

Research officer position

UNESCO Chair in the Ethics of the Living and the Artificial (EVA) Specialty: Ethics, philosophy

Description of employer

Université Côte d'Azur is a large public scientific, cultural and professional institution whose fundamental missions are the higher education of students and professionals, excellence in research, and innovation in the service of all. Since January 1, 2020, we have strived to build a 21st century French university, based on new interactions between disciplines (multidisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity), and driven by dynamic collaborations that connect Training-Research-Innovation, as well as strong local, national and international partnerships with the public and private sectors.

Université Côte d'Azur is committed to a path of transformation and excellence, which it is achieving through the UCAJedi project, awarded the Initiative of Excellence (IDEX) label in 2016, 3IA (Interdisciplinary Institute of Artificial Intelligence), created in 2019, and the establishment of Graduate Research Schools (EUR). The university aims to be a major research-intensive university that is both grounded in our region and internationally oriented. Université Côte d'Azur directly employs more than 3,000 staff and welcomes more than 30,000 students each year.

Université Côte d'Azur has many campuses, mainly in Nice, Sophia Antipolis and Cannes but also widely distributed between Seyne-sur-Mer and Menton. It occupies a special place between the sea and the mountains, providing a pleasant lifestyle for its staff and students. Its location in the heart of Europe combined with ease of access via Nice Côte d'Azur International Airport makes it a gateway to the academic and scientific world.

Find out more at [Working for Université Côte d'Azur](#)

Job description

Under the UNESCO Chair in the Ethics of the Living and the Artificial (EVA), a part-time research officer position is open on a fixed-term contract for a period of 12 months from February, 2022.

The UNESCO Chair in the Ethics of the Living and the Artificial (EVA) is dedicated to the ethical and political analysis of recent developments related to the living and the artificial, and seeks to actively involve ethics in the entirety of the innovation process. Its field of inquiry ranges from issues of human, animal and environmental bioethics to digital technology and artificial intelligence. The UNESCO EVA Chair employs a transdisciplinary methodology, thanks to its team of experts in various fields, who contribute diverse perspectives.

Its research program is organized around three distinct but complementary axes: 1/ Freedoms and determinisms; 2/ Gender; 3/ Responsibilities.

The objectives of the Chair are:

- To develop new theoretical tools within ethics at the interface of the living and the artificial, and to re-examine these two categories.
- To develop new practices, in particularly clinical practices, at the interface of the living and the artificial.
- To increase co-operation between the research community and civil society, as well as with political and economic actors, especially within the framework of North/South exchanges and dialogue.
- To promote pluralism in the development of new technologies, particularly in terms of gender and cultures.

The Research officer will work under the direction of and in close collaboration with the holder of the Chair at Université Côte d'Azur, Professor Vanessa Nurock, and with the bioethics section of UNESCO.

For an introduction to the chair (FR EN ES): <https://chaireunesco-eva.univ-paris8.fr/>

Principal activities

1/ Research work

Research is at the core of this position. In particular, this will consist of a bibliographical study, synthesis and analysis that will contribute to the implementation of UNESCO's Recommendation on the ethics of artificial intelligence.

<https://en.unesco.org/artificial-intelligence/ethics>

This work will also involve:

- Completing a summary of any current AI ethics recommendations based on existing documents
- Conducting more general research at the intersection between AI ethics and other areas mentioned in UNESCO's Recommendation on the ethics of AI, such as gender equality, environmental protection, etc.

- Conducting research to support the development of two major tools for the implementation of the Recommendation (the ethical impact assessment and the readiness assessment methodology)
- Completing and leading research to survey existing impact measurement tools and readiness assessment methodologies based on a document in preparation at UNESCO
- Contributing to the analysis of surveys

The work will lead to several deliverables in mainly English and some French. Literature review and scientific writing, editing and in-depth study related to the themes of the EVA Chair.

II/ Support for scientific events

The incumbent will assist in the organization and running of seminars, workshops and conferences within the framework of the Chair in France and abroad.

The role will also involve organizing consultations on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence.

III/ Supervision of trainees

The incumbent will assist in supervising master's level interns on working the themes of the Chair and/or in partnership with UNESCO.

Required profile:

PhD student or doctor of philosophy, with a strong interest in ethics in general, and the ethics of AI in particular.

Competence and qualities required

Excellent spoken and written French and English

Ability to work efficiently and synthesize information, strong writing and interpersonal skills, capacity to exchange and support arguments, debating abilities. Curiosity and ability to be openminded, multidisciplinary approach.

Job location

Nice, Université Côte d'Azur Research Center for the History of Ideas (CRHI-Campus Carlone) and Paris, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO headquarters), some trips abroad.

Remote working arrangements are possible.

Application conditions

Type of recruitment: External

One-year fixed-term part-time (50%) contract

Recruitment level: category A (IGR)

Remuneration:

From €1,200 gross per month, depending on candidate's profile (qualifications and experience)

Further information:

For any questions, please contact vanessa.nurock@univ-cotedazur.fr

Applications, including a curriculum vitae, a cover letter, and a letter of recommendation from the thesis supervisor should be sent to the following address: vanessa.nurock@univ-cotedazur.fr

With copy to recruitment@univ-cotedazur.fr before February 15th, 2022.

All our positions are open to people with disabilities.

Find all our available positions on the web portal [Working for Université Côte d'Azur](#) .