

TWO PhD fellowships in Innovation and Smart Specialisation

JOB DESCRIPTION

INGENIO (CSIC-UPV) welcomes applications for two prestigious positions funded within the Marie-Sklodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network on ‘Policies for Smart Specialisation’ (POLISS).

Both are trainee positions that will provide promising early stage researchers with excellent opportunities for academic development leading to a doctoral degree. The appointments are for three years starting on the 1st of October 2020.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The PhD positions are funded by the EU-financed Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network “Policies for Smart Specialisation” (POLISS, grant agreement no. 860887). The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions ensure excellent and innovative research training as well as attractive career and knowledge-exchange opportunities through cross-border and cross-sector mobility of researchers, to better prepare early-stage researchers for current and future societal challenges. The Innovative Training Networks scheme aims to train a new generation of creative, entrepreneurial and innovative early-stage researchers.

POLISS is a joint collaboration of 7 leading European academic institutions and 14 partners spanning local governments, development agencies, international organizations, research institutes and private companies. The goal of POLISS is to make the design, implementation and evaluation of Smart Specialisation policies more effective in Europe. The project comprises 14 PhD positions, of which two will work at INGENIO, in Valencia, Spain. The research focus of these two positions is specified below.

Smart Specialisation is the European Union’s main innovation strategy. It encourages all regions to identify their current and potential economic strengths, and to focus their innovation investments accordingly. The POLISS project aims at tackling some of the persisting challenges involved in both the conceptualization and the implementation of smart specialization strategies through a series of complementary Work Packages.

The PhD positions based at INGENIO will cover two topics:

1. The analysis of the design and implementation of monitoring mechanisms through a series of up to five case studies in European regions that have implemented effectively these systems. Case studies will be contextualized within the broader framework of local governance arrangements with a view to understand how political processes and policy instruments can shape the effectiveness of monitoring, and the capacity of regional actors to learn from experience (Supervisors: Pedro Marques <http://www.ingenio.upv.es/en/people/pedro-marques>; Davide Consoli <http://www.ingenio.upv.es/en/people/davide-consoli>)
2. The analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of coordination mechanisms associated to the performance of local innovation networks in two different regions. The analysis will be carried out by means of multiple network analysis techniques such as Social Network Analysis (SNA) or

the multicriteria decision technique Analytic Network Process (ANP). This research will allow us to identify the organisational competencies and coordination mechanisms to overcome the implementation challenges of regional specialisation strategies (Supervisors: Monica Garcia Melon <http://www.ingenio.upv.es/en/people/monica-garcia-melon>; Pablo D'Este <http://www.ingenio.upv.es/en/people/pablo-deste>)

Applicants are requested to indicate their preference for one of the two positions in the motivation letter.

Successful candidates are expected to participate in training activities within the POLISS network, in particular: three summer schools and two winter schools, where they will meet and engage with the other 12 PhD students, and with faculty from all 7 Universities involved. Candidates will also have a co-supervisor from their international secondment institution and a non-academic mentor from a regional partner organization.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

We are looking for applicants with a strong academic background who have recently completed a Master's degree or equivalent in economics, human geography, political sciences, industrial engineering, or other relevant social sciences, or who possess corresponding qualifications that could provide a basis for successfully completing a doctorate. Specialisation in regional and/or innovation studies will be beneficial.

Candidates who complete their Master's degrees in the summer of 2020 are also invited to apply.

In compliance with the eligibility criteria of the H2020-MSCA-ITN programme, INGENIO will only consider candidates who have not resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) **in Spain for more than 12 months** of the 3 years immediately before the recruitment date (excluding holidays and other short stays). Furthermore, candidates must be **in the first four years of their research careers** and cannot hold a doctoral degree.

In the evaluation, emphasis will be placed on:

- motivation and potential for research within the field,
- ability to work independently and in a team, be innovative and creative ability, to work structured and handle a heavy workload,
- having an excellent command of both oral and written English.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Motivation letter – max. 1 page
- Bachelor's and Master's degree diploma
- Curriculum Vitae

BENEFITS AND SALARY

The successful candidates will receive an attractive salary in accordance with the MSCA regulations for early stage researchers. The salary is dependent on the country correction factor (to allow for the difference in cost of living in different EU Member States). The living allowance for an ITN is currently 3270 EUR/month and the correction coefficient for Spain is

95.4%. In addition, researchers will receive a mobility allowance (€600 per month) and (if eligible) a family allowance (€500 per month).

Each researcher will be appointed for 36 months. All researchers will be expected to participate in research training within their host institutions, as well as in 5 network-wide summer or winter schools. Each researcher/PhD student will have a co-supervisor from an international institution in the network and a non-academic mentor from a regional partner organisation. They will also spend one international secondment with an academic institution and one secondment with the local non-academic partner, and will be able to benefit from support for attending other training events and conferences.

RECRUITMENT

All of the Universities in this network are equal opportunities employers and all candidates will be recruited under gender-neutral recruitment processes. The project aims for gender balance among the researchers recruited to the network.

DEADLINE

The deadline to submit an application is the 17th of April. Applications should be sent to: Pedro Marques, p.marques@ingenio.upv.es and Monica Garcia Melon, mgarciam@dpi.upv.es. Any questions or enquiries about these positions can be sent to the same emails.

A number of selected candidates will be contacted for an interview on Skype, which will be held in English.

ABOUT US

INGENIO (CSIC-UPV) is a research centre affiliated to the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and the Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV), which currently employs 26 researchers and hosts over 20 PhD students. Founded in November 1999, INGENIO has conducted twenty years of research on the complex relationships between science, technology, innovation and society. INGENIO aims to undertake high quality and socially relevant research that advances knowledge and contributes to addressing societal challenges. To achieve these dual objectives, INGENIO is organized as a multidisciplinary research centre that recognizes and fosters the advantages of collaborative knowledge production to address complex scientific and socio-economic problems. INGENIO also actively seeks to engage and work with a diverse range of academic, industry and civil society partners.

CSIC is Spain's largest public research institution, and ranks third among Europe's largest research organization. It plays a key role in scientific and technological policy in Spain and worldwide. According to its Statute (Article 4), CSIC has 4 main missions: to foster multidisciplinary scientific and technological research; knowledge transfer to industry and society; education and training of scientific and technical staff; and, creation of Technology Based Companies. CSIC has 3.764 researchers working in 123 Institutes in all regions of Spain and covering different areas of science and technology.

UPV is a prestigious public institution of international renown, with approximately 36.000 students, 2,843 teaching and research staff, 2.396 administrative and service staff, with around 52 million euros devoted to R&D activities. It has circa 45 research institutes employing over 3000 researchers. The UPV is ranked first in Spain for technological universities according to the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), also known as Shanghai Ranking.