ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Title: Research Fellowship; 1 vacancy

Reference of the Appliation: 33/ECUM/CFUM/2026 - NemoRehab

A call for applications is now open for the attribution of one (1) Research Fellowship within the scope of the I&D project "NeMoRehab: Multimodal closed-loop biofeedback system for neuro-motor rehabilitation", com a referência 20400 - NORTE2030-FEDER-01697800, funded by the European Regional Development Fund (FEDER), through the National Innovation Agency (ANI), the Framework Programme Portugal 2030 – Programa Inovação e Transição Digital | COMPETE 2030, medida eixo SIID – Internacionalização de I&D- Operações de I&D industrial à escala europeia.

Scientific Area: Physics or Physical Engineering, Materials Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Chemistry or Chemical Engineering, or related fields

Recipient category: Candidates must hold a Master's degree in Physics or Physical Engineering, Materials Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Chemistry or Chemical Engineering, or related fields.

The grant is intended for the performance of R&D activities by master's degree holders who are enrolled in non-degree-awarding courses integrated into the educational project of a higher education institution.

Requirement for granting the fellowship:

- The applicants may apply without prior registration in the course for which the fellowship is open. The requirement to enroll in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be verified on the date of contracting the fellowship;
- Only fellowships whose selected applicants present a valid proof of enrollment in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be contracted, according to the type of the fellowship, issued by a Higher Education Institution, indicating, respectively, the academic year or its duration (start and term).

Applicants' eligibility: Candidates who meet the conditions set out in Article 9 of the Research Grant Regulations, No. 950/2019, of 16-12-2019, of FCT I.P. are eligible.

Nationals or citizens of other European Union member states, third-country nationals, stateless persons, and citizens with political refugee status are eligible to apply for this competition.

Candidate eligibility requirements:

a) Holders of a Master's degree, with experience in the deposition of thin films or other materials applied to biomedical devices, namely in the acquisition and modeling of biosignals;

b) Preferential factors: experience with the magnetron sputtering physical vapor deposition technique.

Workplan and objectives to be achieved:

The work plan aims at the development of a biosignal sensor/actuator array, based on nanostructured thin films, to be integrated into a wearable device intended for posture correction in children and young people.

Applicable legislation and regulations: Research Fellow Statute (EBI), approved by Law nº. 40/2004 of August 18, in its current wording and FCT Research Fellowship Regulation, approved by Regulation nº 950/2019, published in the Diário da República, 2nd series, of December 16, 2019, in its current wording, and Scientific Research Fellowship Regulation (RBIC) of the University of Minho, approved by order nº 4998/2025, published in the Diário da República, 2nd series, nº 81, of April 28, 2025 Amended and republished through amendment statement no. 634/2025/2, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd series, no. 132, of July 11.

Host/Contracting institution and scientific supervision: The workplan will be carried out at the Center of Physics of the Universities of Minho and Porto – School of Sciences of the University of Minho, located at the Campus of Azurém, under the scientific supervision of Professor Filipe Vaz, Associate Professor with Habilitation, of the Department of Physics of the School of Sciences of the University of Minho, and Doctor Cláudia Lopes, Assistant Researcher at the Centre for Mechanical Technology and Automation of the University of Aveiro, under the coordination of Professor António Onofre Gonçalves, Director of the Centre of Physics of the Universities of Minho and Porto.

Fellowship duration: The grant will take place for a period of 9 months, with a provisional starting date on November of 2026. The fellowship grant is non-renewable.

Amount of the research grant: The amount of the grant corresponds to 1359,64 €/month, according to the table of values of the Research scholarship of the University of Minho (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM-2026.pdf) updated annually, as decided by the Management Board.

Payment is made on the 23rd of each month, through bank transfer to the Bank Identification Number of the fellow identified in the contractualization process.

Other benefits: Reimbursement of Voluntary Social Insurance, if the candidate chooses to receive it, corresponding to the 1st level of discounts (for research grants with a total duration 6 months or higher) and personal accident insurance.

Exclusivity regime: The grantee will perform the activities under exclusivity, as foreseen in article 5º of the Research Fellow Statutes and applicable regulations.

Selection panel:

President of the Jury:
José Filipe Vilela Vaz, Associate Professor with Habilitation, Department of Physics, School of Sciences, University of Minho;

Effective Members: Cláudia de Jesus Ribeiro Lopes, Assistant Researcher at the Centre for Mechanical Technology and Automation, University of Aveiro and Maria Dulce Silva Geraldo, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, School of Science, University of Minho.

Alternate Members: Armando José Barros Ferreira, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, School of Sciences, University of Minho and Paula Cristina Soares Encarnação, Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing of the University of Minho.

In the event of an impediment of the President of the Jury, he shall be replaced by the first effective member, and the alternate member shall be appointed to replace the effective member.

Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection: The applications assessment will focus on the candidate's Merit, following evaluation criteria, valued on a scale of 0 to 5 values:

Applicant Merit - AM (70%):
A.1 – Academic background (reflecting the grades obtained in academic degrees), with a weighting of 40%;
A.2 – Personal curriculum (reflecting the scientific and professional trajectory), with a weighting of 40%;
A.3 – Motivation letter, with a weighting of 20%.

The final classification of the applicant's merit with the achieved through the following formula:

$$\mathbf{AM = (A.1*0,40) + (A.2*0,40) + (A.3*0,20)}$$

All candidates evaluated under the Candidate's Merit will be admitted to the Interview stage, with the Jury proceeding to assess the following sub-criteria.

