

**Competition Opening Notice**

**Attribution of Research Scholarships for PhD**

**Casa da Arquitectura – Centro Português de Arquitectura**

**March 3, 2025**

## **Competition Opening Notice for the Award of Research Scholarships for PhD**

Casa da Arquitectura – Centro Português de Arquitectura opens a competition for the award of 10 (ten) research scholarships, hereinafter referred to as Research Scholarships for PhD, in the field of Architecture, Urbanism, Territory, with a special focus on the institution's archives, legacies, and collections and content related to the history of architecture, construction technology, sustainability, and energy efficiency, under the Regulation of Research Scholarships of FCT (RBI) and the Research Scholar Statute (EBI).

The scholarships will be funded by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) under the Collaboration Protocol for Financing the Multiannual Plan of Research Scholarships for Doctoral Students, concluded between FCT and Casa da Arquitectura – Centro Português de Arquitectura.

### **1. APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

The competition is open from the 3rd of March 2025, until 23:59 on the 2nd of May 2025 (Lisbon time).

Applications and the supporting documents provided for in this PhD must be submitted by email, sent to [bolsas@casadaarquitectura.pt](mailto:bolsas@casadaarquitectura.pt).

Each candidate may submit only one application, under penalty of cancellation of all submitted applications.

The provision of false declarations or acts of plagiarism by candidates is grounds for cancellation of the application without prejudice to the adoption of other sanctioning measures.

### **2. TYPE AND DURATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

The doctoral research scholarships are intended to finance the research activities leading to the obtaining of the academic degree of doctorate in Portuguese universities, in accredited doctoral programmes in the scientific areas related to the topics described in this Notice.

The research activities leading to the obtaining of the academic PhD degree can take place at the host institution, at Casa da Arquitectura – Centro Português de Arquitectura, at R&D Units and entities proposed by the candidates.

The research activities leading to the obtaining of the academic degree of doctorate of the selected scholarship holders must be framed in the activities plan and strategy of the Casa da Arquitectura – Centro Português de Arquitectura.

The work plan will take place entirely in a national institution (scholarship in the country).

The duration of the scholarships is, as a rule, annual, renewable up to a maximum of four years (48 months), and a scholarship cannot be granted for a period shorter than 3 consecutive months.

### 3. RECIPIENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Research Scholarships for PhD are intended for candidates enrolled or candidates who meet the necessary conditions to enrol in a Doctoral Programme and who intend to develop research activities leading to the obtaining of the academic degree of PhD, conferred by national universities.

### 4. ADMISSIBILITY

#### 4.1 Candidate Eligibility Requirements

Applicants for this competition can be:

- Nationals or citizens of other Member States of the European Union;
- Citizens of third countries;
- Stateless persons;
- Citizens benefiting from political refugee status.

To apply for a Ph.D. Research Scholarship, it is necessary to:

- Hold a bachelor's or master's degree in the field of architecture.
- Have not benefited from a doctoral scholarship or a doctoral program directly funded by FCT, regardless of its duration.
- Not hold a Ph.D. degree

#### 4.2 Application Requirements

It is indispensable, under penalty of non-admission to the Competition, to attach to the application the following documents:

- Elements of identity card/citizen card/passport;
- *Curriculum vitae* of the candidate;
- Certificates of qualification for the academic degrees held, specifying the final classification and, if

possible, the grades obtained in all disciplines taken, or alternatively, a sworn declaration by the candidate that they completed the bachelor's or master's degree by the end of the application period;

- In case of having obtained an academic degree from foreign higher education institutions, registration of recognition of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions and registration of conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale, or alternatively, a sworn declaration by the candidate that they obtained recognition of the foreign degree equivalent to that of a bachelor's or master's degree with effects at the end of the application period;
- Work plan, which must contain the following fields: Title, Summary, State of the Art, Objectives, Detailed Description, and Bibliographic References, up to a maximum of 3000 words. The work plan must also be accompanied by a Schedule, indicating the scheduling of the tasks proposed in the work plan, as well as the main goals to be achieved.
- Motivation letter, specifying, among other aspects, the importance of the collection or collection of Casa da Arquitectura – Centro Português de Arquitectura for the research work to which the candidate applies;
- Recommendation Letters: 2 recommendation letters, one of which, preferably, written by the supervisor of the work;
- Write the application and all associated documents, including motivation and recommendation letters, in Portuguese or English.

