CALL FOR AWARDING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS WITHIN PROJECT GRANTS AND R&D INSTITUTIONS

1 (one) Research Fellowship under Special Regime (BI-RE) for a PhD student

1 Research Fellowship(s) under Special Regime (BI-RE) is (are) open at the **FCiências.ID – Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências**, for the Project "SPINEXT: Twinning for device-integrated spin crossover materials excellence", "HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02-WIDENING-01-101339617", funded by the European Union´s Horizon Europe Research & Innovation Programme under the Grant Agreement No. 101339617, under the following conditions:

1. **Scientific Area**: Chemistry, Physics, Materials Science and Engineering, and related fields.

2. **Admission requirements**:
a) A master's degree in Chemistry, Physics, Materials Science or Engineering, or a related field;
b) Demonstrated skills in web design and science communication.

3. **Additional optional skills and qualifications**:
a) Experience in chemical synthesis, in particular of coordination compounds;
b) Experience in materials characterisation (e.g. magnetometry, spectroscopies, X-ray diffraction) and/or in surface and thin-film characterisation;
c) Training or demonstrated interest in physics and materials science, namely molecular magnetism or molecular spintronics;
d) Experience in science outreach to the public and schools;
e) Participation in research projects and/or authorship of scientific presentations or publications;
f) Good command of English, spoken and written.

4. **Contracting requirements**: Presentation of the academic qualifications and/or diplomas, if applicable. Enrollment in the PhD Programme in Chemistry.

5. **Work plan**: The work plan, scheduled to begin on February 1, 2027, is part of the SPINEXT Twinning project and aims to study the behaviour of Fe(III) and Mn(III) spin-crossover (SCO) systems when transferred from the molecular state to surfaces, thin films and device-relevant architectures, leading to a PhD in Chemistry.
The work plan includes the following tasks:
a) Synthesis and harmonised characterisation of benchmark Fe(III)/Mn(III) SCO systems (SQUID magnetometry, Mössbauer and IR/UV-Vis spectroscopies, single-crystal and powder X-ray diffraction);
b) Immobilisation of selected systems on surfaces and in thin films, and their characterisation (AFM and spectroscopic methods);
c) Integration into graphene-coupled and thin-film architectures in collaboration with CNRS/UNISTRA (IPCMS), and contribution to nanoscale transport studies (TU Delft) and electronic-structure modelling (University of Barcelona);
d) Preparation of standard operating procedures (SOPs), deposition of data following the FAIR principles and publication of results in open-access scientific journals;
e) Participation in the project's thematic schools, international school, SpinOn conference and project meetings;
f) Participation in the project's communication and dissemination activities, including the design and updating of website and social media content.
The work plan is included in the Work Packages (WPs) 1, 2, 4 and 6 of the SPINEXT Project, and includes travel to IPCMS, Strasbourg (France), TU Delft (the Netherlands) and the University of Barcelona (Spain).

6. **Legislation framework**: This call is governed by the Research Fellowship Holder Statute [Note 1], approved by Law 40/2004, of 18 August, as amended; by the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships, as currently in force, amended and republished by the Notice (Extract) No. 412/2026/2 (available at:

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https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/aviso-extrato/412-2026-996320857 and https://www.fct.pt/financiamento/programas-de-financiamento/bolsas/); and by the FCiências.ID Regulation for Research Fellowships, approved on 12 May 2020 (available at Regulamento de Bolsas de Investigação Científica da FCiências.ID).

7. **Place of work**: The work will be developed at the CQE - Centro de Química Estrutural, Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisbon, under the scientific supervision of Professor Paulo N. Martinho.

8. **Fellowship duration**: This position is initially opened for 6 months and due to start in February 2027. The fellowship contract may be potentially renewed for until the end of the project, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation of Research Fellowships from the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P and FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation.

9. **Monthly allowance**: The fellowship amounts to 1750 €, according to table values of the FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation. The fellowship holder will have a personal accident insurance and can ensure the right to social security through adherence to the voluntary social insurance scheme, if not covered by any other social protection scheme, pursuant to *Código dos Regimes Contributivos do Sistema Previdencial de Segurança Social.*
The fellowship will be paid monthly by bank transfer.
Additionally, a Tuition Fees Support Allowance (SAP) may be paid to support the costs with the tuition fees, in accordance with the provisions of Article 21(6) of the FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation.

