

# Tenure Track Junior Professorship

## Migration, Borders and International Circulation: Controlling Mobility and Reconfiguring the Migration Issue in the World

**Key words:** Border studies, borders, obstacles, encampment, migration control

Planned tenured position as IRD Research Director after a 5-year contract

Chair attached to URMIS Migration and Society Research Unit, Nice, Université Côte d'Azur

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### Context and stakes for the Global South

For the IRD, the decision to create this Chair is fully in line with its commitment to work actively towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, with a view to building a prosperous and just world that respects the rights of peoples and individuals. It also corresponds to the priority given to the work on migration by the Knowledge Community on Migration. This position will strengthen the team involved in the bi-annual summer school on migration and globalisation, which has been strongly supported by the Institute since its creation.

The Université Côte d'Azur, with its location in a border region, its excellent teaching and scientific facilities and its international vocation, is a privileged place for research on migration, borders and international circulation. This recruitment would give a new dimension to the creation, in 2017, of a Migration Observatory in the Alpes Maritimes within the MSH Sud-Est. It would also enable the UCA to strengthen its presence within the Institut convergence Migrations (Programme investissement d'avenir).

The Migration and Society research unit (URMIS) aims to structure and revitalise its research centre on migration and borders in the South in order to strengthen its international influence. The objective of this recruitment is to further integrate URMIS into international research networks in order to include it in European projects and in partnership with Southern countries. It is expected that the researcher recruited will be the initiator of large-scale projects such as LMI or others.

The aim will also be to train young researchers on these themes, both at the doctoral level and at the level of the Migration Studies master's degree.

This will allow us to be more involved in a comparative perspective on a global scale and to attract other foreign researchers.

### Scientific objectives

In recent decades, migration control has become a priority not only in Europe but, influenced by it or not, also in many countries of the South. The human cost of these migration policies is high: more than 40,000 deaths in the Mediterranean over the last twenty years, violent exploitation of migrants in some transit countries and the development of a migration business that is now spread over all continents.

Beyond the mere control of access to their territory, states now use the "migration threat" as a bargaining chip, or even as a "hybrid weapon" on the global geopolitical scene. It is important to understand how the interpretation of migratory movements as a threat turns them into major political issues. Within the framework of the Chair "Migration, Borders and International Circulation",

work could focus on the redefinition of borders and international negotiations on the subject.

At the same time, the development of migration policies and mobility control mechanisms in countries that were previously little concerned with this issue has major consequences on migrants, their routes, their strategies and the opportunities or constraints they encounter. Encampment, backtracking, the development of alternative routes and the exploitation of sustainable opportunities in countries initially perceived as "transit countries" are all fields of study that need to be explored or deepened.

Similarly, the emergence of a social issue around migration, the presence of migrants in "southern" countries (from the Mediterranean to Central America and from the Sahel to West and East Africa), settled in cities or in camps on a long-term basis, or whose transit passage is becoming so massive that it challenges local societies, requires further study by the social sciences in the years to come.

We propose to recruit a researcher in social sciences and humanities specialised in these issues, in their entirety or from one or more specific angles, specialised in qualitative or quantitative approaches, capable of working in groups using various modes of data production. In addition to publishing articles in peer-reviewed journals and communicating in scientific events, the person should be able to set up and coordinate large-scale international projects (LMI, ANR, European...), in partnership with one or more countries of the South, to supervise post-docs in France and/or at the partners' sites, to develop research networks and to collaborate with other researchers in the unit.

The recruitment, on the Nice site of the laboratory, implies (at least) a long term mission of 6 months during the CDD in a southern partner country and the (co-)supervision of a PhD.

The Chair, which is the result of a partnership between the Université Côte d'Azur and the IRD, consists of a 5-year fixed-term contract (with a 2-month trial period) followed, after a positive evaluation, by tenure in the IRD's research director corps. This tenure will only be possible if the candidate has obtained a Habilitation to direct research (HDR) before the end of the CDD.

## Teaching objectives

The person recruited will be able to teach the approaches and objects addressed in the scientific project (in English and French) at Master's and Bachelor's level, to supervise doctoral students and to take on pedagogical responsibilities (particularly in the Migration Studies Master's programme) and in terms of research management. It is also expected to be strongly involved in the organisation of the bi-annual Migration and Globalisation summer school.

## Funding available

The laureate of the Chair will be awarded (1) by the ANR 200 k€ of funding (of which a minimum of 120 k€ for salaries -doctoral students, post-docs, IT contractual staff- the balance being reserved for the running of the project), (2) by the IRD a doctoral contract or two years of post-doctoral contract and 30 k€ for a long-term mission (about 6 months).

## Conditions for applicants

Candidates must fulfill one of the following criteria :

- hold a doctorate as provided in article L.612-7 of the French Education Code;
- hold a PhD or doctoral level of education;
- hold a doctorate in engineering;
- hold a study and research diploma in dental science (DERSO);

- hold a study and research diploma in human biology (DERBH);
- hold an overseas university degree considered equivalent to the above-mentioned diplomas; in this case, applicants should submit an equivalence request.
- show proof of qualifications or scientific works considered equivalent to the above-mentioned diplomas; in this case, applicants should submit an equivalence request.

For the equivalence request - (refer to the file integrated into the platform "démarches-simplifiées).

## Applications, selection and interviews

Applications must be submitted online at: <https://demarches.adullact.org/commencer/ird-chaire-de-professeur-ou-professeure-junior-e> by **September 15, 2022**. Applications will be assessed by a committee comprising IRD members and external experts. Candidates pre-selected by the committee will be invited for videoconference or face-to-face interview. The audition, lasting approximately one hour, will consist of a presentation by the candidate of his/her research and teaching project (the duration of which will be indicated in the invitation) followed by a discussion with the committee.

## Assessment criteria

- Excellence of the candidate, motivation, scientific and pedagogical supervision capacity
- Quality, originality, interdisciplinarity of the research and teaching projects and their Global South component
- Relevance of the proposed methods with regard to the identified problems
- Relevance and structuring effect of the project within the laboratory and at the level of partnerships
- Coherence with the Site policy
- Adequacy of the means to the proposed project and capacity to mobilise complementary means.