Regarding the above-mentioned eligibility requirements, the following should be noted:

- In the case of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions, and in order to ensure the application of the principle of equal treatment to candidates holding foreign and national academic degrees, the recognition of these degrees and the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale is mandatory.
- The recognition of academic degrees and diplomas from foreign institutions as well as the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale can be requested at any public higher education institution, or at the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES, only for automatic recognition cases). Regarding this matter, it is suggested to consult the DGES portal at the following address: <http://www.dges.gov.pt>.
- Only candidates who have completed the study cycle leading to the bachelor's or master's degree by the end of the application period will be admitted. If they do not yet have the certificate of completion of the course, a sworn declaration by the candidates that they have completed the necessary

qualifications for the competition by the end of the application period will be accepted. The granting of the scholarship is conditioned on the presentation, at the contractualization stage, of proof of ownership of academic qualifications.

## 5. WORK PLANS AND SCIENTIFIC GUIDANCE OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Research proposal elaborated by the candidate focusing on Architecture, Urbanism, and Territory, explaining, in detail, the framework of the collections, legacies, and collections of Casa da Arquitectura in the referred research. Without prejudice, interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary work plans integrating studies beyond the areas of architectural design, engineering and construction, materials, sustainability of built heritage, sociology and housing economics, social attitudes and behaviours towards architecture, as well as comparative analysis of architects and their works, among others, to be carried out in collaboration between the Casa da Arquitectura – Centro Português de Arquitectura and national R&D units, namely support for doctoral training.

## 6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

### 6.1 Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation considers the merit of the candidate and the work plan.

Admissible applications will be scored on a scale of 0 to 100 for each of the following evaluation criteria:

- Criterion A - Curriculum evaluation, with a weight of 40%;
  1. Academic Path
  2. Curriculum

The curriculum will be considered integrally, based on a global view of the scientific and professional merit of the candidate. Recommendation and motivation letters will be considered. In the latter, structure, written expression, and argumentation will be considered.
- Criterion B - Work plan, with a weight of 60%;
  1. Well-founded relevance of the study object
  2. Scientific approach (state of the art, methodology)
  3. Relevance and scientific and methodological framework of the sources of the Casa da Arquitectura's collection for the development of the work
  4. Feasibility of the work plan

For the purpose of deciding on the awarding of scholarships, candidates will be ranked according to the weighted average of the score obtained in each of the two criteria, translated by the following formula:

$$\text{Final Score} = (40\% \times A) + (60\% \times B)$$

For tie-breaking purposes, the ranking of candidates will be based on the scores assigned to each of the evaluation criteria in the following order of precedence: (i) criterion B (ii) criterion A.

Candidates whose final evaluation score is less than 70 points will not be eligible for scholarship award.

**Important notice for candidates with diplomas issued by foreign higher education institutions:**

- Candidates with diplomas issued by foreign higher education institutions may apply and will be evaluated under the same criteria as candidates with diplomas issued by Portuguese institutions, provided they submit proof of recognition of academic degrees and conversion of the final grade to the Portuguese grading scale, as required by applicable legislation.
- Candidates with recognized foreign diplomas who do not submit proof of conversion of the final grade to the Portuguese grading scale will be evaluated with the minimum score (10 points) in criterion (A1).
- In any case, scholarship contracts with candidates holding diplomas from foreign institutions will only be signed upon presentation of proof of recognition of academic degrees and conversion of the final grade, as indicated above.

Candidates whose application is evaluated with a final score below 70 points are not eligible for scholarship award.