10. **Evaluation and selection process**: Candidates will be assessed by
a) Curriculum assessment: Academic merit scientific, path and relevant experience, including skills in web design and science communication: 70%;
b) motivation letter: 20%;
c) referees or recommendation letters: 10%.
If necessary, an interview will be conducted with the 3 (three) best candidates. If an interview takes place, the sum of the evaluations obtained in evaluation criteria a) to c) will correspond to 70% of the final classification, and the interview to 30%.
Applicants whose application is scored with a final classification of less than 50 points are not eligible for granting a fellowship.

11. **Selection Committee**:

- President – Dr Paulo N. Martinho;
- 1st Effective member – Dr Sara Realista;
- 2nd Effective member – Dr Nuno Galamba;
- 1st Alternate member – Dr Mário Rodrigues;
- 2nd Alternate member – Dr Ana Carapeto.

12. **Publication/notification of results**: The results will be published on the FCiências.ID electronic recruitment platform (https://concursus.ciencias.ulisboa.pt), through the publication of the minutes of the Selection Committee meeting. Candidates will also be notified by email, using the email address provided in their application. Candidates who have not provided an email address will be notified exclusively through the electronic recruitment platform, where they can consult the minutes and find out the results.

13. **Deadlines**: This call for applications is open from 23/11/2026 to 09/12/2026 .

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14. **Application:** Applications will be submitted online, through the electronic platform of FCiências.ID - https://concursus.ciencias.ulisboa.pt, by attaching the following documents:

a. Curriculum vitae;
b. Certificate of the academic degree required in the public notice [Note 2, 3];
c. Motivation letter (1 page maximum), in English or Portuguese;
d. Contact details of two (2) referees or two (2) recommendation letters;
e. Evidence of skills in web design and science communication (e.g. links to websites or content produced);
f. Other documents considered relevant.

15. **Processing of personal data:** FCiências.ID – Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências, as the controller under the General Data Protection Regulation, collects and processes the personal data requested in the context indicated in paragraph 14., under the legitimate interests in ensuring the award of the research fellowship to candidates with the indicated profile.
The personal data will be kept for the period necessary for the execution of the purposes for which they are intended, being ensured the processing and protection in an appropriate and diligent way, the confidentiality and integrity of these data, through appropriate technical and organizational measures.
Personal data may be transmitted to third parties, namely the entity funding the research project, solely for the purposes specifically established. In this sense, whenever the transfer of personal data to countries outside the European Union and/or international organizations is necessary, compliance with the applicable legal provisions is ensured.
You have the right to request access, rectification, elimination, limitation of processing, the right to object and also data portability (if technically feasible), through the e-mail address: dpo@fciencias-id.pt. You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the National Data Protection Commission.

For more information, we recommend consulting the Internal Rules of Data Protection of FCiências.ID - Association for Research and Development of Sciences at https://fciencias-id.pt/.

16. **Time limits for the appeal procedure:** Following the notification of the results, candidates have 10 business days to, should they wish to do so, submit their comments under the prior hearing procedure, in accordance with Articles 121 et seq. of the *Código do Procedimento Administrativo* (Portuguese Administrative Procedure Code). Comments must be submitted by email to bolsas@fciencias-id.pt. Once this period has elapsed and the comments received have been reviewed, the final decision will be published, and candidates will be notified through the same channels, in accordance with paragraph 12.
Appeals against the final decision may be submitted to the Administration Board of FCiências.ID (fciencias.id@fciencias-id.pt) within 15 business days after the notification date.

Note 1: Please note that Research Fellowship holders perform their duties on an exclusive dedication basis, in accordance with Article 5(h) of the Research Fellowship holder Statute. Pursuant to Article 5(3)(h) of the same Statute, the provision of teaching services by fellowship holders at a higher education institution is considered compatible with the exclusive dedication regime, provided that such services are undertaken with the agreement of the fellowship holders, with the prior authorization of the host institution, and without prejudice to the feasibility of the work plan underlying the fellowship. Such teaching activities may not exceed four hours per week, corresponding to an average of three hours per week per semester, and may not entail sole responsibility for courses or curricular units.

Note 2: The documents that prove the entitlement of the academic qualifications and diplomas can be dismissed during the application period and replaced by a declaration on their honour from the applicant (Minuta PT, Minute EN). Their delivery is mandatory for the fellowship contractualization.

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Note 3: Please note that - higher education degrees and diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions need to be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, pursuant to the Decree-Law nr. 66/2018 (August 16) and the Ministerial Order nr. 33/2019 (January 25). The presentation of the recognition certificate is mandatory for contract signature. More information can be obtained at: https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition.

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