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Presentation 2

Pursuing an academic career in France: Opportunities and particularities

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Pursuing an academic career in France: Opportunities and particularities

Speakers:

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The French Academic System

By Mathias Delori, CNRS researcher at the Centre Marc Bloch in Berlin

July 5th, 2024

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Mathias Delori

- Political scientist (International Relations)
- CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique)
- Centre Marc Bloch in Berlin

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Short-term employment

- Research: PhD scholarships and postdocs

- Teaching: *chargés de cours*

- Research and teaching: *Attachés Temporaires d'Enseignement et de Recherche* (ATER, two year contract)

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Fixed positions (1/2): Research and teaching

- *Professeurs*
  - Pay: 3300 → 6000 € / month
  - Average age of employment: 33
- *Maîtres de Conférence*
  - Pay: 2300 → 4100 (gross salary)
  - Average age of fixed employment: 33
  - A prerequisite: the qualification (60% of successful applications)
- De facto closed to non-French PhDs in the human and social sciences

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Fixed positions (2/2): Research

- *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique* (CNRS, all disciplines)
- Others
  - *Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique et de l'Environnement*
  - *INSERM* (health)
  - *Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives* (energy)

- De facto closed to non-French PhDs in the human and social sciences
- Average age of fixed employment: 33
- Pay: 2300 → 6000 (gross salary)

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Research contracts

- *Agence Nationale de la Recherche* (ANR) (French DFG)
- Budget: 1 Billion € (3 times less than the DFG)
- Success rate: 23%

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Conclusion

- Pros
  - More fixed positions
  - Average age of fixed employment: 33 year old
  - Publish or perish: only until the fixed position, which one gets much earlier than in Germany
- Cons
  - Very hard to get a fixed position in the human and social sciences
  - Closed to non-French PhDs in the human and social sciences
  - Less resources for research projects

French Research & Innovation

French universities in international rankings

Mathematics: Université Paris-Saclay (2nd), Sorbonne Université (4th)

Physics: Université Paris-Saclay (3rd)

Oceanography: Sorbonne Université (4th), Université Bretagne Ouest (5th)

Ecology: Université de Montpellier (2nd), PSL Université (4th)

Pharmacy: Université Paris Cité (3rd)

New Research Law (2021-2030)

+ 25 billion over 10 years to reach the objective of 3% of GDP devoted to research

More attractive remuneration for teacher-researchers

Creation of "junior professorships"

A post-doctoral contract with new rights

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After the PhD
Postdoc in France

Postdoc

1 to 3 years

Between €26,000 and €70,000€ net salary per year

Where?

Universities

→ See also teaching: ATER (*attaché.e.s temporaires d'enseignement et de recherche*)

Public research organization (CNRS, Inserm, IRD, Inra, Inria, Irstea, Cirad, Institut Pasteur, etc.)

Laboratoires d'excellence (LabEx)

Information and job offers

Association Bernard Gregory (ABG)

www.abg.asso.fr/fr/

Academic Positions

https://academicpositions.fr/

Euraxess

www.euraxess.fr/jobs/search?f%5B0%5D=job_country%3A793

La recherche en France

https://doctorat.campusfrance.org/en/phd/offers

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Postdoc in France

Make Our Planet Great Again (MOPGA)

Visiting Fellowship Program

For early career researchers

40 fellowships will be awarded for a 12-month period

Funding

Monthly allowance of 2,500 euros + moving allowance of 500 euros

Domains

Earth systems

Climate change and sustainability

Energy transition

Societal challenges of environmental issues

Human, animal and ecosystem health as part as a "One Health" approach.

Information

mopga@campusfrance.org

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Postdoc in France
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

European Postdoctoral Fellowships

They are open to researchers moving within Europe to pursue their research career. These fellowships take place in an EU Member State and can last between 1 and 2 years.

Researchers of any nationality can apply.

Funding

The 2024 Postdoctoral Fellowships call will have a budget of €417.2 million

For example: IMT Atlantique

Duration: 12 to 24 months + optional placement in private sector in Europe of 6 months

Funding (salary): €5,913 per month (employer gross salary) + mobility allowance (600€ per month) + family allowance (600€ per month)

Funding (support to research and mobility: €1,600 per month

For example: inria

75 positions

Call

The call opened on **23 April 2024** and closes on **11 September 2024**.

Next call: 9 April 2025 – 10 September 2025

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Postdoc in France

Chaires de professeur junior (tenure tracks)

Tenure tracks

Around 300 **tenure tracks** opened each year

complement the recruitment of senior researchers and lecturers

~ tenure track

Funding

200,000 euros on average over three years

Remuneration of at least €43,000 gross per year

In 2024?

198 new *chaires de professeur junior* will be opened

128 to become university professors

70 to become research directors

+45 tenure tracks not filled in 2022 or 2023

And after?

Possibility to become directly professor or research leader after max 6 years

Postdoc in France

Chaires de professeur junior (tenure tracks)

Aims

Younger career entrants

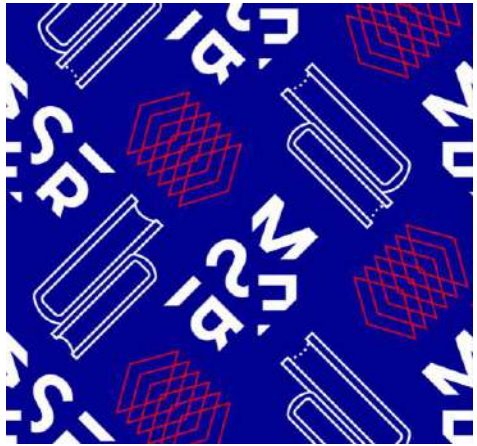
Make more room for emerging disciplines

Giving a central role to the research project, moving away from disciplinary logics

Reduce the precariousness of post-doctorate years, as this scheme is intended to lead to permanent employment

Other possibilities

Assistant professor or tenure track at Sciences Po for exemple



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Postdoc in France

ATIP–Avenir Program 2024

Young group leader

Facilitating young researchers in establishing and heading their own research team within an established Inserm or CNRS

Funding

Package for 5 years including:

- Annual grant of € 60,000
- Two-year salary for a postdoctoral researcher or an engineer
- Five-year salary for non-tenured laureates

Domains

LS1 Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures and Functions

LS2 Integrative Biology: from Genes and Genomes to Systems

LS3 Cell Biology, Development and Evolution

LS4 Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing

LS5 Neurosciences and Neural Disorders

LS6 Immunity, Infection and Microbiology

LS7 Diagnostic tools, Therapies, Biotechnology and Public Health