## 7. EVALUATION

The panel evaluating the candidates consists of the following effective members:

José Miguel Neto Viana Brás Rodrigues, Full Professor at the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Porto (panel coordinator).

Nuno Alberto Leite Rodrigues Grande, Associate Professor at the Department of Architecture of the Faculty of Sciences and Technology of the University of Coimbra.

Guilherme Teixeira Wisnik, Livre-Docente Professor at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of the University of São Paulo.

Pedro Jorge Monteiro Bandeira, Associate Professor with Aggregation at the School of Architecture, Art and Design of the University of Minho.

Maria Rita Pais Ramos Abreu de Almeida, Associate Professor at the Department of Architecture and Urbanism at the Lusófona University of Humanities and Technologies, Portugal

And the following alternate members:

Graça Correia Ragazzi, Assistant Professor invited at the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Porto with Aggregation at the University of Porto.

Madalena Cunha Matos is an Emeritus Associate Professor at the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Lisbon.

The evaluation panel will review the applications according to the evaluation criteria set forth in this Opening Notice, weighting the assessment elements.

All panel members, including the coordinator, commit to respecting a set of essential responsibilities in the evaluation process, such as duties of impartiality, declaration of any potential conflicts of interest, and confidentiality. Confidentiality is fully protected and ensured at all times during the evaluation process to guarantee the independence of all produced opinions.

For each application, the panel will produce a final evaluation sheet where the arguments leading to the scores assigned to each evaluation criterion are clearly, coherently, and consistently presented.

Minutes of the evaluation panel meetings will be produced, the responsibility of all its members. The minutes and their annexes must include, mandatorily, the following information:

Name and affiliation of all panel members;

Identification of all excluded applications and their rationale;

Methodology adopted by the panel for considered particular cases;

Final Evaluation Sheets for each candidate;

Provisional ranking list of candidates, in descending order of final score, of all applications evaluated by the panel;

Conflict of Interest declarations of all panel members;

Any voting and delegation of powers due to justified absence.

## **8. RESULTS DISCLOSURE**

The evaluation results are communicated via email to the email address used by the candidate for submitting the application/indicated in the application.

## **9. DEADLINES AND PROCEDURES FOR PRELIMINARY HEARING, COMPLAINT, AND APPEAL**

After communication of the provisional results list of the evaluation, candidates have a period of 10 working

days to, if desired, express themselves in a preliminary hearing of interested parties, under the terms of articles 121 and following of the Administrative Procedure Code, to the email address [bolsas@casadaarquitectura.pt](mailto:bolsas@casadaarquitectura.pt).

The final decision will be made after the analysis of the statements presented in the preliminary hearing of interested parties. From the final decision, a complaint can be lodged within 15 working days, or, alternatively, an appeal can be filed within 30 working days, both counted from the respective notification. Candidates who choose to submit a complaint must address their statement to the member of the FCT Directive Council with delegated competence. Candidates who choose to file an appeal must address it to the FCT Directive Council.

## 10. SCHOLARSHIP AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Research scholarship contracts are entered into directly with the FCT.

The following documents must be mandatorily submitted, upon the eventual granting of the scholarship, for the purpose of its contractualization:

- a) Copy of the civil identification, tax identification, and, when applicable, social security document(s)<sup>1</sup>;
- b) Copy of the certificates of academic qualifications held;
- c) Presentation of the recognition record of foreign academic degrees and conversion of their final grades to the Portuguese grading scale, if applicable;
- d) Work plan;
- e) Proof of enrolment and registration in the Doctoral Programme;
- f) Declaration from the supervisor(s) assuming responsibility for supervising the work plan, in accordance with article 5-A of the Research Scholarship Holder Statute (template of the declaration to be provided by the FCT);
- g) Proof of candidate's acceptance by the institution where the research activities will take place, ensuring the necessary conditions for its proper development, as well as compliance with the duties provided for in article 13 of the Research Scholarship Holder Statute (template of the declaration to be provided by the FCT);
- h) Updated document proving compliance with the exclusive dedication regime (template of the declaration to be provided by the FCT);

The granting of the scholarship is also subject to:

Compliance with the requirements set out in this Opening Notice

The evaluation result;

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<sup>1</sup> The provision of these documents may be replaced, at the candidate's discretion, by in-person presentation at the funding entity, which will retain the relevant elements necessary for the validity and execution of the contract, including civil identification numbers, fiscal identification numbers, social security numbers, as well as the validity of the respective documents.



