

Open position for a postdoctoral researcher

ERC Starting Grant project EQUALIZE

Center for Demographic Studies (Barcelona)

A postdoctoral appointment is offered for a social scientist with excellent analytical and writing skills that has recently completed her/his PhD or will complete it by the summer of 2017. The candidate will join the project “Equalizing or disequalizing? Opposing socio-demographic determinants of the spatial distribution of welfare”, funded by the European Research Council as a Starting Grant to Dr. Iñaki Permanyer and hosted by the Center for Demographic Studies (CED) in Barcelona. EQUALIZE is a 5 year project that started in June 2015.

Aspiring candidates should be highly motivated and have a solid background in Welfare Economics and/or Demography. Researchers interested in monetary and non-monetary global inequality and poverty or related fields are also encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to candidates with strong quantitative and writing skills. The candidate will be invited to develop his/her own research agenda within the broad scope of the project’s goal, which include:

- To conduct large and comparative cross-national research on the basis of census and survey microdata from multiple sources (i.e. LIS, LFS, EU-SILC, IPUMS international, DHS).
- To document and analyze length of life distributions within and across countries. Apply social welfare tools to study variations in human lifespan distributions.
- To develop measurement tools and models to explore the macro and micro implications of social change and family dynamics on the distribution of welfare (e.g. social exclusion, polarization, inequality).

The selected candidate is expected to join the project as soon as possible (at most six months after the final resolution). We offer a 1 year contract that can be extended to 1 more year in case of mutual consent. The salary will be commensurate with experience and in line with the standard postdoctoral positions in the Spanish research system – i.e.: “Juan de la Cierva” for junior post-docs with less than 2 years after the dissertation and “Ramón y Cajal” for senior post-docs. The candidate will be encouraged to present her/his results in international conferences and publish in major social sciences journals. There are no teaching obligations involved.

Project description

EQUALIZE aims at investigating the extent to which current trends in family formation, living arrangements and gender-specific education expansion are related to the spatial distribution of welfare and the emergence of jobless households in contemporary societies. Inter alia, we aim to explore whether the welfare disequalizing, impoverishing and polarizing effects that are currently associated with recent patterns in assortative mating, lone parenthood and household composition are offset by an unprecedented phenomenon that is sweeping the world during the last decades: the rapid process of education expansion in tandem with a reversal of the gender gap in education. The extent to which these two opposing forces occur and which of them is more influential in shaping the distribution of welfare between and within countries is among the main goals of this project.

About CED

The Center for Demographic Studies (<http://www.ced.uab.es/>) was born in 1984 as a public institute for research, education and training in Demography. It is located in the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) campus. It currently hosts over 60 members, including own and UAB affiliated senior researchers, graduate and post-doctoral students, visiting fellows, technical and administrative staff.

Researchers at CED are engaged in multiple research activities, mainly funded through competitive calls both at national and international levels. CED researchers specialize on a wide range of topics: fertility and family dynamics; gender studies, work, ageing, and retirement; international migrations; housing, internal migrations and residential mobility. CED is one of the largest population centers in Europe. It is an active member of the *Population Europe* network and the European Doctoral School of Demography. Besides, the CED offers a friendly working environment.

The CED offers an excellent and pleasant working environment in a privileged location, conveniently connected to the center of Barcelona by train (30 minutes ride).

Application Process

The following documentation should be attached:

- A detailed curriculum vitae.
- One or two pieces of the most relevant academic work.
- A one page motivation letter.
- Names, affiliations and contact details of two or three persons who might eventually be contacted to provide information about the candidate.

Applications should be sent to Iñaki Permanyer (ipermanyer@ced.uab.es) with the following subject:

ERC EQUALIZE postdoc application (family name of the applicant).

The deadline for the application is February 20th, 2017. Final decision will be made by the end of February/early March. Shortlisted candidates may be invited to give a talk.