Job Announcement: 1 Early Stage Researcher (ESR)/PhD Student
at ‘Human Development, Capability and Poverty International Research Centre’ (HDCP-IRC), Institute for Advanced Study IUSS, Pavia (Italy)

FP7/People - Marie Curie Initial Training Networks

An exciting opportunity has arisen for highly motivated early stage researchers (ESR) with strong training in social sciences and or economics to join the Marie Curie EDUWEL Initial Training Network (ITN) for three years from 1 July 2010. The ITN “Education as Welfare - Enhancing opportunities for socially vulnerable youth in Europe” consists of 15 partner institution from 9 countries with interdisciplinary research experience and expertise based in leading European university departments and social, economic and political stakeholders. The ITN aims to consolidate research on education and welfare and evaluate its capacity to tackle the multiple challenges and pressures a large proportion of young people in Europe face in transition from school to working life. The scientific objective of the research and training programme is to identify factors with which to extend young people's opportunities and capabilities in work, autonomy and participation - the central dimensions of welfare using the theoretical framework of the capability approach.

Fifteen ESRs will be recruited across the Network. Each will be expected to complete a doctorate on one of the three working groups’ topics. Early Stage Researchers should be in the first 4 years of their career (experience is counted at date of appointment) and have not yet obtained a PhD. The ESR must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the host country for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to their recruitment. The network programme is taught in English and is open to students from all countries with a Master’s degree in social sciences. Applicants must comply with the Marie Curie Actions rules for eligibility and mobility. Alongside their individual research projects, the ESRs will also design and conduct a comparative Education-as-Welfare survey that will serve as one aspect of their common methodological training and research in the ITN. Each ESR will benefit from a three year contract research appointment, a personal mobility allowance, funding for travel, international collaborations, secondments within the Working Group to other partners, and network wide training organized by the ITN network, including mentoring and supervision by a thesis committee within the European wide interdisciplinary network of academic and non-academic partners; regular seminars and project work at the host university; network wide training events; training for complementary skills; and career planning.

Sub Research Field Working Group 1: Education and welfare in transition to adulthood - methodological and empirical issues’ (WG1) offers 1 PhD project in Pavia/Italy

The Working Group One is investigating ‘Education and welfare in transition to adulthood: methodological and empirical issues’ (WG1). It consists of four academic institutions, two based in Italy (University of Florence and Institute for Advanced Study, Pavia) and two in Sweden (Gothenburg and Umeå) and in addition the associated partner ORSEU, an non-academic research institute from France (Lille).

The WG1 is particularly focused on conceptual, methodological and empirical issues related to the operationalization of the capability approach. Four ESRs will be recruited for WP1. The ESRs will
receive particular training in the use of statistics and econometric models. If applicable, secondary datasets will be combined and triangulated with qualitative research. All the above Institutions will offer their support to the ESRs involved in WG1 so to allow them to work in a strictly integrated manner.

The four doctoral research topics are:
1. Human capital and human capabilities (Gothenburg and Pavia)
2. Young peoples’ living conditions and the activation of capabilities in the transitions to adulthood (Gothenburg and Pavia)
3. Structural conditions, youth characteristics and institutions affecting young people’s capabilities and successful transitions to adulthood (Umeå and Florence)
4. Capabilities of socially vulnerable youth (Umeå and Florence)

**Job Summary**

The WG1 is aimed to reformulate and operationalize the capability approach. In particular:

- from the conceptual point of view, it will reconsider the role of education in terms of individual well-being from a capability perspective focusing on three central dimensions and their interrelations: i) being able to autonomously choose and live a life one has reason to value; ii) being able to work; iii) being able to participate in political and social life.
- from the methodological point of view, a mixture of quantitative methodological tools (longitudinal studies, inter-temporal models, fuzzy set methodologies, among others) will be considered and tested. Special attention will also be paid to qualitative methods and the possibility to integrate the two qual-quant approaches.
- finally, from the empirical point of view, it will examine the temporal lag between current investment decisions in human capital and future effects on human capabilities paying a special attention to socially vulnerable youth (e.g. gender, disability and migration factors). Both national and international datasets will be used.

