Seu Reus:
Hospital Universitari Sant Joan de Reus
Avda. Josep Laporte, 2
Planta 0 - E2 color taronja
43204 (Tarragona)

Seu Tarragona:
Parc Sanitari Joan XXIII
C/ Doctor Mallafrè, 4
Edifici IRBCatSud
43005 (Tarragona)

MSCA-PF: Expression of Interest

1. European Postdoctoral Fellowships

Purpose

- Support excellent researchers of **any nationality** who want to conduct research in Europe or move within Europe.
- Enhance scientific excellence, mobility, and acquisition of new skills through advanced training.
- Improve talent and facilitate knowledge transfer across Europe.

Mobility & Eligibility

- Supported fellows must be **postdoctoral researchers** at the date of the call deadline.
- At the call deadline, researchers must have a **maximum of 8 years** full-time equivalent experience in research, measured from the date of award of the doctoral degree.
- Researchers must comply with the **mobility rule**: they must not have lived or worked in the host country for more than 12 months in the last 36 months before the call deadline.
- Researchers can be of **any nationality.**

Duration

- 12 to 24 months hosted in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.
- An **additional period of up to six months at the end of the project** can be awarded to researchers who will spend that period in a non-academic organisation established in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country.

Impact for Fellows

- Improved research and transferable skills.
- International, inter-sectorial and interdisciplinary experience
- Stronger employability inside and outside academia.
- Broader networks and enhanced communication skills.

Allowance

There are two types of contributions:

a) Contributions for the recruited researcher (per person-month)
- **Living allowance: 6350€** (minus all compulsory deductions under national legislation).
- **Mobility allowance**: **710€**. This allowance covers their additional, private mobility-related costs (e.g. travel and accommodation costs).
- **Family allowance**: **660€**. If the postdoctoral researcher has or acquires family obligations during the action duration
- **Long-term leave allowance: 7060€ * % covered by the beneficiary**. This allowance contributes to the personnel costs incurred by the beneficiary in case of the researcher's leave, including maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave, longer than 30 consecutive days.
- **Special needs allowance: Requested unit * (1/number of months).** This allowance contributes to the additional costs for the acquisition of special needs items and services for researchers with disabilities

b) Institutional unit contribution (per person-month)
- **Research, training and networking contribution: 1000€**. This should cover, for example, costs for training and networking activities that contribute directly to the researchers' career development.

A country correction coefficient (CCC) applies to the living allowance to ensure equal treatment and purchasing power parity for all researchers. For Spain, the CCC is **94.2%.**

For more information, you can access the full work programme here.

2. Brief description of IRB CatSud

The Institut de Recerca Biomèdica Catalunya sud (IRB CatSud) is an institution that integrates research in the field of biomedicine in the Camp de Tarragona and the Terres de l'Ebre. IRB CatSud is the instrument that the university hospitals of both health regions have been endowed with (Joan XXIII University Hospital of Tarragona, Verge de la Cinta Hospital of Tortosa, Sant Joan de Reus University Hospital, Institut Pere Mata University Hospital of Reus) and Rovira and Virgili University, in order to bring together and manage biomedical research and innovation in the territory.

The research we lead aims to answer relevant questions related to the health of the population through the scientific method, the most advanced technology and the talent of the people who work in our teams. We listen to patients, we look for strategies to develop our projects, we seek financing to carry them out and, finally, we transfer the results achieved to society by promoting spin-offs or medical devices that we patent.

IRB CatSud and the research groups that belong to it have enormous international prestige. We are part of the CERCA institution (Institution of Research Centers of Catalonia Foundation (I-CERCA) of Catalonia).

For more information about out Institute, visit the following website: https://www.iispv.cat/en/

3. Short presentation about the group and research lines

Smart Technologies Research Group (SMHEALTH)

The Smart Technologies Research Group (Universitat Rovira i Virgili - IRBCatSud, Spain) conducts interdisciplinary research at the intersection of trustworthy artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, digital health and computational modelling. The group has a strong track record in European and national projects, with particular expertise in privacy-preserving AI, context-aware and cognitive environments, and data-driven healthcare solutions.

Its research focuses on the development of intelligent sensing environments that integrate multimodal data (e.g., vision, behavioural and contextual signals) to support personalised and preventive healthcare. A central research line is the modelling and assessment of functional ageing aligned with the WHO Intrinsic Capacity framework, combining real-world data acquisition with advanced AI methodologies.

Complementary expertise includes graph-based modelling for biomedical discovery and hybrid AI - physics approaches for biomechanical simulation.

The group collaborates closely with clinical partner enabling validation in real healthcare and elderly-care settings. It offers a dynamic, international and multidisciplinary environment, with strong involvement in European networks and a commitment to open science, responsible research and career development of early-stage researchers.

More information: https://www.iispv.cat/en/grup/smhealth-grup-de-recerca-en-smart-health/

Candidate profile

We are seeking an excellent postdoctoral researcher with a strong background in artificial intelligence, data science or biomedical engineering, and a demonstrated interest in digital health and ageing.

The candidate should hold a PhD in Computer Science, Data Science, Biomedical Engineering or a closely related field, with a solid publication record in high-impact venues (journals and/or CORE A/A* conferences).

The ideal candidate will have expertise in one or more of the following areas: machine learning and deep learning (including multimodal and time-series modelling), computer vision, wearable or ambient sensing systems, and context-aware computing. Experience with real-world data acquisition, sensor integration, or digital health applications will be particularly valued. Familiarity with the WHO Intrinsic Capacity framework, or related concepts in ageing and functional assessment, will be considered an advantage.

Strong programming skills are required, as well as experience in data processing pipelines and reproducible research practices. Knowledge of privacy-preserving techniques, explainable AI, or ethical AI is desirable.

The candidate should demonstrate the ability to work independently and collaboratively in interdisciplinary environments, interacting with clinicians, engineers and data scientists. Experience in European research projects, international mobility, and proposal writing will be positively valued. Excellent communication skills in English are required.

Supervisor profile

Agusti Solanas is Full Professor at the Department of Computer Engineering and Mathematics of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili (URV, Spain) and head of the Smart Technologies Research Group. His research lies at the intersection of cybersecurity, privacy-preserving artificial intelligence, digital health and context-aware systems, with a strong focus on trustworthy and human-centric technologies.

He has extensive experience in leadership positions in national and European research projects, including Horizon Europe and COST Actions, and has contributed to the development of the Smart Health and Cognitive Healthcare paradigms. His recent work explores context-aware and cognitive environments for personalised healthcare, with particular emphasis on the assessment of functional ageing aligned with the WHO Intrinsic Capacity framework.

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If you are interested in this opportunity, send your expression of interest to **upi@irbcatsud.cat**, indicating the MSCA-PF + research group in the subject.