



**PUBLIC NOTICE/0080/2026**

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR APPLICATIONS  
FOR THE POST OF POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHER**

**PURSUANT TO DECREE-LAW NO. 57/ 2016 OF 29 AUGUST**

**Internal Reference:** CBR-2026-03

**1. Framework**

The Rector of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Prof. Dr. Isabel Capelo Gil, hereby announces the opening of an international call for applications for one vacancy of junior doctoral researcher to perform duties of scientific research and knowledge transfer (with an exclusivity clause), in the scientific field of Molecular Biology, Developmental Biology, Genetics or similar fields. The research activities will be carried out at the Católica Biomedical Research Centre (CBR), integrated at the Católica Medical School of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, in Lisboa - Oeiras, within the framework of the FCT funding titled "Biomedical Research Centre of the Catholic Portuguese University", reference UID/06497/2025 and DOI <https://doi.org/10.54499/UID/06497/2025>.

Description of research activities:

We aim to investigate the contribution of transcriptional and chromatin-based mechanisms during embryonic blood development. Towards this, we combine pluripotent stem cell- based differentiation models that closely recapitulates embryonic blood differentiation with large-scale, targeted CRISPR-Cas9 KO screens, in order to identify molecular regulators essential for lineage choice during early haematopoiesis.

We furthermore aim at functionally and molecularly characterizing the newly identified regulators using high-dimensional FACS analysis, timely controlled knock-out strategies, gene expression analysis and chromatin-accessibility assays coupled with genome-wide binding analysis.

We ultimately aim to discover novel molecular regulations in early blood development. Not only will these insights fill important gaps in our knowledge of this process but will pave the way for much-needed improvements to stem cell derivation/expansion protocols, with the potential to advance clinical applications of these cells for the treatment of blood diseases.

**2. Applicable Legislation**

Decree-Law no. 57/2016 of 29 August, amended by Law no. 57/2017 of 19 July, in its current wording, which sets out the framework for the hiring of post-doctoral academics, aimed at fostering scientific and technological employment in all areas of knowledge (RJEC), without prejudice to the specific regulations applicable to the Universidade Católica Portuguesa.

**3. Workplace**

The workplace is located at the Lisboa - Oeiras facilities of the Católica Biomedical Research Centre.

**4. Remuneration**

The gross monthly salary is €2.408,11, plus a meal allowance. In addition to these amounts, annual vacation and Christmas bonuses are provided.

## 5. Admission requirements

Any national, foreign, or stateless candidates who hold a doctoral degree in Molecular Biology, Immunology, Developmental Biology, Genetics or related scientific fields, and who furthermore hold a scientific and

professional curriculum vitae whose profile is suited to the activities to be performed, can submit their application.

If the doctoral degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, said degree must comply with the provisions of Portuguese legislation regarding the recognition of foreign degrees. For those purposes, the requirements described in **point no. 11** of this public notice must be considered.

### 5.1. General Requirements

- PhD in the field of Molecular Biology, Immunology, Genetics or related scientific field.
- Excellent scientific output for career level
- Proficiency in spoken and written English, and good communication skills presenting scientific work
- Be able to work independently, in a collaborative, multicultural and multilingual scientific environment
- Proactive and autonomous working attitude and critical thinking
- Strong motivation to work on the described project

### 5.2. Specific Requirements

- Expertise in cell culture ideally of pluripotent stem cells,
- Expertise in genome wide genomic techniques including CHIP-seq, ATAC-seq
- Expertise in gene expression analysis at the bulk and single cell level
- Expertise in all standard molecular and cell biology techniques including CRISPR-Cas 9 and cloning, ---
- Expertise in advanced FACS analysis
- Expertise in analysis of NGS data sets

Expertise in murine animal models will be highly valued.

Previous experience in supervision and mentoring

## 6. Selection Process

The selection process must comply with article 5 of the RJEC.

## 7. Assessment criteria

The assessment criteria are the following: scientific output and its relevance, participation in scientific projects and conferences, student supervision, scientific dissemination activities, knowledge transfer, and other relevant activities and experience. The assessment process additionally includes an interview with the candidates ranked in the top three positions.

The final score for candidates is expressed on a scale of 0 to 100. The score is calculated such that, for each item, only activities relevant to the field of the application are considered, with each factor weighted as follows:

### 1. Scientific and curricular background (SCB)

- a) Scientific and technological output: 40%;
- b) Applied or practice-based research activities: 30%;
- c) Knowledge extension and dissemination activities: 20%;
- d) Interview (I).

Candidates who rank in the top three positions will be interviewed to clarify aspects related to their research results. Candidates are asked to give a 10-minute presentation using a digital file in PowerPoint format, in which they illustrate their contributions to this criterion.



Candidates who are interviewed will be assigned a new score in addition to the one initially indicated, based on the following formula:

$$\text{Final classification} = 90\% \text{ SCB} + 10\% \text{ I}$$

### 8. Tender Selection Panel

Pursuant to article 13 of the RJEC, the tender selection panel shall be formed by:

President of the Jury: Prof. Dr. Nina Schmolka;

Other members: Dr. Marija Garcia; Prof. Dr. Raquel Oliveira and Prof. Dr. Cláudio Franco.

