

NOTICE OF OPENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF A DOCTORATE RESEARCHER FOR IDMEC-LAETA

Public Notice CSI_2023.14312.TENURE.004/IDMEC-LAETA

1. Framework

The Executive Board of the Institute of Mechanical Engineering (IDMEC) of the Associated Laboratory of Energy, Transportation and Aerospace (LAETA) on the 23rd of September of 2024 took the decision to open an international selection competition for one doctorate position, in full dedication, for the exercise of activities of scientific research in Mechanical Engineering in the form of a non-term employment contract under the “Código do Trabalho” (Labor Code), approved by Law No. 7/2009 of February 12, as currently amended, and within the scope of the funding mechanism of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education to support the hiring of PhDs for the scientific research career resulting from the financing program provided for in Law No. 82/2023, of December 29 (State Budget Law).

The activities to be developed include:

1. Implementation of original and independent research and development activities in the area of intelligent systems;
2. Research to be developed concentrates on using systems theory approaches to modelling, feature selection, intelligent data analysis, intelligent automation and optimization of complex systems applied mainly to relevant societal problems in energy, transports and aerospace;
3. Synergy between applied research and industry, i.e. exploration of European research and technology trends on industry digitalization supported by the Horizon Europe framework closing the gap between academia and industry.
4. Promotion and dissemination of the results obtained;
5. Transfer and valorization of knowledge, and the dissemination and communication of science;
6. Science and technology management functions to enhance scientific research activities, including tasks inherent to the preparation of applications for competitive national and international funding;
7. Supervision of research work carried out by postgraduate students and young researchers;
8. Establishment of a dynamic and independent team, securing funds to support it through competitive programs;
9. Collaboration in training and unit management activities.

This position is open under the FCT TENURE program - 1st edition, within the strategic objectives of the IDMEC, where in the researcher will become an integrated member of this Research Unit, and of the funding line to support the indefinite hiring of PhDs (additional funding programme OE to stimulate the hiring of researchers).

2. Applicable law

- “Código do Trabalho” (Labor Code), approved by Law No. 7/2009, of February 12, in its current amended version.
- If relevant, specific regulations applicable to IDMEC, namely the “Estatuto da Carreira de Investigação Científica”, Law No. 124/99, of April 20, in its current amended version.

3. Work place

The place of work is at IDMEC-LAETA, Alameda Campus of IST, Lisbon, Portugal.

4. Remuneration

The gross monthly remuneration complies with the provisions of Law No. 108/2023, of November 22, corresponding to the First Remuneration Level of Auxiliar Researcher, corresponding to index 195.

5. Admission Requirements

5.1 General Requirements

The competition is open for national candidates, foreigners and stateless persons who hold the PhD degree or hold the recognition of that degree under the terms of the Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16, in a branch of knowledge or specialty that covers the scientific area of Intelligent Systems or related scientific area, and are also holders of a scientific and professional curriculum that reveals an adequate profile to the activity to be developed.

If the doctorate was conferred by a foreign higher education institution, it must comply with Portuguese legislation regarding the registration/recognition of foreign degrees. For this purpose, the procedures described in point 6.2 (submission of applications) of this Notice must be followed.

5.2 Specific Requirements

The applicants must hold the PhD degree in Mechanical Engineering or other relevant areas, and also hold of a scientific and professional curriculum that reveals an adequate profile to the activities in the area of Intelligent Systems, namely systems theory approaches to modelling, feature selection, intelligent data analysis, intelligent automation and optimization of complex systems applied mainly to relevant societal problems in energy, transports and aerospace. Applicants must also have experience in the preparation and submission of proposals to both Portuguese and European funding mechanisms.

6. Formalization of applications

6.1 Applications are formalized by means of an application form, available at web address <https://www.idmec.tecnico.ulisboa.pt/about/job-openings/>, addressed to the President of the Institute of Mechanical Engineering, stating the identification of this notice, full name, affiliation, number and date of identity card, Citizen Card, or civil identification number, tax identification number, date and place of birth, marital status, profession, residence and contact address, including e-mail address and telephone contact. The recognition of the PhD degree should be obtained by the date of the act of contracting.

In the application form, the candidate must indicate his/her consent so that the communications and notifications in the context of this hiring procedure can take place by electronic mail, to the electronic address indicated in that application form.

