



Vacancy Postdoctoral Researcher (100%) in Political Science

Project “Perception of Differentness, Affective Polarization and Vote Choice” (NOTLIKEUS)

Skills: experiment, survey research, data management, election studies

Information about the position

Faculty of Philosophy and social sciences, Department of political science

Centre d'étude de la vie politique (Cevipol)

Director : Amandine Crespy

Promotors : Emilie van Haute, Jean-Benoit Pilet and Caroline Close

Title of the position: Postdoctoral researcher

Type of contract : CDD – 1 year contract

Length of contract : 12 months

Full time (100%)

Funding : FWO-FNRS EoS project Rep Resent

Salary: According to the experience of the candidate, the monthly net income will range around 2,500 euros.

The Department of Political Science at the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) is hiring a post-doctoral researcher with a specialization in quantitative data analysis for the project “Perception of Differentness, Affective Polarization and Vote Choice” (NOTLIKEUS) funded via an Excellence of Science (EoS) programme from the FRS-FNRS and the FWO.

Context of the project

The NOTLIKEUS project aims at digging deeper into three questions: (1) what the contemporary scope of polarization within Belgian society is, (2) which factors foster polarization within society, and (3) what are the consequences of polarization on citizens' political behaviours, and in particular in their support or opposition to the democratic system.

The project is primarily based on a panel study that surveys a representative sample of the Belgian population throughout 2024, year of the federal, regional and European elections; The goal is to study the dynamics of polarization over time (electoral campaign, election results and the formation of new coalition governments). The project is also based on experiments and focus group data.



Job description

This is a call for applications for a full-time post-doctoral position for one year.

The post-doctoral researcher will become an active member of the research project “NOTE LIKE US”. The project offers a stimulating working environment in a dynamic and international research team. The project involves 7 research teams from the Universiteit Antwerpen (UA), Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), KULeuven, Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL), University of Ghent, University of Namur and Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB).

The researchers will be based at the Cevipol (ULB). They will have an office and relevant administrative support at ULB. They will have no teaching obligations but will be allowed to engage in a limited amount of teaching if this is judged appropriate for their academic development. They will be expected to contribute to collective work on the project, and to present and publish individual or collective research outputs.

Within the project, the selected candidate will:

- Analyze data collected via the panel survey organized within the project in 2024 (in relation to the 2024 federal, regional and European elections in Belgium)
- Conduct research on vote choice, affective polarization, democratic attitudes
- Assist the ULB PIs Emilie van Haute, Caroline Close and Jean-Benoit Pilet in their work

Profile

The candidate will hold a PhD in political or social sciences.

Skills

- Research interest and/or expertise in elections, experiments, survey research, democracy, citizenship, political participation, and/or political parties
- Good command of dataset management and statistical software
- Good organizational and time management skills
- Ability to work in a team
- A good command of English, and French and/or Dutch (or willingness to improve one's command of the other language during the scholarship)



Application

INTERESTED?

Questions regarding the position can be addressed to Professor Emilie van Haute (emilie.van.haute@ulb.be)

APPLICATIONS should include (in one single PDF document):

- a letter of motivation explaining the candidate's general interest for the project
- a full CV (including a list of publications)
- Name, affiliation, email and phone number of two referees who can be contacted if necessary

Please send the above documents electronically to Professor Emilie van Haute (emilie.van.haute@ulb.be)

The deadline for applications is 30/09/2025. Interviews (online or face to face) will be conducted in October.

STARTING DATE is 01/01/2026 at the latest.

Equal opportunity

The Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) is an equal opportunity employer.

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La politique de gestion du personnel en matière de diversité et égalité des chances prévoit sur chaque offre d'emploi publiée par l'ULB une mention indiquant que :

« Nous recrutons les candidats.es en fonction de leurs compétences, indépendamment de leur âge, leur genre, leur orientation sexuelle, leur origine, leur nationalité, leurs convictions, leur handicap, etc. »

Les candidats porteurs d'une maladie, d'un trouble ou d'un handicap qui souhaitent bénéficier d'aménagements raisonnables dans le cadre de la procédure de sélection ont la possibilité, lorsqu'ils postulent en ligne, de cocher une case qui attire l'attention de l'équipe Recrutement et lui permet d'adapter les processus de sélection.

Si une personne porteuse d'une maladie, d'un trouble ou d'un handicap devait être présélectionnée par l'équipe SSRM pour l'offre que vous avez demandé de publier, la personne chargée des projets Diversité au sein de l'équipe (sophie.veys@ulb.be) reprendra contact avec vous pour vous donner de plus amples informations sur le profil du candidat en question.