Public Notice - International Selection Procedure

Recruitment of a Research Assistant with a Master Degree (employment contract)

FCiências.ID/2023/NLX/1

FCiências.ID - Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências, through its Chairman of the Board of Directors, hereby announces the opening of an international call for the recruitment of a Research Assistant with a Master Degree, of the FCiências.ID Scientific Research Career, within the scope of the project Accelerat.ai - Multilingual Intelligent Contact Centers (Ref. C625734525-00462629), financed within the scope of call for presentation n.º 01/C05-i01/2021 of the Recovery and Resilience Plan in its component 5 - capitalization and Business Innovation, regarding the call for tender for the investment “RE-C05-i01.01 - Agendas / Alliances Mobilizers for Reindustrialization”, in the form of a full-time indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract, according to the Portuguese Labour Code and complementary legislation.

I. Admission Requirements

Portuguese nationals, foreign and stateless persons may submit applications to this selection procedure, with a Master’s degree in Informatics Engineering, and fully comply with the following requirements:

   a) Experience in the design and development of large language models based on deep learning and capable of multimodal processing - information provided in the CV;

   b) Mastery of the Portuguese language (spoken and written), in the European variant, at level C2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, certified with the respective diploma, or as a mother tongue, since this is a project that aims to develop conversational agents in Portuguese, European variant, and it is essential the candidate to be able to evaluate the respective performance - information provided in the CV;

   c) Experience in the design and development of machine translation modules between Portuguese and Chinese through the tuning of large neuronal language models based on deep learning - information provided in the CV;

   d) Be a PhD student in Informatics Engineering - information provided in the proof of the PhD enrolment.

1 Please note that Degrees obtained in foreign countries need a Portuguese Recognition issued by a Portuguese high degree Institution, according to the Decree-Law nr. 66/2018, of August 16th and the Ministerial Order nr. 33/2019, of January 25th. The presentation of such Recognition is mandatory for contract signature. More information can be obtained in: https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition.

II. Applicable Law

1. Portuguese Labour Code, as approved by Law No. 93/2019, of September 04th, in its current version (CT);

2. Administrative Procedure Code, as published in Decree-Law No. 4/2015, of January 7th, in its current version (CPA).

III. Work plan

The work plan to be executed includes the following tasks:

1) With the highest level of autonomy and capacity in accordance to the Research Assistant professional category, develop cutting-edge research on Artificial Intelligence applied to Language Technology for
conversational agents in view of multimodal information processing including the development of neuronal models for language and image using deep learning technology, with a particular focus on the Portuguese language;
2) Preparation and participation in project meetings and subsequent actions;
3) Preparation of articles and publication of results;
4) Participation in the dissemination activities of the project.

The work plan is included in the Development of Foundation Neural Language Models (Activity 2.1) of the Accelerat.ai: Multilingual Intelligent Contact Centers.

IV. Composition of the Jury

The members of the jury are:

- President - António Manuel Horta Branco;
- 1st Member of the jury - Luís Manuel dos Santos Gomes;
- 2nd Member of the jury - João Ricardo Martins Ferreira da Silva;
- 1st Alternate Member of the jury – Carlos Alberto Pacheco dos Anjos Duarte;
- 2nd Alternate Member of the jury - Ana Paula Pereira Afonso.

V. Place of work

Work will be developed at the facilities of NLX group in Campo Grande, Lisboa, Portugal.

VI. Contract Duration

The full-time indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract, is expected to start in April 2023, and will last until the Work Plan referred to in section III is completed. It will have an expected duration of 30 months, will not exceed the limits set in the CT.

VII. Monthly Allowance

The gross monthly salary corresponds to 2049.71 Euros, corresponding to level 30 of the Single Remuneratory Table, as approved by Government Order No. 1553-C/2008, of December 31st, in its current version, updated by the decree-law nr. 84-F/2022, of December 16th, on a full-time regime, on which legal discounts will apply, plus holiday and Christmas allowances, as well as food allowance in the amount and conditions set out for workers with a legal employment relationship under the Labour Code.

