

Sub-national context and radical right support in Europe (SCoRE)

Open Research Area in the Social Sciences (ORA) / Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR)

Job Description: Research Assistant (post-doc)

URMIS (University of Nice) is opening a post-doctorate position of Research Assistant to assist in carrying out the *Sub-national context and radical right support in Europe* (SCoRE) research project, under the auspices of the French ANR and in collaboration with three other research partners in Germany, the Netherlands and the UK.

Project abstract

Comparative research on the radical right has focused mainly on national-level indicators and individual motivators to explain variation in support for these parties. Some case-study approaches use sub-national models to look at within-country variation, but to date there is an absence of comparative research formalising the role of the meso-level across countries in radical right support. This comparative study proposes an interdisciplinary political science, sociology and geography team to construct a multi-level analysis of four key countries (France, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK) which provide varying institutional, infrastructural, socio-economic and attitudinal contexts in which to study the phenomenon. The three-year project will first collate all available secondary political and socio-economic data from official sources to establish an across-time database at multiple levels of territorial aggregation. Second, it will build upon these macro-/meso-level foundations with a standardised large-n survey across the four countries, to collect an up-to-date set of individual demographic, attitudinal and behavioural indicators. Finally, these will be combined in a full mixed model of radical right support, identifying the comparative role of context and individual attributes. The results will provide an unparalleled level of detailed understanding of such determinants, of importance both to academic understanding and to stakeholders' policy planning and implementation.

Summary

Under the supervision of the national PI, the research assistant will be responsible for the collection of municipality / canton / constituency-level electoral results and all socio-demographic data from INSEE in France. They will help prepare the French national survey in conjunction with project leaders and other country participants, including liaison with appointed survey organisation.

The research assistant will need to demonstrate strong geographical and data management skills. They will support a range of different technical activities including: secondary data harvesting and collection; geographical LUTs, GIS point-in-polygon searching/interpolation; calculation of NUTS2/3 and LAU0 indicators; construction of Geographical Lookup Tables (LUTS) using combination of general purpose statistical software (SPSS) and GIS software (ArcGIS). They will also carry out preliminary data cleaning and coding in conjunction with other national RAs, prior to analysis by PIs.

The research assistant will liaise with the other members of the team. Fluency in English is therefore required.

Skills and Qualifications

- PhD in social sciences, preferably in Geography
- Familiarity with database management and secondary data collection from a wide range of institutional sources in France (ministries, GéoPortail, INSEE)
- Strong skills in Geographical information systems (GIS), including geocoding, point-in-polygon searching/interpolation, calculation of NUTS2/3 and LAU0 indicators, and construction of Geographical Lookup Tables (LUTS)
- Excellent knowledge of general statistical analysis using SPSS and R
- Fluency in English

- Preferred additional skill: multilevel statistical analysis.

Position details

- 1-YR contract, from 1st April 2016
- Full-time
- University post-doctorate wage, French public administration index 580
- Gross monthly salary: 2,685 €

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