



## PhD Scholarship (3 years, full time) in Political Science at ESPOL (Catholic University of Lille)

### Scholarship details

Employment level in days per year: 200 days (full-time) on site in Lille or on mission elsewhere

Work location: ESPOL, Catholic University of Lille (France), <https://espol-lille.eu/research/>

Registration: Doctoral School PHF – Polytechnique Hauts-de-France

### About the Project

This PhD project, [co-funded by the Région Hauts-de-France](#), examines the influence of French regions on the adoption of an EU industrial strategy aimed at establishing security of supply in lithium, a critical raw material essential for managing the transition to sustainable energy notably because of its use in electric vehicles. The central objective of this research will be to identify how far French regional interests, in a context of European multi-level governance, contributed to shaping the EU's critical raw materials strategy, which seeks to relaunch the extraction and transformation of lithium in Europe by 2025. In particular, the empirical analysis will seek to establish the institutional and informal mechanisms used by political actors in regions particularly sensitive to the issues surrounding the extraction and transformation of lithium (e.g. l'Allier and Guyana), as well as its importance in the automotive industry (e.g. Hauts-de-France). Another element of this research will consist in exploring the political strategies deployed to try to overcome possible local resistance to the exploitation of lithium, and to consider the existence of protest movements against private industrial interests. The analysis is expected to be based on data collection in the form of interviews with the representative offices of French local authorities in Brussels as well as with French local authorities and local elected officials.

Upon completion of the project, the PhD student will thus have acquired research and policy expertise in a field of ever increasing geo-economic significance, thereby opening up a number of potential professional career paths.

### About the University

Young, diversified and growing, ESPOL's mission is to contribute to the excellence of interdisciplinary research and the quality of training in the social and political sciences. Created in 2012, ESPOL offers a multidisciplinary and bilingual training (French / English) focused on professions covering politics, Europe, and international affairs.

The Catholic University of Lille includes faculties of medicine, law, economics, engineering, and humanities, with an enrollment of over 40 000 students it is the largest private university in France. It brings together five Faculties (Law, Letters and Human Sciences, Medicine, Management, Economics and Sciences, and Theology), 20 Schools and Institutes including ESPOL, six engineering schools, three business and management schools, medical and paramedical schools, social schools, tertiary management schools, a Hospital Group, and in all, nearly 15 research

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[WWW.ESPOL-LILLE.EU](http://WWW.ESPOL-LILLE.EU)



teams. Collaborative research at ESPOL-LAB revolves around three broad thematic axes, ‘the quality of democracy’, ‘reconfigurations of the international’, ‘and the politics of the anthropocene’, providing platforms for faculty members to participate in common events and projects, next to their own research, which ESPOL also supports through travel funds.

### **The Supervisory Team**

The main supervisor for this PhD will be [Prof. Andrew Glencross](#) along with [Dr Alexia Venouil](#) as co-supervisor.

### **Start Date**

September 2023

### **Benefits**

The successful applicant for this PhD scholarship will receive the following support:

- A stipend for 36 months at a minimum salary (as of 1 January 2023) of 2044 euros gross per month; along with office access and a computer.
- The employment package includes public and additional private health insurance, a pensions scheme, and other benefits.
- Access to university services (Library, language courses, etc.) and funds for stays abroad, fieldwork, conference trips or transcription costs
- integration in the work of [ESPOL-LAB](#), which organises seminars and conferences
- the ability to follow methods training courses
- the possibility of a paid teaching contract towards the end of the PhD project

### **Eligibility**

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- A Masters degree in Political Science/International Relations (or a cognate discipline) with a focus on EU institutions or policies
- Excellent proficiency in French and English
- Candidates of any nationality are eligible to apply

### **How to Apply**

Applicants are required to submit the following documents with application:



- Curriculum Vitae, including the names and contact details of two referees
- One-page Letter of Motivation
- One-page Research Proposal explaining how the applicant envisages conducting this project and outlining potential challenges that may be encountered
- Master Transcripts, Reports, certificates of degrees and achievements

Applications to be submitted to [espol.recrutements@univ-catholille.fr](mailto:espol.recrutements@univ-catholille.fr) by 12 May 2023.

For additional queries please contact [andrew.glencross@univ-catholille.fr](mailto:andrew.glencross@univ-catholille.fr)

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