### 9. Deliberation and publication

The panel shall deliberate by means of roll-call voting based on the adopted and disclosed selection criteria, with no abstentions allowed. Minutes of panel meetings shall be taken. These shall contain a summary of events, as well as details of the votes cast by each of the members and their respective reasoning. After all selection criteria have been applied, the panel shall prepare a ranked list of approved candidates and their respective classification. The panel's final decision shall be approved by the Rector, who shall also approve the hiring of the selected candidate.

The ranked list of approved candidates will be posted at the Lisboa - Oeiras facilities of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, located at Universidade Católica Portuguesa - Campus de Sintra, Estrada Octávio Pato 2635-631 Rio de Mouro, Portugal and will be published on the website [Católica Biomedical Research Centre | FM-WEBSITE \(ucp.pt\)](#). Candidates will be notified by email once this list has been made available.

### 10. Preliminary Hearing and Final Decision Deadline

After notification of the results, candidates have 10 working days to respond. In the following 5 working days (counting from the end of the candidates' response period), the panel's final decision is issued.

### 11. Formal application procedure

Applications are formalized by sending the required documentation to [nschmolka@ucp.pt](mailto:nschmolka@ucp.pt).

Applications must be submitted in English.

Applications shall include the following documents:

- a) Curriculum vitae;
- b) Doctoral Certificate with date of admission to the degree;
- c) Motivation letter;
- d) Contact details of at least 2 references (name, affiliation and email address);

If the doctoral degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must comply with the provisions of Portuguese law regarding the recognition of foreign degrees, as regulated by Decree-Law No. 66/2018 of August 16. If the candidate is selected, the signing of the contract is contingent upon the submission of the official document.

For additional information on this matter candidates are advised to check the website of the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES): <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>.

### 12. Application deadline

Candidates may submit their application, pursuant to the terms mentioned in the previous point, from June 22, 2026 until August 8, 2026 (until 5pm, Continental Portugal time).



Candidates who do not comply with the application's prerequisites or who fail to submit proof of meeting the requirements stated in the present public notice shall be excluded from consideration. In case of doubt, the panel is entitled to request that candidates present further documentation attesting to their written statements.

Failure to submit the requested clarification, information, or documents, within five working days of being requested to do so, determines the dismissal of the application.

Any false statements made or provided by the candidates are punishable by law.

### **13. Privacy Policy**

Universidade Católica Portuguesa is the controller responsible for the processing of Personal Data in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 – General Regulation on Data Protection.

The personal data submitted within the scope of this tender procedure is processed within the framework of said tender procedure only, and will be treated by Universidade Católica Portuguesa with the purpose of verifying the fulfillment, by the candidates, of the assumptions established in the applicable legislation for their contracting. Opposition to the processing of data by the candidates will make it impossible to accept the application and, therefore, to analyze and evaluate it.

The personal data of the Data Subject, if it be indispensable for the fulfillment of the obligations of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, may be conveyed to third parties, namely to the Financing Entities identified in this announcement.

The data retention period shall correspond to the legally defined period of five years.

The Data Subject is entitled to oppose to the collection and processing of data, has the right to verification, the right to rectification, the right to deletion, and the right to restriction of processing of the data collected. However, the exercise of such rights may be excluded when the personal data is used to protect public interest, namely in the detection and prevention of crimes or when subject to professional rules of confidentiality.

The Data Subject has the right of access and portability of the data.

Rights of Personal Data Subjects: <https://www.ucp.pt/rights-data-subjects>.

For purposes of exercising the respective rights, contact the University through the e-mail address [compliance.rgpd@ucp.pt](mailto:compliance.rgpd@ucp.pt) or by using the address found at the end of this announcement, through the means set out in "Contacts for clarification".

The Data Subject is always entitled to contact and file a complaint with the Comissão Nacional de Proteção de Dados (Portuguese Supervisory Authority for Personal Data).

### **14. Non-discrimination and equal access policy**

Universidade Católica Portuguesa actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, family and economic conditions, instruction, 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/or union membership.

### **15. Final remarks**

The present call for applications is exclusively destined to fill this specific vacancy and can be terminated at any time up to the approval of the final candidate list. The call for applications expires once the vacancy has been filled.

The present call for applications and the contract signed as a result thereof shall only take effect if financing conditions are met.



The present call for applications may be canceled when it is vacant, when any case of force majeure occurs, or when other reasons of a budgetary nature, occurring after the opening of the competition, determine it.

The selected candidate shall be hired by Universidade Católica Portuguesa as a junior researcher under an uncertain term contract (contrato a termo incerto), predicted to start on January 1, 2027 with the estimate duration of 12 months (duration of the activities) which will never, under any circumstances, be superior to 36 months.

**16. Contacts for further information:**

Universidade Católica Portuguesa - Campus de Sintra, Estrada Octávio Pato 2635-631 Rio de Mouro, Portugal

Human Resources Department

drh.sede@ucp.pt; 217 214 031/2

Lisbon, June 15, 2026

The Rector