The overall research activity related to WG1 is organized in 4 interrelated PhD Projects. While each ESRs student will develop his/her own research in an independent manner, they will also have the opportunity to work in a coordinated manner with the other ESRs and partners involved in WG1. Each PhD candidate will be formally affiliated to two of the above mentioned academic institutions (Pavia, Florence, Gothenburg and Umeå). Namely;

- a home Institution, where the PhD candidate shall be formally enrolled in a PhD programme;
- a host Institution, where the PhD candidate will develop large part of his/her research job.

The PhD candidate will have the opportunity to visit other WG1 Institutions as well as the other partners of the Marie Curie ITN.

**Job descriptions**

**PhD Project n. 2**

**Host Institution: Human Development, Capability and Poverty International Research Centre (HDCP-IRC) at the Institute for Advanced Study, IUSS Pavia (Italy)**

**Home Institution: Department of Sociology, University of Gothenburg (Sweden)**

The PhD project ‘**Young peoples’ living conditions and the activation of capabilities in the transitions to adulthood**’ will focus on living conditions in late adolescence and transitions into early adulthood. The aim is to develop our knowledge about how upbringing conditions affects young peoples’ human capital and human capabilities. The ESR will within the project primarily do quantitative research with Swedish longitudinal databases, in particular data from Undersökningar av levnadsförhållanden (The Survey of Living Conditions) in combination with follow up register data
from Longitudinell Integrationsdatabas för Sjukförsäkrings- och Arbetsmarknadsstudier. Other databases such as the EU-SILC might also be utilized in the project

**Job announcement related to Project n.2**

**Type of contract**
Temporary for 36 months from 7/2010 – 7/2013

**Status**
Full-time

**Company/Institute**
Institute for Advanced Study IUSS, Pavia (Italy), Human Development, Capability and Poverty International Research Center’ [http://www.iusspavia.it](http://www.iusspavia.it)

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<th>Institute for Advanced Study IUSS Human Development, Capability and Poverty International Research Centre Viale Lungo Tico Sforza 56, 27100 Pavia ITALY</th>
<th>Bielefeld University Bielefeld Center for Education and Capability Research Faculty for Educational Science Universitätsstraße 25 33615 Bielefeld (North Rhine Westphalia) Germany Phone: 0049- (0)521- 106 67295 E-mail: <a href="mailto:euprojects_otto@uni-bielefeld.de">euprojects_otto@uni-bielefeld.de</a></th>
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**Required Education Level and Certifications**

**Degree**
The network programme is taught in English and open to students from all countries holding a Master’s degree or a corresponding diploma degree in social sciences (political science, sociology, economics etc.).

**Degree Fields**
Social sciences (political science, sociology, economics etc.)

**Certification type**
Academic, Master degree, a corresponding diploma degree or University graduate

**Required Skills**

**The candidate shall have:**
- good knowledge of quantitative methods (mathematics, statistics and/or econometrics) and good analytical skills
- basic computer skills (MsOffice etc.);
- good knowledge of other mathematical and statistical software packages (Stata, Spss);
**Required Language**
Excellent written and spoken English. The empirical work will partly demand basic knowledge of local language.

**How to apply?**
Please send via E-Mail:
- a C.V. giving information about your studies or professional career
- 2 letters of recommendation from university teachers (who are not members of our project group)
- a motivation letter
- a summary (1000 words) of the bachelor or master thesis
- an essay (8-10 pages) why you have chosen this special topic. The essay should also combine theoretical knowledge (e.g. Capability Approach and others) with some methodical remarks about the empirical instruments for the research.

**To:** Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Hans Uwe Otto via E-Mail (euprojects_otto@uni-bielefeld.de) and to the local responsible scientist Prof. Dr. Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti (enrica.chiappero@unipv.it)

**Application deadline**
15/04/2010

For detailed information about the Ph.D. programme and the specific job announcement you are interested in please contact the coordinator (euprojects_otto@uni-bielefeld.de) or the local responsible scientist Prof. Dr. Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti (enrica.chiappero@unipv.it)

You can also have a look on our project website: [www.eduwel-eu.org](http://www.eduwel-eu.org)