

Position description

Research Assistant in the Social Sciences

in the European Research Council (ERC) project WE-COOP on labour, gender, and democracy

The WE-COOP project (2023-2028) is recruiting a full-time research assistant. Hosted at the University of Strasbourg, the project is funded by a Starting Grant from the European Research Council (ERC) and is led by Dr. Ada Reichhart (Principal Investigator). The 24-month contract will be renewed once, for the duration of the project, upon positive appraisal (48 months in total).

1. Identification du poste

Title of post: Research Assistant in the Social Sciences in the European Research Council (ERC) project WE-COOP on labour, gender, and democracy

Proportion of work: Full-time (35h/week)

Workplace: SAGE Laboratory (UMR 7363), University of Strasbourg, France

Desired level of education: Master's degree

Contact(s) for information on the position: Dr. Ada Reichhart, Principal Investigator, areichhart@unistra.fr

2. Research project

The WE-COOP project shifts our traditional androcentric perspective on workplace democracy by investigating the labour experiences of women in worker cooperatives. Studied for their high potential in the democratisation of labour relations, worker cooperatives have been systematically considered only from the perspective of class struggles. WE-COOP excavates how and why worker cooperatives are also a locus where yet unexplored sets of representations, practices and justifications pertaining to women's emancipation and gender equality at work are produced.

Focusing on France as a case study, the project relies on a multi-layered survey of worker cooperatives as well as on rare forms of all-women cooperative experiments. It combines quantitative and qualitative methods with innovative participatory research in four incremental steps, allowing for the appropriation by women workers of their narratives and struggles.

3. Job description & Role

Hired on a full-time basis (35 hours/week), the research assistant will be responsible for providing methodological and technical support for the project. This will mainly involve implementing and adapting a participatory research protocol, regularly updating the project's digital platform which acts as a tool for mediation between the scientific team and the targeted population, organising the collection, processing and storage of data for the quantitative and qualitative surveys, participating in the planning and organisation of two participatory workshops and an international conference, and implementing a public outreach plan (at the end of the project).

She/he will be able to contribute to the project's publications as co-author/author, and to carry out her/his own research activities in relation to the main topics of the WE-COOP project.

4. Skills

➤ **Qualifications / knowledge/operational skills:**

- Master's degree in a discipline related or close to the project: Social Sciences; Digital Humanities; Information Technology (IT); economics.
- Excellent command of data production methods and tools.
- Excellent command of data processing methods and tools: proven ability to enter, process and analyse data in the social sciences; general digital literacy is desirable.
- Excellent command of database management and long-term archiving systems.
- Ability to update a website.
- Interest/specialisation in participatory research.
- Interest in gender studies and the social critique of work.
- Ability to work independently as part of a team.

➤ **Disciplines:**

Social Sciences, in particular sociology and political science / Digital Humanities / Information Technology (IT)/ Economics.

5. Working context & Benefits

The research assistant will be part of the SAGE laboratory (Sociétés, Acteurs, Gouvernement en Europe; UMR 7363) at the prestigious University of Strasbourg, renowned for the quality of its research and its international scope. An office space will be provided at the MISHA (Maison Interuniversitaire des Sciences de l'Homme d'Alsace) on the Esplanade campus situated in the city, with the possibility of working remotely some days of the week depending on personal circumstances.

She/he will be part of a supportive team, committed to professional development and intellectual discovery, and will have the opportunity to advance her/his own research career as part of this prestigious international research project.

She/he will benefit from additional dedicated funding for her/his research dissemination activities and participation in international scientific events.

➤ **Special conditions of practice:**

Physical constraints

- Prolonged screen work

Various constraints

- Must interact with interlocutors.
- Must handle confidential information.
- Shared office.

6. Languages of the project

English and **French**: Good oral and written communication skills for academic research (C1 level).
Additional languages are of course welcome.

How to apply?

Please send the following documents via e-mail to Dr. Ada Reichhart (areichhart@unistra.fr) with "WE-COOP application" in the subject line:

- (1) Letter of application** describing your motivation and suitability for the position (English or French).

(2) CV (English or French) with contact information for 2 references who may be contacted during the recruitment process.

All applications meeting these requirements will be considered.

Interviews will be held in Strasbourg or remotely (depending on personal circumstances), in French and English.

Informal enquiries about the position are welcome: Dr Ada Reichhart (areichhart@unistra.fr).