

Research Internship in Computational Social Sciences European Polarisation Observatory (EPO)

The médialab at Sciences is hiring a research intern in computational social sciences to work on the European Polarisation Observatory.

The médialab at Sciences Po is an interdisciplinary laboratory gathering researchers in social sciences, computer science, design, and engineering. The European Polarisation Observatory (EPO) is a joint initiative founded by Sciences Po, Bocconi University in Milan, the London School of Economics, and the Central European University in Vienna. The goal of EPO is to bridge the gap between American and European conceptualization of polarization in large-scale social media studies and to analyze polarization in political settings beyond left-right or liberal-conservative cleavages. To achieve this, we rely on political survey data, social media data collection, and innovative quantitative data analysis methods. We are at the frontier between computer science and political sciences.

Some of the tasks that the hired person will perform include:

- Conduct data annotation and analyses of social media accounts of political figures.
- Conduct data collection operations using our computation servers and collections tools developed by our engineering team (check our [tools pages](#))
- Conduct data analysis on large datasets and participate in political analyses related to particular forms of polarization across Europe.

Desired profile: we are looking to hire a profile with data science expertise and interested in working on a political science big data project, or profiles in sociology or political sciences with experience in coding and data collection. Some of the skills and interests we are looking for candidates:

- Interest in constructing meticulous and well-documented social media and political datasets
- Interest in political science research
- Experience coding in Python and data management

What we offer:

- A great and innovative environment to learn computational social science research, participating in both research and developing tools for computational social sciences.
- The opportunity to work with exciting data and on phenomena related to social and polarization, learning from a multidisciplinary team.
- The opportunity to work with the research community from all over Europe interested in international ideological dynamics within the EPO project but also in conjunction with other European projects the médialab is involved in (e.g. AUTHLIB project).
- 850€ / month for up to 6 months, including restaurant vouchers and partial commuting costs.

The hired person will begin working ideally in January 2023, but possibly as late as March 2023.

If you are interested in the position please send us CV to:

pedro.ramaciottimorales@sciencespo.fr and jeanphilippe.cointet@sciencespo.fr

indicating the earliest date at which you could start working with us.

If you want to take a look at the kind of research done at the European Polarisation Observatory, check the following articles:

- Ramaciotti Morales, P., Berriche, M., & Cointet, J. P. (2022). [The geometry of misinformation: embedding Twitter networks of users who spread fake news in geometrical opinion spaces](#). In International Conference on Web and Social Media.
- Ramaciotti Morales, P., & Cointet, J. P. (2021). [Auditing the effect of social network recommendations on polarization in geometrical ideological spaces](#). In *Fifteenth ACM Conference on Recommender Systems* (pp. 627-632).
- Metin, O. F., & Ramaciotti Morales, P. (2022). [Tweeting apart: Democratic backsliding, new party cleavage and changing media ownership in Turkey](#). Party Politics.