

Call for expressions of interest for a PhD fellowship in the project: “Business and Politics. How NGEU funds shape EU support” (PID2023-151112NA-I00), funded by the Spanish Research Agency between 01/2025-12/2028. The project is led by Irina Ciornei at the Department of Political Science and Public Law, Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Expected publication date of the application: end of September 2025 via the UAB portal.
For any inquiries, please contact irina.ciornei@uab.cat.

Job Description

The selected applicant will join the research team led by Irina Ciornei (UAB) and Manuel Hidalgo-Perez (UPO Seville). The team closely collaborates with Alessandro Pellegata (University of Milan) and Zsofia Ignacz (University of Frankfurt). **Tentative start date: February 2025.**

In close collaboration with the principal investigator and the rest of the research team, the selected candidate will be able to:

- Develop a PhD thesis on a topic related to the project.
- Assist in the development of the research project.
- Present and publish papers related to the research findings.
- Help organize and participate in the project's conferences and seminars.

Profile

- Master's degree in political science, sociology, international relations, economics, European studies or a related field
- Excellent command of quantitative techniques
- Advanced level of English
- Knowledge of Spanish, German, or Italian is an advantage

Requested documents:

- CV (also include the names of two potential referees)
- Grade transcript of the BA/MA degree
- Letter of interest
- Writing sample (MA thesis, article, chapter, etc)

Project summary:

The EUBUSINESS project investigates the impact of Next Generation EU funds on economic actors' support for the EU. The study is based on surveys and survey experiments in small and medium-sized enterprises located in Spain, Italy and Germany. The specific objectives of the project are the following:

- Assess the mechanisms through which EU market governance policies, and in particular Next Generation EU funds, influence economic actors' support for the EU.
- Examine the reverse side of market governance policies, namely their impact on economic actors whose firms are not successful in securing Next Generation EU support.
- Inquire which market governance policies at the supranational level are more likely to elicit support from EU economic actors.