6.2 The application shall be accompanied by documents proving the conditions laid down in point 5 for admission to this invitation to tender, in particular:

- a) Copy of certificate or PhD diploma indicating the respective date of completion;
- b) PhD Thesis or equivalent document(s) that determined the award of the academic PhD degree;
- c) Detailed *Curriculum Vitae*, structured in accordance with the items in points 7 and 8, indicating the works, and adding a copy of them, that the candidate considers most relevant to each of the items in points 7 and 8;
- d) *Scientific project*, focusing on intelligent systems and systems theory approaches to modelling, feature selection, intelligent data analysis, intelligent automation and optimization of complex systems applied mainly to relevant societal problems in energy, transports and aerospace. The emphasis should be placed on the first three years, and encompass the researcher's career plan. It must have a maximum of 5 pages, excluding the cover and the references (of which the maximum number is 30);
- e) Other documents that the candidate justifies to be relevant to the analysis of his/her application.

If the PhD was conferred by a foreign higher education institution, it must comply with Portuguese legislation regarding the recognition of foreign degrees, regulated by Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16. In the event of the candidate being selected, the signing of the contract is conditional upon the presentation of the formal document.

6.3 Regarding the application deadline, applicants must submit the documents referred to in 6.1 and 6.2 in PDF format at the electronic address concursosidmec@tecnico.ulisboa.pt, issued up to the last day of the tender opening period, which is fixed at 20 (twenty) working days after publication of this Notice.

An applicant may, by reason of the impossibility or technical difficulty of sending any of the documents referred to in 6.1 and 6.2 by e-mail, deliver them on physical support, respecting the above date, by registered mail with acknowledgment of receipt to the address postal service "IDMEC, IST, Av. Rovisco Pais, nº1, 1049-001 Lisboa" or by hand at IDMEC, located at Mechanical Engineering Building II, Av. Rovisco Pais, 1049-001 Lisboa until 4:00 p.m. (Lisbon time) of **August 27, 2025**.

Not being accepted the justification of the candidate for the delivery of documents only in physical format, the President of the jury will give a deadline of 5 (five) working days to present them also in digital support.

6.4 The application form is submitted in Portuguese, while the *curriculum vitae* and documents are presented in English.

6.5 Candidates who do not comply with the provisions of point 6 or fail to provide evidence of the requirements required are not admitted to the present competition. Candidates who do not submit the application using the form or who do not deliver all the documents referred to in points 6.2 a) to d) or who present them unreadable, incorrectly completed, or invalid are eliminated. The jury is also entitled to require any candidate, in case of doubt and for the purposes of admission to competition, to present documentary evidence of the declarations in the submitted documents. Failure to submit the requested clarifications, information, or documents within 5 (five) working days will result in the exclusion of the application. False statements made by the candidates will be punished in accordance with the law.

6.6 The selection process is made through the evaluation of the scientific and curriculum path of the candidates.

7. Evaluation of the candidate(s)

7.1. The evaluation focuses on the relevance, quality, and timeliness of the scientific and curriculum path:

- of the scientific, technological, academic, cultural or artistic production during the last five years and considered more relevant by the candidate;
- of the applied or practice-based research activities developed over the last five years and considered as having the greatest impact by the candidate;
- of the activities of extension and dissemination of knowledge developed during the last five years, in particular in the context of promoting the culture and scientific practices considered by the candidate to be of greater relevance;
- of the activities of science, technology and innovation programs management or of the experience in observing and monitoring the scientific and technological system or higher education, in Portugal or abroad.

7.2 The period of five years referred to in the preceding paragraph may be increased by the jury, at the request of the candidate, when justified on grounds of suspension of scientific activity for socially protected reasons, namely for reasons of parental leave, prolonged serious illness, and other situations of unavailability for work legally protected.

7.3 The final classification system for candidates is expressed from 0 to 100. The value is calculated considering that only relevant activity for the field of the competition will be considered for each item, according to the weighting referred to in point 8 of present notice.

