of this period, the arguments presented will be analyzed by the jury committee, which will simultaneously communicate the final decision to all the candidates who submitted allegations. The final results of the shortlisted applicants will be communicated by e-mail. In case of disagreement, the candidates have a period of 15 working days to contest the decision.
10. Formalization of Application: The call is open from 19th October to 30th October 2020, 17:00 (Lisbon time).

Applications must be formalized, by submitting the following documents:

- Motivation letter;
- Detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- Transcripts of diplomas or degrees with final grades and other documents demonstrating the candidate's suitability for the required profile. Recognition of foreign diploma should also be delivered, if applicable;
- Contacts of two references who have supervised or worked directly with the candidate.
- Other documentation relevant for the evaluation of qualifications in a related scientific area.

Candidates shall submit their application files and supporting documentation, in a digital form, in PDF format, via email to natalia@lip.pt