Recruitment of a post-doctoral researcher – SocFace Project
Category A – Post-doctoral researcher
24-month post-doctoral contract

Description of the Institute

The French Institute for Demographic Studies (INED) is a public scientific institute. It conducts research on a range of demographic issues (including fertility and the family, health and mortality, and migration) and informs the public of current trends in the field. Interdisciplinary in both recruitment and research, INED has 250 employees (permanent staff, post-doctoral researchers, doctoral students) and numerous associate researchers and foreign visiting scholars. INED is at the heart of a network of national and international research partnerships.

Project description

The SocFace project uses automatic handwritten text recognition to analyze all the individual data (nominative lists) obtained from French censuses from 1836 to 1936 (20 censuses and roughly 15 million images). It will generate a database of all the individuals (400 million to 700 million entries, non-unique persons) having lived in France between 1836 and 1936. The database will be used to analyze social change over the long term, serving to considerably improve our knowledge of French economic and social structures. The SocFace project, financed by the French National Research Agency (ANR) until April 2025, brings together archivists, demographers, economists, historians, and computer scientists working in unison to develop technologies for the large-scale processing of substantial series of historical documents.

To find out more about the project, go to: https://socface.site.ined.fr/

To find out more about the nominative lists of population censuses, go to:
https://francearchives.fr/fr/article/224765836

Missions and activities

The successful applicant will carry out research as part of the SocFace project. Working together with the project team, he or she will contribute to the construction of variables, data management, and statistical analyses of the database obtained from French censuses from 1836 to 1936. He or she will disseminate the results through presentations at seminars and conferences and through publications in peer-reviewed international journals. The recruit will also contribute to the coordination of the project and the collective activities of the team, including meetings and scientific events. He or she will report to INED's Research Unit 11, "History and Populations".

In accordance with INED policy, the post-doctoral researcher will, in addition to working on the SocFace project, be able to devote 20% of their time to their own research. This may include the preparation and publication of articles based on prior research projects, the pursuit or initiation of an independent research direction, the development of their own professional network, and the preparation of applications for research positions. The successful applicant will also benefit from a dedicated workspace with a computer, access to INED's subsidized cafeteria, a budget for attending international conferences, and relevant methodological training.

The main place of work will be at INED's Campus Condorcet in Aubervilliers, within easy reach of Paris. Work meetings may be held at Teklia in Montparnasse and PSE at Porte d'Orléans.

Profile of the applicant

The successful applicant must hold a PhD obtained within the past 3 years in demographics, history, sociology, economics, or a related discipline, or be in the process of completing a PhD. The applicants will have proven skills in quantitative analysis and advanced knowledge of the statistical software packages, Stata and/or R. Experience in the statistical processing of longitudinal data (including the construction of indicators and analysis of statistics) is a plus, as is some knowledge of French language.

He or she should also have a proven interest in project-related topics, such as intergenerational social mobility and social reproduction; urban inequalities, housing segregation; the individual and social consequences of migration; and the deferred impact of crises, particularly as part of a historical perspective.

Knowledge of tabular data management and programming languages (including Python) is also welcome, as is the ability to communicate and write scientific publications in English.

General information

POSITION START DATE	April 2023
DURATION (FIXED-TERM CONTRACT)	24 months
WORKING HOURS	Full time 37.55 hours per week 32 annual paid holidays and 10 working time reduction (RTT) days
REMOTE WORKING POSSIBILITIES	Yes (maximum 2 days a week)
REMUNERATION	According to salary grid and experience (between €2,820 and €3,679)
LOCATION	Campus Condorcet 9 cours des Humanités, Aubervilliers Metro: line 12, "Front Populaire" station

Applying

CLOSE OF APPLICATIONS	**February 24th, 2023**
DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	- CV (app. 2 pages) - Cover letter - Sample of a scientific text written by the applicant
HOW TO APPLY	Send your application Under the reference "SocFace postdoc" To: **recrutements@ined.fr** copying in Lionel Kesztenbaum (**lionel.kesztenbaum@ined.fr**)
RECRUITMENT PROCESS	Shortlisted applicants will be informed no later than March 1st 2023 and interviewed (remotely) in the beginning of March.