

2 Postdoctoral researchers in ERC project LIFELONGMOVE

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona & Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics

Job position

The Department of Sociology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (**Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, UAB**) invites applications for two postdoctoral researcher positions (*Investigador ordinari*) in the ERC-funded research project [LIFELONGMOVE](#) "Understanding spatial mobility from early life into adulthood"

This 5-year project is led by Professor Sergi Vidal and will kick off in early 2023. The project will be carried out in the [Centre for Demographic Studies \(Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics, CED\)](#) located at the UAB campus. The posts require collaborative research stays within Europe and travel for conferences, training and dissemination activities, e.g. in relation to the [IUSSP panel on migration trajectories](#)

The LIFELONGMOVE project

The [LIFELONGMOVE project](#) comprehensively and systematically examines spatial mobility over a lifetime, from early age into adulthood. It provides new insight on the pathways, resources, and strategies that underlie lifelong mobility. This insight will help formulate alternatives to the conventional explanations of spatial mobility patterns, behaviours, and stratified outcomes over the life course.

The project's three components and main objectives are (**component 1**) to document the diverse and complex pathways of lifelong mobility, from early childhood into adulthood; (**component 2**) to establish whether and how earlier or childhood moves influence spatial mobility over the life course; and (**component 3**) to document the impact of lifelong mobility on life conditions, by focusing on socio-economic, family, and health outcomes.

The LIFELONGMOVE project innovates by adopting a novel approach that recognizes the experiences and resources accumulated in earlier ages that underlie the rationales, opportunities, and restrictions for mobility behaviour, and their associated outcomes in later ages. The LIFELONGMOVE project breaks new ground by examining large-scale longitudinal datasets from surveys and integrated administrative registers that recently enabled this study for a range of European contexts, using a series of advanced quantitative methods.

Job description

The successful applicants will have demonstrated experience **in longitudinal data modelling**, working with **large, complex datasets**. The postdoctoral researchers are expected to make a leading contribution to the LIFELONGMOVE project. They will contribute to the development of the project's methodological and theoretical tasks – developing their own research agenda and engaging in collaborative research– and to contribute to the management of the project and coordination of project related activities. There are no teaching obligations associated to this post, except for the co-supervision of more junior project members.

Among others, it is expected that the postdoctoral researchers fulfill the following tasks:

- Conduct high-quality research that aligns with the aims of the LIFELONGMOVE project
 - Postdoc 1: research will particularly align with project components 1 (and 3)
 - Postdoc 2: research will particularly align with project component 2 (and 3)
- Disseminate research results in publications in top scientific journals and presentations in international conferences and workshops
- Collaborate with the PI, other team members and partner researchers at European research centres. This include research stays in national and overseas research centres
- Co-supervise junior team members
- Coordinate and assist in project-related activities. This may include planning for scientific meetings and methodological training workshops, liaising with project partners and the IUSSP panel on migration and mobility trajectories, managing the project's website and social media accounts, or developing content for vlogs

Requirements

- PhD in demography, sociology, economics, statistics, or other quantitative-oriented social science disciplines (completed or close to completion)
- Excellent academic record and strong interest in academic research, ideally proven through an international publication and research funding record relative to career stage
- Strong quantitative methodological skills, particularly for longitudinal data analysis, and a high level of proficiency of statistical software (e.g. Stata, R)
 - Postdoc 1: Advanced knowledge of (machine learning) algorithmic methods and stochastic modelling, particularly for the analysis of large longitudinal datasets
 - Postdoc 2: Advanced knowledge of causal modelling for longitudinal data
- Experience analysing complex, longitudinal datasets from survey and register sources
- Willingness to keep learning how to use new tools and methods
- Substantive research interests on spatial mobility, inequality and life course dynamics is an asset
- Very good command of English and excellent written and verbal communication skills (Spanish or Catalan language skills are not required)
- Ability to work both as part of a team and independently
- Ability to work under own initiative; strong organizational skills and attention to details
- Willingness to travel (e.g. research stays at partner centres, dissemination activities)

Benefits

- A three-year initial full-time appointment, renewable for up to one additional year conditional on performance (probation period of 3 months apply)
- Integration in the Centre for Demographic Studies (CED), one of the leading European Demography research centres
- Career mentoring
- Opportunity to develop your own research agenda within the project

- Salary range: 34,000 – 40,000 € (yearly, gross); depending on experience
- The project offers significant funding for data acquisition, the attendance of conferences, training, research stays in partner centres, and other research-related expenses.

Application / Selection process

The application must include the following items:

- Curriculum vitae (max. 5 pages)
- One or two pieces of the most relevant academic work (preferably journal publications)
- Motivation letter describing how your research profile, interests and on-going and future research plans relate to the project (max 2 pages).
- Contact details of 2 people willing to serve as a reference (references will only be requested from short-listed candidates)
- Copy of your ID/Passport
- Copy of degree certificates

Candidates must apply through the website <https://seleccio.uab.cat> (**mandatory**)

- Postdoc 1: [2022DILEUA133 - Departament de Sociologia - Investigador ordinari](#)
- Postdoc 2: [2022DILEUA134 - Departament de Sociologia - Investigador ordinari](#)

In addition, candidates should send their application documents (as one PDF-file) to **svidal@ced.uab.es** Please write "Postdoc LIFELONGMOVE" in the subject line.

Closing date for applications: **January 20, 2023**

Starting date of employment: since **February 2023** (and no later than September 2023).

Informal inquiries are encouraged by writing to Prof. Sergi Vidal (svidal@ced.uab.es)