



Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following position:

<b>Research Centre</b>	DCU Anti-Bullying Centre (ABC)
<b>Post title</b>	Postdoctoral Researcher in Detection of Online Grooming, Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) — Cilter DTIF Project
<b>Level on Framework</b>	Level 1
<b>Post duration</b>	2 Year Fixed Term Contract

### **Dublin City University**

Dublin City University (DCU) is a leading innovative European University. It is proud to be one of the world's leading Young Universities and is among the world's top 2% globally. DCU is known as Ireland's University of Impact, with a mission to 'transform lives and societies' and focuses on addressing global challenges in collaboration with key national and international partners and stakeholders.

DCU has over 20,000 students in five faculties spread across three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra area of North Dublin. Thanks to its innovative approach to teaching and learning, the University offers a 'transformative student experience' that helps to develop highly sought-after graduates. DCU is currently No. 1 in Ireland for Graduate Employment Rate, and for graduate income (CSO).

DCU is a research-intensive University and is home to a number of SFI-funded Research Centres. The University participates in a range of European and international research partnerships. DCU is also the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

As a 'People First' institution, DCU is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - a University that helps staff and students to thrive. The University is a leader in terms of its work to increase access to education, and is placed in the world's Top 10 for reducing inequalities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

As part of this role the researcher will be required to participate in the DCU Research Career Framework. This framework is designed to provide significant professional development opportunities to Researchers and offer the best opportunities in terms of a wider career path.

### **Background & Role**

We are looking for an experienced postdoctoral researcher (8-10 years of postdoctoral research experience) to conduct research into optimizing the detection of grooming, CSAM and child solicitation behavioural patterns, for the development of Cilter technology. Cilter is a parental control software modification at the kernel level that allows for cyberbullying, self-harm, suicide-related and grooming content detection on all apps on the child's phone (from WhatsApp to various social media apps). The project CILTER: Protecting and empowering children online is funded by the Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF) Ireland (Call 4) which is managed by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and administered by Enterprise Ireland. The DTIF consortium Cilter (SME) is a collaboration between DCU Anti-Bullying Centre, SFI ADAPT and Amarach research. The experienced postdoctoral researcher in grooming, CSAM and child solicitation detection will be based in DCU Anti-Bullying Centre and will work closely with the research fellows in ABC and ADAPT DCU who are supervising the project in ensuring the timely provision of deliverables related to: development of research methodologies that will contribute to machine-readable grooming and CSAM content classification and modeling.

### **Principal Duties and Responsibilities**

Please see the Job Description for a full list of duties and responsibilities:

### **Minimum Criteria**

Applicants should have a PhD in a social scientific discipline such as education, communication, psychology, criminal justice, sociology or similarly relevant discipline.

In addition, it is desirable that the candidate has previous research experience with qualitative research with children in the field of children's digital media use

Previous experience with research on online safety, grooming, CSAM, child abuse and solicitation and proven research outputs and publication-record

### **Candidates will be assessed on the following competencies:**

**Discipline knowledge and Research skills** – Demonstrates knowledge of a research discipline and the ability to conduct a specific programme of research within that discipline

**Understanding the Research Environment** – Demonstrates an awareness of the research environment (for example funding bodies) and the ability to contribute to grant applications

**Communicating Research** – Demonstrates the ability to communicate their research with their peers and the wider research community (for example presenting at conferences and publishing research in relevant journals) and the potential to teach and tutor students

**Managing & Leadership skills** - Demonstrates the potential to manage a research project including the supervision of undergraduate students

### **Essential Training**

The postholder will be required to undertake the following essential compliance training: Orientation, Health & Safety and Data Protection (GDPR). Other training may need to be undertaken when required.

### **Salary Scale:**

IUA Postdoctoral Researcher Salary Scale - €41,209.00 - €53,091.00

Appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and in line with current Government pay policy

**Closing date:** Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**For more information on DCU and benefits, please visit [Why work at DCU?](#)**

**Informal Enquiries in relation to this role should be directed to:**

Professor James O’Higgins Norman, Director of the Anti-bullying Centre, Dublin City University.

Phone + 353 (0)1 7009140

Email: [james.ohigginsnorman@dcu.ie](mailto:james.ohigginsnorman@dcu.ie)

Please do not send applications to this email address, instead apply as described below.

### **Application Procedure:**

Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies website at <https://www.dcu.ie/hr/vacancies-current-vacancies-external-applicants>

Applications should be submitted by e-mail with your completed application form to [hr.applications@dcu.ie](mailto:hr.applications@dcu.ie)

**Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line: #RF1805 Postdoctoral Researcher in Detection of Online Grooming, Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) — Cilter DTIF Project**

*Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer. In line with the Employment Equality Acts 1998 – 2015, the University is committed to equality of treatment for all those*

*who engage with its recruitment, selection and appointment processes. The University's Athena SWAN Bronze Award signifies the University's commitment to promoting gender equality and addressing any gender pay gaps. Information on a range of university policies aimed at creating a supportive and flexible work environment are available in the DCU Policy*

**Starter Packs**