8. Assessment criteria

The assessment criteria are set out in this entry, with the option mentioned in point 8.5, with particular emphasis on the *curriculum vitae* and the contributions considered to be of higher relevance by the

candidate in the last 5 years:

8.1 Quality of the scientific, technological, cultural or artistic production, considered more relevant by the candidate, and relevant to the project to be developed, which was given a weighting factor of 60% considering:

i) Scientific publications: a parameter which includes books, chapters of books, articles in scientific journals and international conference proceedings of which the applicant was the author or co-author, considering:

- its nature;
- its impact;
- the scientific / technological level and innovation;
- the scientific responsibility in each publication;
- diversity and multidisciplinary;
- international collaboration;
- the importance of contributions to the advancement of the current state of knowledge;
- the importance of the works that have been selected by the candidate as most representative, in particular as regards their contribution to the development and evolution of the scientific area for which the competition is open.

ii) Creation and strengthening of laboratory resources: a parameter that considers the candidate's participation and coordination of initiatives resulting in the creation or strengthening of experimental and/or computational laboratory infrastructures to support research.

iii) Recognition by the international scientific community: a parameter that takes into account:

- prizes from scientific societies;
- editorial activities in scientific journals;
- participation in editorial bodies of scientific journals;
- coordination and participation in program committees of scientific events;
- invited lectures in scientific meetings or in other institutions;
- participation as a member of competitive admission scientific societies and other similar distinctions

iv) Coordination and participation in scientific projects: a parameter that includes the candidate's participation and coordination of scientific projects subject to competitive procedures, considering:

- the territorial scope and its dimension;
- the technological level and the importance of contributions;
- innovation and diversity.

v) Enhancement of scientific activity: a parameter that takes into account the capacity of coordination and leadership of research teams demonstrated by the candidate.

vi) Accompaniment and orientation of students, trainees and research fellows: a parameter that intends the orientation of doctoral students, master's and undergraduate students, trainees and research fellows taking into account the number, quality, scope and scientific / technological impact of the resulting publications, theses, dissertations and final course papers, distinguishing especially the awarded works and the international recognition.

8.2. Activities of applied or practice-based research, considered to be of greatest impact by the candidate, and relevant to the project to be developed, which was given a weighting factor of 10% considering:

(i) Vocational training actions: a parameter which takes into account the participation and coordination of technological training actions aimed at enterprises and the public sector, taking into account their nature, technological intensity and results achieved.

ii) Provision of services and integrated consultancy in the institutional mission: a parameter that considers participation in activities involving the business community and the public sector, taking into account the type of participation, size, diversity, technological intensity and innovation.

iii) Design, project, and production of scientific achievements: a parameter that takes into account the value of relevant professional experiences for the activities of the Institute.

8.3 Activities of extension and dissemination of knowledge, particularly in the context of the promotion of culture and scientific practices, considered of greater relevance by the candidate, and relevant to the project to be developed, which was given a weighting factor of 20% considering:

i) Industrial and intellectual property;

ii) Publications of scientific and technological outreach: parameter that takes into account the articles in

magazines and national conferences and other publications of scientific and technological diffusion, taking into account their professional and social impact.

iii) Services to the scientific community and to society: a parameter that takes into account the participation and coordination of scientific and technological dissemination initiatives and considering the nature and results achieved by these initiatives, when carried out towards:

- the scientific community, including the organization of congresses and conferences;
- the media;
- companies and the public sector.

8.4 Contribution to activities related to the management of science, technology and innovation programs, or experience in the observation and monitoring of the scientific and technological system or higher education, in Portugal or abroad, and relevant to the project to be developed, with a weighting factor of 10% considering:

i) Positions in university, school, or research unit bodies: a parameter that considers the nature and responsibility of the position.

ii) Other positions: parameter that takes into account the exercise of positions in national and international scientific organizations.

8.5. In weighing the evaluation criteria listed in paragraphs 8.1 to 8.4, each jury member may consider the following additional parameters under the following conditions:

- Relevance and quality of the scientific project proposed in the area of intelligent systems and systems theory approaches to modelling, feature selection, intelligent data analysis, intelligent automation and optimization of complex systems applied mainly to relevant societal problems in energy, transports and aerospace.
- Ability to obtain and secure funding from agencies and institutions of the national scientific and technological system.
- Capacity for independence and scientific leadership, in terms of project conceptualization and results dissemination.
- Presentation of the scientific project and interview.

9. Jury composition

The jury of the competition is composed as follows:

- Virginia Isabel Monteiro Nabais Infante (Full Professor of Instituto Superior Técnico of Universidade de Lisboa, President);
- João Miguel da Costa Sousa (Full Professor of Instituto Superior Técnico of Universidade de Lisboa);
- Uzay Kaymak (Full Professor of Technische Universiteit Eindhoven);
- João Paulo Flores Fernandes (Full Professor of Escola de Engenharia of Universidade do Minho);
- Catarina Helena Branco Simões da Silva (Associate Professor of Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia of Universidade de Coimbra).

