![Trinity College Dublin — Coláiste na Trínóide, Baile Átha Cliath — The University of Dublin](logo)

Job Description

Comp ID	035585
Job Title:	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, PaCE Project (in conflict research with focus on forecasting and machine learning.
School/Department:	Department of Political Science, School of Social Sciences and Philosophy
Job Category and Level:	Research; Appointment will be on IUA Postdoctoral Salary Scale depending on experience and in line with current Government pay policy.
Closing Date:	Monday, 21 March 2022, 12 Noon (Irish Time)

The Purpose of the Role

The Department of Political Science at Trinity College Dublin (TCD) seeks to appoint an outstanding, enthusiastic, and highly motivated Research Fellow who will contribute to a project that uses machine-learning methods to forecast interstate and civil wars (see forecastlab.org).

The post-holder will work in an exciting environment alongside a highly creative and motivated team, to acquire and analyse time series data from pre-conflict environments (both interstate and civil war) and apply recent machine learning techniques to forecasting the onset of these events.

Context

Our group is located in Trinity College, in the heart of Dublin. Trinity was founded in 1592 and is ranked as Ireland's No 1 University in the QS World University Ranking, the World University Ranking and the Academic Ranking of World Universities. It is a member of the League of European Research Universities. The Department of Political Science consistently ranks number #1 in Ireland, in the top 20 in Europe and in the top 50 in the world (QS rankings).

Trinity's Diversity Statement can be viewed in full at https://www.tcd.ie/diversity-inclusion/diversity-statement. The successful post-holder will be supervised by Professor Thomas Chadefaux.

Main Responsibilities

Research

- Acquire and process time series data from finance, diplomatic cables, and newspapers
- Apply Machine Learning methods using Python/R
- Work on the classification of temporal patterns
- Contribute to the development of an early warning system for conflict
- Contribute to the growth of the methodological and substantive expertise of the team
- Participate in the team's publications.

Person Requirements

The post-holder will require the following knowledge, skills and attributes for successful performance in the role.

Qualifications

- Excellent academic record and have completed or be very close to completion of a Ph.D. in the following (but not limited to):
  - o Computer science
  - o Engineering
  - o Physics
  - o Political Science
  - o Economics

Knowledge & Experience

The successful candidate will be expected to clearly demonstrate the following:

Essential:

- Excellent knowledge of R and/or Python (required)
- Knowledge of machine learning (required)

Desirable:

- Advanced knowledge of machine learning (highly desirable)
- Advanced knowledge of econometrics (desirable)
- Familiarity with Social Sciences (desirable)
- Experience with time series classification and analysis (highly desirable)

Skills

- Well-developed written and verbal communication skills and interpersonal skills.
- Planning and organisational skills, particularly coordinating processes and systems.
- Ability to represent the School and College on appropriate national and international advisory boards and professional bodies.

Personal attributes

- Capability and confidence to take ownership of problems and seek long term solutions.
- Career driven, enthusiastic and motivated.
- Commitment to own professional development

Further Information

Informal enquiries: contact Professor Thomas Chadefaux (Professor, Department of Political Science, TCD; thomas.chadefaux@tcd.ie)

Application Information

- Candidates should submit the following documentation via email to the address iversl@tcd.ie indicating exactly "[PaCE] application" in the subject line:
    - A motivation letter clearly indicating how the applicant's profile and skills fit the requirements of this position (max. 2 pages);
    - A full curriculum vitae;
    - Names, affiliation, and contact details of 3 referees (with their email addresses included).

Application deadline: Monday 21 March 2022, 12noon (Irish time).