



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### **Social Networks of the Past. Mapping Hispanic and Lusophone Literary Modernity (1898-1959)**

ERC Starting Grant Project 2018 led by Diana Roig Sanz

**Post title:** PhD candidate

**Purpose:** 1 application for a four-year fully funded doctoral fellowship.

**Supervisor:** Diana Roig Sanz

**Faculty:** Arts and Humanities

**Location:** UOC- Barcelona (Av. Tibidabo 47, 08035).

**Hours of work:** Full time

As part of an innovative **ERC Starting Grant Project**, funded by the European Research Council and led by **Diana Roig Sanz**, Ramón y Cajal senior fellow researcher at UOC (Barcelona), the *Social Networks of the Past Project* announces that **1 application** for a **four-year fully funded fellowship** is being accepted for students wishing to pursue doctoral studies within a **digital humanities perspective** in 1) the role of Iberoamerican mediators in new forms of mass media, specifically cinema and radio.

*Social Networks of the Past* brings together an **international and interdisciplinary team of seven researchers** (the PI, 2 postdocs in DH and Latin American Studies, 3 PhD students and 1 data scientist) who complement one another's skills and expertise in two main ways: all the team members possess complementary language skills (at least Spanish and/or Portuguese and English; Catalan, French and German will be a plus), and areas of expertise (literary studies, cultural history, translation, periodical studies, gender studies, media studies, sociology, and computer sciences).

In that respect, I would be very grateful if you could forward details around your networks.

## **Short summary of the project:**

Data mining and big data approaches are changing the ways in which we create knowledge, access information and preserve our cultural heritage. This research applies cutting-edge technology to analyse a neglected aspect of European and non-European social and cultural life of the 20th century: the impact of Hispanic and Lusophone literary networks and cultural mediators in international modernity between 1898 and 1959. The project pursues three central goals: 1) to retrieve the lost history of Iberoamerican mediators in modernist intercultural and multilingual networks and reappraise their role; 2) to narrow the knowledge divide in terms of access and production in the Iberoamerican field by generating and making freely available new and reliable data that addresses the lack of documented cultural heritage, and 3) to offer an innovative and reproducible model that can be applied across periods, languages, and disciplines to analyse cross border phenomena, under-examined mediators and networks and overshadowed geographical scales in their relations to the wider world. These goals will be achieved by a twofold methodology: i) an open and collaborative research tool providing a data source for quantitative and qualitative analysis on Iberoamerican mediators, and ii) four subprojects on key cultural transformation processes distinctive of modern societies (the institutionalization of Iberoamerican cultures, the rise of translated literature in key Iberoamerican modernist journals, the position of Iberoamerican women in the cultural field, and the role of Iberoamerican mediators in new forms of mass media). By combining computational methods, cultural, literary history, translation, sociology, gender and media studies, Diana Roig Sanz will lead an interdisciplinary team of 6 researchers that will fill the gap in modernist studies and will offer an original, reproducible and empirically tested method for studying social human interaction within a global, cultural and decentred approach.

## **Description:**

The successful PhD candidate will be involved in the scholarly study of the following PhD project on key cultural transformation processes distinctive of modern societies.

**The role of Iberoamerican mediators in new forms of mass media.** This PhD project explores the impact of Iberoamerican mediators on the international rise of cinema and radio through their reviews in the press, the organization of film societies, their participation in cinematographic international conferences, or in radio broadcasts. Existing indexes of key Iberoamerican journals will test how they played a crucial role in promoting the radio's cultural function, foreign and domestic cinema and the emerging Latino movie star system. While research has discussed Iberoamerican experimental films, less attention has been paid to mainstream cinema, modernist aesthetics in relation to popular genres or music, or women who were not only consumers of new forms of mass media, but also producers.

**Required background and skills:** Communication or Film Studies. Proficiency in English and Spanish or Portuguese is a must and a good working knowledge of Catalan, French and/or German will be a plus. Experience or interest in digital approaches, visualization techniques and the intersections between the Humanities and Computer Science will be also a plus.

**Period of time:** 4 years. The PhD candidate will join the team in Spring 2019 (Spring time Barcelona).

The **PhD** candidate will carry out the thematic subproject mentioned above, though she/he will closely work with the other team members and benefit from their data and results.

**The Social Networks of the Past project provides:**

- 1 application for a four-year fully funded fellowship, including wages and travel budget for research visits to libraries and archives, conferences or international workshops.
- The support from a software development firm such as Lab1100 (<https://lab1100.com/>), a subcontracted data scientist and an advisory board.
- Scientific and technical training in the different aspects of the project, as well as formation in grant capture.
- Periods of research at different institutions and worldwide universities. A codirection with professors of other universities may be also possible.
- World-leading and internationally excellent research, networks and collaborations, and national and international activities.
- Training to disseminate conceptual and complex ideas to a wide variety of audiences using appropriate media and methods.
- A young, international, collaborative and dynamic research environment.

To apply, please send your c.v., academic transcript, a copy of your Master thesis or a chapter or scientific paper published in a peer-reviewed journal, a letter of motivation, a short bibliography of your choice (up to 10 references) and the name of 3 professors who could potentially give a reference on your work to: **dsanzr@uoc.edu**. You may also e-mail Diana Roig Sanz at this address for further information regarding the fellowship.

**Deadline: May 10, 2019.**

In the **letter of motivation**, applicants should explain their background and reasons to apply for the specific PhD project. They should also indicate their area of expertise and the contribution they would expect to make to the team's research from both scientific and personal point of view. Candidates will be expected to provide high-quality research and to engage in internationally excellent research activities, including publication and dissemination of the research in conferences and other scientific events, as well as the organization of workshops or the project's conference. They will be expected to develop new connections and collaborations with other academics and young scholars in their field (in Catalonia or Spain and ideally overseas). They will also contribute to the life and reputation of the *Social Networks of the Past* project being enthusiastic, dynamic and proactive scholars.