10. Competencies, functioning, and decisions of the Jury

It is the responsibility of the jury of the competitive procedure to ensure its processing, namely: assess the applications; deliberate through reasoned nominal voting according to the adopted and disclosed selection criteria, with no abstentions allowed; hold meetings, including those for the final decision, using telematic means.

Minutes are drawn up for the jury meetings, containing a summary of what occurred therein, as well as the votes cast by each member and their respective justifications.

After the completion of the application of the selection criteria, the jury must proceed to prepare an ordered list of approved candidates with their respective ratings.

10.1 The jury may decide to select up to 3 candidates who will be called to hold a session presenting the

results of their investigation, following which the jury members should stimulate an open debate on its content and innovative character. This presentation session does not constitute a selection method and is not classified, aiming merely to obtain explanations or clarifications of elements contained in the candidates' curricula.

10.2 The jury, when it deems it necessary, may request the candidate to present additional documents proving the candidate's statements, which are relevant to the analysis and classification of his/her application.

10.3 Approval on absolute merit:

- The Jury will deliberate on its approval or rejection on absolute merit, by a justified vote where no abstentions are admitted.
- A candidate is considered approved in absolute merit when he/she obtains a favorable vote of more than half of the members of the jury.
- Candidates who have a scientific and curricular path relevant to the scientific area(s) of the competition and taking into account their suitability for the additional weighting criteria identified in 8.5 will be approved on absolute merit.
- The unfavorable vote to approval on absolute merit can still be justified by the failure to fulfill the following circumstance: a) the Scientific Project prepared by the candidate is shown to be clearly insufficient and misaligned with the scientific area(s), suffering from serious inaccuracies or not supported by previous work of the candidate.

10.4 Each member of the jury assigned a classification to each of the candidates in each evaluation criteria, on a scale of 0 to 100 points, ranking the candidates according to their classification consisting on the sum of the partial classifications assigned in each evaluation criteria, and taking into account the weighting factor given to each parameter.

10.5 Candidates shall be ordered by applying the successive voting method.

10.6. The jury decides by absolute majority, and abstentions are not allowed.

10.7 The final classification of each candidate is the one corresponding to his/her ranking resulting from the application of the method referred to in point 10.4.

10.8 After the selection criteria assessment, the jury proceeds to prepare the ordered list of approved candidates with their respective ratings.

10.9 The final deliberation of the jury is approved by the President of IDMEC, and it is her responsibility to establish the respective contract.

11. Publication

The list of admitted and excluded candidates, as well as the final ranking list of candidates, will be published on the IDMEC website (<https://www.idmec.tecnico.ulisboa.pt/>), with candidates notified via email, with a delivery receipt for the notification.

12. Prior Hearing and Deadline for Final Decision

After being notified, the candidates have 10 (ten) working days to submit a formal rebuttal. Within the term of 90 days, counted from the deadline for the submission of applications, the final decisions of the jury are given.

13. Final Ranking List and Job Occupancy

This tender is exclusively intended to fill the vacancy indicated and may be terminated until the homologation of the final ranking list of candidates and expiring with the respective occupation of the working position on offer.

14. Non-discrimination and equal access policy

14.1 IDMEC-LAETA actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, disadvantaged or deprived of any right or exemption from any duty owing, in particular, to ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic situation, education, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and trade union affiliation.

14.2 Under the terms of Decree Law No. 29/2001, of February 3, a disabled candidate has a preference when in equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare on the application form their respective degree of disability, the type of disability and the means of communication/expression to be used in the selection process, under the terms of the aforementioned diploma.

15. Privacy Policy

IDMEC-LAETA is the Data Controller within the meaning of Regulation 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation).

The personal data processed in the context of this recruitment procedure are intended for its instruction and will be processed by IDMEC-LAETA for the purpose of verifying that the candidates meet the prerequisites set out in the applicable legislation for their hiring.

Opposition to the processing of data by candidates will render the application inadmissible and, consequently, its analysis and evaluation.

The data retention period will correspond to the legally defined five-year period.

Data subjects have the right to object to the collection and processing, to verify, correct, delete, and limit the use of the data collected. The exercise of these rights is exempted when personal data are used to safeguard public interest, particularly in cases of crime detection and prevention, or when they are subject to professional secrecy.

Data subjects have the right of access and data portability.

To exercise their rights, contact IDMEC via email concursosidmec@tecnico.ulisboa.pt. Data subjects always have the right to contact and lodge a complaint with the National Data Protection Commission.