The absence of unjustified non-compliance with the duties of the scholarship holder under a previous scholarship contract funded, directly or indirectly, by the FCT;

The budget availability of the FCT.

Failure to submit any of the documents necessary to complete the scholarship contractualization process within 6 months from the date of communication of the conditional grant decision will result in the expiration of said grant and the closure of the process.

## **11. FINANCING**

The payment of the scholarships will begin after the candidates return the signed scholarship contract, which must occur within a maximum period of 15 working days from the date of its receipt.

The scholarships awarded under this competition will be financed by the FCT with funds from the State Budget and, when eligible, with funds from the European Social Fund, through the Demography, Qualifications, and Inclusion Program (PDQI), in accordance with the regulatory provisions established for this purpose.

## **12. SCHOLARSHIP COMPONENTS**

Scholarship holders receive a monthly maintenance allowance according to the table in Annex I of the Research Scholarship Holder Statute (RBI). The scholarship may also include other components, as provided for in Article 18 of the RBI and for the amounts specified in Annex II.

All scholarship holders are entitled to personal accident insurance for research activities, provided by the FCT. Scholarship holders who are not covered by any social protection scheme can ensure their right to social security by joining the voluntary social security scheme, in accordance with the Social Security Contributory Regimes Code, with the FCT covering the costs resulting from contributions as provided for and within the limits set out in Article 10 of the EBI.

## **13. PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP COMPONENTS**

Payments due to the scholarship holders are made via bank transfer to the account identified by them. The monthly maintenance allowance is paid on the first working day of each month.

Payments for enrolment fees, registration, or tuition fees are made directly by the FCT to the national institution where the scholarship holder is enrolled or registered for the doctoral programme.

## **14. TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP RENEWAL**

The renewal of the scholarship is always subject to a request submitted by the scholarship holder, within 60 working days prior to the renewal start date, accompanied by the following documents:

- a) reports issued by the supervisor(s) and the hosting institution(s) on the scholarship holder's progress and evaluation of their activities;
- b) Updated document proving compliance with the exclusive dedication regime;
- c) Proof of renewal of enrolment in the doctoral degree programme.

## **15. INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY OF GRANTED FINANCING**

In all research and development activities directly or indirectly funded by the scholarship, including all communications, publications, scientific creations, and theses produced with the support provided by the scholarship, explicit mention must be made of the financial support from the FCT and the European Social Fund, notably through the Demography, Qualifications, and Inclusion Programme (PDQI). For this purpose, the insignias of the FCT, MCTES, FSE, and EU must be included in the documents related to these actions, in accordance with the graphic standards of the community support programme.

The dissemination of research results funded under the RBI must comply with the open access standards for data, publications, and other research results in force at the FCT.

In all scholarships, and particularly in the case of actions supported by community funding, including from the FSE, monitoring and control actions may be carried out by national and community bodies in accordance with the applicable legislation in this area. Supported scholarship holders are obliged to cooperate and provide the requested information, including conducting surveys and evaluation studies in this area, even after the scholarship has ended.

## **16. NON-DISCRIMINATION AN EQUAL ACCESS POLICY**

The FCT promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so no candidate can be privileged, benefited, harmed, or deprived of any rights or exempted from any duties on the grounds, notably, of ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic or racial origin, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs, and union membership.

## **17. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS**

The competition is governed by this Opening Notice, by the Research Scholarship Holder Regulation of FCT, approved by Regulation No. 950/2019, published in Series II of the DR on December 16, 2019, by the Research Scholarship Holder Statute approved by Law No. 40/2004, of August 18, in the current wording, and by other applicable national and community legislation.