



Job Description

Research Centre	School of Communication
Post title	Research Assistant - MEDIATIZED EU Project
Post duration	10 Months Fixed Term Contract (Part-Time)

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.

Background & role

School of Communications

The School of Communications is an internationally-focused centre for excellence in teaching and research in the areas of media, communications and journalism. With a tradition stretching back almost 40 years – and a long-established reputation as Ireland’s leading centre for communications – the School has been ranked in the top 150 of over 4,000 universities worldwide in the area of communications and media studies in the 2021 QS Rankings by Subject.

Mediatized EU Project

The MEDIATIZED EU project, funded by the Horizon2020 scheme (GA: 101004534) aims to study how the media discourses are constructed to foster or hamper the European project and how they resonate among the public by focusing on the elite-media-public triangle. The MEDIATIZED EU consortium is led by DCU (Ireland) and includes partners in Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Estonia, Hungary and Georgia.

To study how the media discourses are constructed, how they evolve and how they resonate among the public, the project takes a comprehensive mixed-methods approach with qualitative, quantitative and deliberative research components. It integrates desk research to review the transformations of media discourses since the start of the 21st century, content analysis and critical discourse analysis of the current media discourses, in-depth interviews with political and media elites, nation-wide representative surveys of the population, and finally, deliberative discussions with relevant publics in the target countries. The project will provide a cross-country comparative analysis of the seven target countries, as well as develop policy recommendations for national and EU policymakers.

The School of Communications is seeking a Research Assistant to work on the H2020 MEDIATIZED EU project to assist with research on media discourses about and perceptions of Europeanization in Ireland. The Research Assistant will assist the PI and other senior researchers in undertaking research on the Irish context, including conducting in-depth interviews, as well as analysis of collected interview and survey data.

The ideal candidate will have a postgraduate degree in media studies, communications, social sciences, or a related field, research experience in qualitative methods and mixed-methods data analysis, knowledge of relevant literature on Irish media and politics, and experience of collaborating with multidisciplinary and non-academic stakeholders in European projects.

This project is seeking the recruitment of a part-time Research Assistant for 10 months, part-time, with a specific focus on conducting qualitative interviews, and assisting with analysing interview data and survey data, and working with the Project team.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to their Principal Investigator the Research Assistant will:

- Support the PI and the research group in the development and implementation of the Irish portion of the research project.
- Assist the PI and research team in conducting a specified programme of research under the supervision and direction of the Principal Investigator (e.g. interview data collection, interview and survey data analysis, reporting, etc.).
- Engage in appropriate training and development opportunities as required by the Principal Investigator, the School, or the University.
- Engage with internal and external stakeholders including academic and industry partners/collaborators as appropriate.

Minimum Criteria

Essential:

Applicants should have a Master's degree in media studies, communications, social sciences, or a related field.

Desirable:

- Research experience in media analysis, qualitative methods, interview or survey research;
- Knowledge of the Irish media landscape, scholarship on Irish media and politics;
- The ability to engage with and support collaboration with academic and administrative colleagues within DCU and in the project consortium;
- Excellent teamwork skills;
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English;
- Excellent organisational skills with an ability to prioritise workloads and to work successfully on their own initiative.

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.