B - Interview – INT (30%)

B.1 – Interpersonal skills (20%)

B.2 – Knowledge demonstrated in the field of the call (30%)

B.3 – Motivation (30%)

B.4 – Language skills (20%)

The final interview score will be obtained by applying the following formula:

INT = (B.1*0.2) + (B.2*0.3) + (B.3*0.3) + (B.4*0.2)

The final classification will be obtained using the following formula:

CF = (AM*0.7) + (INT*0.3)

Note: Applicants with degrees obtained abroad must present proof of recognition of qualifications in Portugal and conversion of the final classification obtained in them to the Portuguese classification scale or declaration under the terms indicated in the previous point. Candidates who do not refer the Portuguese classification, the selection panel will assign "0" in the grade of the graduation and/or master course. Candidates will be evaluated on the remaining parameters.

Application deadline and submission: The call for applications is open for a period of 10 working days from the date of publication on the Euraxess portal.

Applications must be submitted by email to bolsas@ecum.uminho.pt , indicating the reference number of the competition in the subject line: **33/ECUM/CFUM/2026 – NemoRehab.** Only applications submitted within the established deadline and accompanied by the following documents will be accepted:

a) Candidate's updated curriculum vitae;

b) Certificates of the academic degrees obtained or, if applicable, the candidate's declaration of honor that he/she has completed the degrees required in the notice by the application deadline (not applicable to research initiation grants).

For degrees obtained abroad, the record of recognition of the academic degrees and record of the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale must be presented, or, alternatively, a declaration of honor from the candidate.

This declaration must attest to facts that occurred prior to the application. In the event of a discrepancy between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for the purposes of contracting the scholarship, only the information contained in the latter will be considered. If it is found that the documents proving the academic degree and diploma, or their recognition under the terms of Decree-Law n. º 66/2018, of August 16, do not correspond to the classifications awarded in the

assessment of the academic career and may consequently alter the candidate's ranking, the scholarship will not be contracted;

c) Motivation Letter

d) Other mandatory documents to be attached at the time of application.

Form of publication/notification of results: The results of the evaluation are published in a single list (by final score obtained), posted in a visible and public place in the host unit, as well as by email to all candidates, attaching, for this purpose, the minutes of the jury's deliberations, within a maximum period of 90 working days from the deadline for submission of applications.

Candidates are informed, at a preliminary hearing, in accordance with Articles 121 and 122 of the Administrative Procedure Code, of the likely outcome of the final decision, and may comment within 10 working days of this notification.

The waiver of the hearing for interested parties must be justified in accordance with Article 124 of the CPA.

An appeal may be lodged against the final decision within 15 working days, or an appeal may be lodged with the highest executive body of the funding entity within 30 days, both after the respective notification (Article 12(n°6) of the FCT Research Grant Regulations).

Within 10 working days of notification of the grant award, the applicant must declare their acceptance in writing. In case of non-acceptance, the next highest ranked applicant will be notified immediately.

Fellowship contractualization: The scholarship is awarded through the signing of a contract between the University of Minho and the scholarship recipient, in accordance with point 2.4 of the Rules for the Award and Management of Scholarships https://www.fct.pt/wpcontent/uploads/2022/03/Normas_de_Atribuicao_de_Bolsas_2021.pdf and the draft contract in Annex II of the University of Minho's Scientific Research Scholarship Regulations.

The contract can only be signed after receipt of all the documentation required for the type of scholarship, which must occur within a maximum period of 6 months, including proof of academic degrees or diplomas, as well as enrollment in non-degree study cycles or courses, as applicable.

Once all the documentation has been received, the contracting entity has 60 working days to sign the scholarship contract. Once received by the scholarship holder, the contract must be returned, duly signed, within 15 working days.

Term and cancellation of fellowship contracts: Without prejudice to the other grounds laid down in the University of Minho's Scientific Research Scholarship Regulation and in the Research Fellow Statute, the scholarship

will cease on completion of the contracted work plan, as well as on expiry of the period for which it was granted or renewed.

The **final report** must be submitted to the scientific advisor, in accordance with the defined objectives and evaluation criteria, no later than 60 working days after the end of the scholarship and must be drawn up in accordance with Annex I of the Regulations of the University of Minho.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy: Universidade do Minho actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate may be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty due, namely, 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 convictions and trade union membership.

Declaration of Honor

Academic qualifications

I, (full name), candidate for the vacancy for the award of a (type of scholarship), within the scope of the project (name or reference of the project), published on the Euraxess portal, with the reference (ref. notice), declare on my honor that I have completed the academic degree of (academic degree), qualifying for the type of scholarship in the competition, namely the course (designation), by the (University conferring the degree), on the date XX/XX/XXXX, with a final average of XXXXX values on the YY scale.

As it is not possible for me to present proof of qualifications until the end of the competition, I declare that I undertake to present the aforementioned certificate at the moment of the scholarship contract, in the event that I am selected for the vacancy in the competition.

As this is true, I hereby date and sign this declaration.

(Place), (date).

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(full name)

NOTE: The declaration may only attest to facts that occurred prior to the application.

In the event of a discrepancy between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for the purpose of contracting the scholarship, only the information contained in the latter will be taken into account.

Declaration of Honor

I, (full name), bearer of identification document number (XXXX), candidate for a research grant (type of grant), within the scope of the project (name or reference of the project), published on the Euraxess portal, with the reference (ref. call for proposals), declare on my honor that (I have not received any research grants to date / I have received the following research grants) under the Research Grant Holder Statute.

University	Financing Entity	Project	Type of Grant	Duration	Start	Term

As this is true, I hereby date and sign this declaration.

(Place), (date).

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(full name)