

Professor Benoît Pelopidas is looking for a research assistant to work with the team of his chair of excellence in security studies at Sciences Po, Paris (CERI) (www.sciencespo.fr/nk) within the ANR Project VULPAN (de la vulnérabilité politique à l'âge nucléaire, 2018-2021) starting in January 2018. This project proposes the first in depth comparative investigation of the effects of nuclear weapons programs on regimes' democratic accountability and on their way of predicting the nuclear behaviour of other states.

The research assistant will work with Prof. Pelopidas for a year on designing a questionnaire and analysing the results of a survey of 10 000 EU citizens under the age of 30 about 1) their knowledge about nuclear weapons, 2) their support for existing policies and 3) their broader attitudes towards nuclear weapons, expanding on [this published essay](#). The population includes citizens of nuclear weapons states (France, possibly the UK), states hosting US nuclear weapons on their soil (Germany, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands) and states with formerly advanced nuclear weapons programs which were reversed (Sweden). As a result, they will co-author a peer-reviewed article for the *European Journal of Political Research*. He or she will also help Prof. Pelopidas to organize the kick off conference of work-packages 2 and 3 of VULPAN and is expected to actively contribute to the monthly seminars of the chair.

Candidates should have excellent knowledge and experience with public opinion research and polling methodology, an interest in the issue of generational change, and impeccable English writing skills. The ability to read any of the languages of the above-mentioned countries will be a plus. The profile of the candidate is expected to be a talented PhD student who is working on those issues and keen to enrich his or publication portfolio and experience in conference organization. Early postdocs will also be considered.

Sciences Po has been ranked 4th best IR and politics department in the world by QS in 2017 and has been in the top 5 since 2015. Since September 2016, Professor Pelopidas and his team have received a Chair of excellence, a 4 year ANR research funding, a 5 year ERC Starting Grant and two scholarly awards for their publications. In other words, the successful candidate will benefit from a uniquely intense, engaged and collegial intellectual environment striving for academic excellence as well as policy relevance, understood as speaking to the contemporary condition of our fellow citizens and not only the policy elites. All members of the team across VULPAN and the ERC project, NUCLEAR, will be chosen because they agree that peace of mind, mutual support and a welcoming environment are crucial to academic excellence, while understanding that asking hard questions and being challenged are the only ways to achieve it. All members of the team as well as relevant members of the scientific advisory board of the chair will give feedback at every step of the writing process. The candidate is equally expected to give detailed feedback on the writings of other team members on the basis of one monthly essay discussion.

The position would be from January to December 2018 in Paris. The salary is 1600 euros per month before tax and working conditions are attractive: the candidate will have two days a week free to work on his/her PhD dissertation provided that the work on the joint paper progresses according to the agreed plan. Please send a cover letter, a sample writing or preferably a published article in a peer-reviewed journal and a cv to Professor Pelopidas with "Application for research assistant within VULPAN" in the e-mail title at benoit.pelopidas@sciencespo.fr as well as the names and contact details of three referees. If shortlisted, you will be contacted for a skype interview in early December.