



The EUI has an open vacancy for a

Research Assistant in the

Department of History and Civilization

Florence, 16 January 2025

Reference: V/RA/HEC/1/2025

Who we are

The **European University Institute** (EUI) at a glance:

- an **international organisation** set up in 1972;
- a research university focusing exclusively on **postgraduate, doctoral and post-doctoral studies**, and advanced research;
- located in the hills overlooking the city of Florence, Italy.

The Institute also hosts the Historical Archives of the European Union.

The Department of History and Civilisation (HEC) offers a distinctive four-year Ph.D. programme of transnational and comparative European history supported by a uniquely international and multicultural faculty. Our PhD programme combines individual supervision with cohort-based collective teaching and feedback, broad-based training in recent disciplinary trends, and active engagement with the EUI's interdisciplinary research clusters. We encourage a culture of conversation among researchers and faculty. Professors and researchers work together to develop ideas and each year we invite experts from around the world in numerous fields to visit our department to discuss their research. We have a strong commitment to equality, diversity, and above all, to inclusivity in all aspects of life. The international character of our community of scholars with its wealth and diversity of academic interests and training is our particular asset.

Employment details

Contract type	100 % (30/30, 40 hours/week)
Length of contract	Up to 9 months, start date negotiable: 1 or 16 April 2025 Academic contracts may be further renewed (several times and conditional to the availability of funds), leading to an extension of the period of service up to a total of 5 years, including the first contract period.
Salary indication and grade	Grade: ASTAC1e step 1 The basic net monthly salary after taxes is approximately 2158 Euro, plus allowances if applicable.

More information about conditions of employment is available [here](#).

Place of work

Florence (Italy)

About the project

Project Director(s)

Prof. M'hamed Oualdi

Project details

SLAVEVOICES - Slave Testimonies in the Abolition Era. European Captives, African Slaves and Ottoman servants in 19th century North Africa, [funded by the ERC](#)

Funded by the European Research Council, SLAVEVOICES aims at renewing our approach to the end of slavery by collecting and studying the testimonies of North African, West African and European slaves and their descendants written in Arabic, Ottoman Turkish and other European and African languages from the mid-18th century to the 1930s.

Researchers involved in the project SLAVEVOICES explore the reshaping of the connections that groups of slaves built up within North African societies and between this part of the Muslim world and other adjoining societies in Africa, Asia and Europe in the abolition era.

Job description

The Research Assistants will provide research assistance to the Project Director in relation to the history of slavery in North Africa and the Mediterranean from the mid-18th century to the 1930s.

Main tasks include:

- Assisting in the identification, collection, transcription, and translation into English (or French) primary sources dealing with enslavement, captivity and liberation from slavery in **sufi/mystical islamic sources**. The focus is on documents conveying the experiences of enslaved men and women in a North African context;
- Contributing to writing and publishing papers in peer-reviewed journal and or a monograph related to the ERC research topic;
- Supporting the presentation of research papers at international workshops and conferences;
- Contributing to popular dissemination of the research results.

Qualifications and experience

Qualifications and Experience

Essential:

- Bachelor's degree in Anthropology or History;
- Strong presentation skills relevant to the research area, as shown in previous academic or professional presentations;

- Demonstrated ability to work independently and collaborate effectively as part of a team.
- Familiarity with relevant literature in anthropology, history, or the specific research area, evidenced by coursework or prior research.

Desirable:

- PhD in anthropology or in history;
- Record of academic publications
- Experience working with archival sources, demonstrated through research projects or prior work;
- Excellent writing skills demonstrated through previous reports, publications or academic work;

Languages

Excellent knowledge of English, both spoken and written (CEFR level: C1 or above). Knowledge of Arabic and French (to read primary sources relevant to the topic) .

How to apply

Deadline

The closing date for applications is **30 January 2025** at midnight (Florence time)

Contact details

For more information contact **Francesca Fazio**, francesca.fazio@eui.eu

How to apply

Fill in the [online application form](#) and upload the following documents in English, or in French:

1. A **letter of application** (no more than 2 pages) outlining your qualifications and motivation for the project and the added value that you are expected to bring;
2. A **curriculum vitae** with information on your education, positions held, teaching and administrative experience, other relevant activities, and a list of publications
3. A **single pdf document** including:
 - a final report on your dissertation;
 - representative sections of your dissertation (introduction, conclusion and two chapters) and a writing sample that is relevant to the ERC project;
 - contact details (email addresses and phone numbers) for two academic references, including your current supervisor and former supervisors.

Data Protection

The purpose of processing the data submitted by candidates is to manage their application in view of a possible pre-selection and recruitment by the EUI. The information candidates provide in their application form is collected for the purpose of the selection procedure. The EUI will ensure that candidates' personal data are processed as required by its Data Protection Policy ([President's Decision No. 10/2019 of 18 February 2019 regarding Data Protection at the EUI](#)).

Equal opportunities

The European University Institute applies a policy of equal opportunities, which, in accordance with Article 1d of its Staff Regulations, prohibits discrimination on any grounds such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation. Any reference in this notice to a person of the male sex must be deemed also to constitute a reference to a person of the female sex.