VIII. Evaluation of applications

1. Failure to comply with the Admission Requirements implies the non-admission of candidates in absolute merit.
2. The final classification of candidates is given on a scale of 0 to 100%.
3. Based on the assessment of the candidates’ scientific and curricular background, each member of the jury presents a justified proposal for admission (final classification equal to or greater than 80%) or exclusion (final classification below 80%) for each candidate, according to the evaluation criteria referred to in paragraph 4.
4. Evaluation of the relative merit of candidates, will rely on the following criteria:
   a) Scientific publications in the area of the tender work plan - 25%;
   b) Participation in scientific projects in the area of the competition - 25%;
c) Knowledge dissemination activities, particularly in the context of the promotion of scientific practices, organization of courses, seminars and conferences for promotion and dissemination in the area of competition - 25%;

d) Pedagogical activities, extension and dissemination of knowledge, particularly in the context of the promotion of scientific practices, organization of courses, seminars and conferences of promotion and dissemination in the area of the butcher’s plan - 25%;

e) Interview, if deemed necessary by the jury - 10%.

5. The jury may decide to interview the two best ranked candidates [in criteria a) to d) of paragraph 4], for clarifications and improved explanations of curricular elements. If there is an interview, the sum of the classification obtained in the evaluation criteria a) to d) will correspond to 90% of the final classification and the interview will correspond to 10%.

6. The jury shall deliberate by means of a roll-call vote based on the evaluation criteria.

7. Minutes of the jury meetings are drawn up, summarizing all relevant elements considered by jury members, as well as their individual votes and justifications.

8. After completion of the evaluation process, the jury will draw up a ranking of successful candidates with their classifications.

9. Hiring will be decided by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCiências.ID, based on the final jury recommendation.

10. The evaluation results will be published on the website of the FCiências.ID ("Concursos" tab). The candidates will be individually notified of the evaluation results by e-mail sent to the address indicated in the "Personal Data" section of the submitted form.

11. With the notification referred to in paragraph 10, the hearing phase of interested parties referred to in Article 121 et seq. of the CPA will begin, and last for ten working days.

12. The possible pronouncement of the candidate in a prior hearing must be addressed to the President of the jury and submitted in writing to concursos@fciencias-id.pt. The President of the jury will convene a jury’s meeting to produce the final decision, within thirty working days.

13. Within five working days of the final jury decision, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCiências.ID will approve it and the candidates will be notified.

14. The communication between FCiências.ID (concursos@fciencias-id.pt) and the candidates will be electronic and will comply with the following rules:

   a) At the time of electronic submission of any document - namely in the case of paragraph no 12 - the candidates must generate proof of "sent message".

   b) FCiências.ID will send an email message acknowledging documents received to the email address used by the candidates, within two working days.

   c) In case of absence of a confirmation receipt by FCiências.ID – showing the possibility of technical problems that should neither be the responsibility of the candidate nor FCiências.ID - the candidates should contact FCiências.ID, with the proof referred to in point (a), to ensure delivery and proper receipt of the documents concerned.

IX. Compliance with public policies

1. FCiências.ID actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, disadvantaged or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty due to, inter alia, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic situation, education, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and trade union membership.

2. Under the terms of D.L. No. 29/2001, of February 3rd, a disabled candidate has a preference in equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare their respective degree of disability, the type of disability and the means of
communication / expression to be used in the selection process, under the terms of the above-mentioned diploma.

X. Submission of Applications

1. The present call will be open from 28th February 2023 to 13th March 2023.

2. The application and all the required documents may be submitted in Portuguese or English.

3. Applications will be submitted online, through the electronic platform of FCIências.ID (http://concursos.fciencias-id.pt).

4. On the electronic platform, applicants will complete a mandatory section on Personal Data [name, address, date of birth, contact email, nationality and scientific identifiers] and upload files with the documents listed below:
   i. Detailed curriculum vitae, including obligatory final average grades obtained in the bachelor’s and master’s degrees and the respective evaluation scales, in PDF format - mandatory;
   ii. A motivation letter clearly demonstrating that the candidate has an adequate profile for the position and fully complies with the Admission Requirements - mandatory;
   iii. Up to five publications relevant for the objectives of the Work Plan - mandatory;
   iv. Proof of PhD in Computer Engineering enrolment - mandatory;
   v. Digital copies of documents proving formal academic degrees and/or other scientific and professional qualifications - original documents must be provided in case of actual recruitment - mandatory;
   vi. Other documents that candidates consider relevant for the assessment of their scientific merit, or to declare the personal situation in the cases covered in section IX-2 of this Notice - optional.

5. By decision of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID, candidates who do not submit the documents identified in paragraph 4 will not be admitted to the call. In case of doubts, the Chairman may also invite candidates to substantiate specific data or statements with official supporting documents, before accepting the candidates’ submission.

This Public Note was approved by the jury on 27th February 2023.