

Open Call for a Research Fellowship

The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC) is welcoming applications to a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (BI-PD) within the project 101044428 — VirulenceControl — ERC-2021-COG, entitled: “The role of an expanded effector kinase family in environmental sensing and regulation of virulence in human malaria” financed by Horizon Europe, with the following conditions:

- 1. Duration:** The fellowship duration, according to the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#) approved by Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, IP (FCT) is 12 months, renewable for up to 3 years. The fellowship contract is expected to start in September 2023, under the exclusiveness regime as required by the Research Fellowship Regulation of FCT.
- 2. Subject of Activities:** We are looking for a postdoc with a recent PhD interested to work on host-pathogen interaction of the human malaria causing parasite *Plasmodium falciparum* with the host cell it infects. The parasite exports ~10% of its proteome into the infected host cell to remodel it to its needs and escape clearance by the human host. This is an ERC funded project where we aim to understand how a kinase family expanded in only one of 5 human infecting species allows the parasite to sense and respond to conditions found in the host. We are seeking researchers with strong skills in cell biology, protein biochemistry and structural biology that are interested in the study of how the malaria parasite remodels the host red blood cell. We are looking for teamplayers that can drive their individual project to develop their niche. We provide a stimulating and supportive research environment.
- 3. Scientific Guidance:** The selected candidate will join the Cell Biology of Host-Pathogen Interaction laboratory (<https://gulbenkian.pt/ciencia/research-groups/mtreeck/>), headed by Dr. Moritz Treeck.
- 4. Academic Profile and Admission Requirements:** A recent PhD (< 3 years) in life sciences is essential. We are seeking candidates with a background in structural biology, protein biochemistry or cell biology. Specific experience in kinase biochemistry or red blood cell biology is a plus, but not essential. A competitive track record as evidenced by publications or oral presentations at international meetings. Ability to work as an individual as well as in a team.

If the qualification has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, under the terms of the provisions of article 25.º of Decree-Law n.º 66/2018, of August 16th (<https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>), which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, and of paragraph e) of n.º 2 of article 4.º of Decree-Law n.º 60/2018, of August 3rd, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the date of the hiring act. The jury reserves the right to invite the candidate ranked immediately after to the position in question when the first ranked candidate is not recognized with the academic degree after the aforementioned formalities have been fulfilled.

- 5. For Portuguese taxpayers:** All candidates that where/are currently taxpayers in Portugal are required to present evidence of the fulfillment of their individual obligations towards the Portuguese Tax Authority and Social Security. Failure to comply with this requirement will be considered as a criteria for exclusion from the recruitment process.

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6. **Applicable legislation and Regulation:** All candidates must comply with the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#); [Research Fellowship Statutes](#) amended by [Decree n° 123/2019](#) of August 28th; [FCT Legislation and Regulations for Fellowships](#) and the [Decree-Law n.º 66/2018](#), of August 16th (Legal regime for recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions).

7. **Subsidy Month Stipend:** 2.200,00€/month according to the table of monthly maintenance allowance amounts set out in Annex I of [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#). The payment will be made by bank transfer. The selected candidate may be reimbursed the amount corresponding to the contribution to Voluntary Social Security.

8. **How to submit applications:** Interested candidates should send their applications to igcpositions@igc.gulbenkian.pt with subject “**Applicant Name_BI-PD_VirulenceControl**”, with a single PDF file named “**Applicant Name_BI-PD_VirulenceControl.pdf**” containing:

- a. Motivation Letter (1 page max);
- b. Curriculum Vitae;
- c. Doctoral certificate and Summary of research achievements (1 page);
- d. Contacts of 3 references (name, email and phone number);
- e. Other documents relevant for the evaluation of the application.

9. **Methods of Selection and Evaluation:** Applications will be evaluated according to Curriculum and previous experience (60%), motivation letter (20%). References nominated by the candidates shall be consulted, if necessary (10%). In case of a tie, the candidates in this situation will be interviewed (10%) focusing on the research outcomes of the candidate. The decision is made by nominal vote of the selection panel members, in accordance with eligibility and selection criteria, with no abstentions allowed. The final results will be presented on a scale from 0 to 100.

10. **Jury Selection:** Chair: Dr. Moritz Treeck, Vowels: Dr. Miguel Soares and Dr. Karina Xavier. Substitute: Dr. Marco Fumasoni.

11. **Form of Advertising / Notification of results:** The assessment results will be sent to all candidates by email. There will be 10 working days for complaints/appeals after the date of publication of the Selection Minute.

12. **Application Period:** From 16/06/2023 until 29/06/2023.

13. **Non-discrimination and equal access policy:** The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefitted, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, education, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

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