#### **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**









# Neo-PRISM-C project

NEurodevelopmental Optimal-Predictors, Risk factors, and Intervention from a Systems approach to Maladjustment in Children

## Early Stage Researcher (ESR) position on

The Health, Emotion, Cognition, and Memory lab (Illuminetti lab, <a href="https://sites.google.com/site/illuminettilab/home">https://sites.google.com/site/illuminettilab/home</a> ) at the Psychological Sciences Research Institute, Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium) is offering:

- One position for **an Early Stage Researcher** (ESR; doctoral student) in a project aiming to study neurodevelopmental disorders (NDD). The purpose of the *Neo-PRISM-C* ETN is three-fold. First, it seeks to train Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) in applying the Research Domain Criteria, a novel framework for understanding psychopathology, to the study of the mechanisms and treatments of NDD. Second, it aims to train ESRs from multiple disciplines (psychology, neuroscience, data science) in state-of-the-art and transferable skills for innovating the study of brain-behaviour relationships in NDD, in the context of a systems-based, trans-diagnostic theoretical frame. Finally, this ETN will also support training in designing evidence-based, individualized treatments of learning, behavioural, and social maladjustment, bridging across diagnostic categories. Towards these goals, we have assembled a trans-sectoral European network with expertise in cognitive, social, educational, clinical, and emotion research to provide training ESRs.
- Applicants from <u>all relevant academic disciplines</u> are encouraged to apply, including psychology, neuroscience, data science, and related disciplines. The selected doctoral student will enroll in the doctoral school for Psychological Sciences (PSYCEDUC, <a href="https://psyceduc.claroline.com/apiv2/#/tab/b51ddfa7-4fa4-4248-a13f-63cae0502eaf">https://psyceduc.claroline.com/apiv2/#/tab/b51ddfa7-4fa4-4248-a13f-63cae0502eaf</a>)

The multidisciplinary **Neo-PRISM-C** project is funded by the Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie action of the European Union. It is part of the Innovative Training Network (ITN) actions (http://www.neoprismc.org/).

## **Hosting Institution**

Psychological Sciences Research Institute, Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium). See: https://uclouvain.be/en/research-institutes/ipsy/about-ti.html

#### **Individual Research Project**

**Project Title:** Effects of training emotional and cognitive competences on physical and psychological dimensions in children with chronic conditions (WP3, ESR 11).

Host Institution: Université catholique de Louvain

**Supervisors:** Olivier Luminet, Magali Lahaye (UCLouvain), and Georgia Panayiotou (University of Cyprus)

**Link** to the laboratory Health, Emotion, Cognition, and Memory (Illuminetti lab): https://sites.google.com/site/illuminettilab/home

One central part of the lab research activity is dedicated to the interactions between emotion, personality and health, with a particular focus on alexithymia and emotional competences.

## **Specific Requirements**

ESR11 will:

- (1) examine in children with medical conditions the effects of emotional competences and attentional control on health behaviours (adherence to treatment) and psychological problems, with a focus on emotional (anxiety, depression) and behavioural (hyperactivity) disorders.
- (2) identify psychological processes (such as self-esteem and impulsivity) that could contribute to the prediction of health behaviours and psychological functioning in children with medical conditions.
- (3) compare the effects of three evidence-based interventions: (1) training of attentional control, (2) development of emotional competences and (3) health education program on health behaviours and psychological functioning.

#### Eligibility criteria

Successful applicants:

- (a) Must **not** have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Belgium **for more than 12 months** in the 3 years immediately prior to the contract commencement date; and
- (b) Have a proven knowledge of **at least one of the three themes** of the *Neo-PRISM-C* (as described in the first paragraph of this announcement) network, as judged based on outstanding results within a diversified career path, publication activity, and teaching, supervision, teamwork, knowledge transfer, and management.
- (c) For entry into the Ph.D. program, a Bachelor degree and a Master degree of psychology are required.

Women and men from all countries are encouraged to apply.

#### Offer Requirements

#### **Qualifications**

- 1. A Master's degree in psychology, neuroscience, data science, and related disciplines.
- 2. Excellent written and spoken English skills (applicants are required to provide relevant proof).
- 3. Good knowledge of French.
- 4. An interest in neurodevelopmental disorders.
- 5. An interest in emotional development and emotional competences.
- 6. Knowledge on computer proficiency in standard softwares of Social Sciences and mathematics (e.g., SPSS, R, MATLAB) is highly desirable.
- 7. Previous work in child's psychology with non-clinical and clinical groups is highly desirable.
- 8. Sufficient breadth or depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and research methods and techniques.
- 9. Strong organizational and planning skills and ability to take initiatives.
- 10. Demonstrated experience with experimental research and an ability to work with international research teams whose work focuses on children from special and vulnerable populations will be considered an advantage.

#### Additional information

Overall, Neo-PRISM-C will offer the ESRs:

- Project-specific research in neurodevelopmental disorders
- Full-time employment for 3 years with a competitive salary and additional resources to take part in international conferences and collaborations
- A PhD-title after 4 years of research
- Research trainings in partner organizations
- Participation in workshops and courses /training on scientific and entrepreneurial skills every 6 months
- Competitive salaries and additional resources to take part in international conferences and collaborations
- Involvement in an international network of highly-renowned labs,
- Involvement in a motivated interdisciplinary team
- Affiliation to the Université catholique de Louvain (https://uclouvain.be/en/).

# **Benefits**

#### **Post Financial Terms**

The Neo-PRISM-C consortium comprises eight teams from several European countries and North America partners and has a total budget of €4 million. The post for the ESR is **a full-time** and fixed term for one year with a possible renewal for another two years, with an expected start date September 2, 2019. Salary will be €39,240 per year, including comprehensive health insurance and social security plans. Salary will be supplemented with Mobility Allowance (€600 per month). Qualified applicants based on family status may receive an additional Family Allowance of €500 per month.

#### How to apply

Candidates are asked to submit the required documents detailed here below in a single .pdf file via email to Prof. Olivier Luminet, email: Olivier.Luminet@uclouvain.be and Dr. Magali Lahaye, email: Magali.Lahaye@uclouvain.be:

- Letter of motivation (research interests, research career goals, skills, experience, reasons for applying to the program and the specific host organization)
- Full CV (including personal details with complete contact data, previous jobs, education details, research skills, publications)
- Relevant proof regarding very good knowledge of English and at least a basic knowledge of French.
- Names and e-mail addresses of two referees

For more information about this position, please contact Prof. Olivier Luminet, email: Olivier.Luminet@uclouvain.be or Dr. Magali Lahaye, email: Magali.Lahaye@uclouvain.be.

For information about Neo-Prism-C, please contact Prof. Timothy C. Papadopoulos, *Neo-PRISM-C* Project Coordinator, at the Center for Applied Neuroscience, University of Cyprus, +357 22 892079, email: papadopoulos.timothy@ucy.ac.cy.

Deadline for the first round of applications is April 22, 2019.