RMIT **REDI**
UNIVERSITY

Are you REDI?

REDI is a PhD training program like no other: 40+ industry-supported positions, most awarded two PhDs, once-in-a-lifetime year in Melbourne, Australia, annual training weeks in Barcelona, Spain, excellent salaries, access to 60+ partners...

rediprogram.eu

Position Description

Group of research topics: Automated Monitoring of Online Communities

Position is funded by	- COFUND, Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), Horizon 2020, European Union - IIIA-CSIC, Spain - RMIT University (RMIT), Australia
Research Host	Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence (IIIA-CSIC), Spain
PhD awarding institution/s	Dual PhD awarded by Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), Spain and RMIT
Locations	- Primary: Barcelona, Spain - Secondary: Melbourne, Australia - Annual workshops in Barcelona, Spain
Contract	Full-time, fixed term (36 months)
Gross annual salary	28.330 EUR (gross amount before employee's taxes and contributions)
Preferred start date	01/03/2022
Deadline for applications	30/11/2021 (Reference: IIIA-CSIC-DC1)

Your choice of research topics (only one of these projects will be funded):

Project 1: Automated extraction of Online Community Norms	Project 2: Detecting violations of Online Community Norms	Project 3: Detecting bullying behaviours in Online Communities
The overall aim of the research is to contribute to the safety of emergent online communities by providing automated methods for identifying and preventing agents from contravening community guidelines (aka standards, rules). The project will investigate AI techniques in the area of autonomous multi agent systems such as AI Planning, Conversational agents, Goal based reasoning and Normative reasoning in agent societies. *Further information may be obtained from the Supervisors.*	The overall aim of the research is to contribute to the safety of emergent online communities by providing automated methods for identifying and preventing agents from contravening community guidelines (aka standards, rules). The project will investigate AI techniques in the area of autonomous multi agent systems to Develop automated methods to derive "opposite actions" that constitute violations of community guidelines i.e., represent the behaviours of malicious agents. *Further information may be obtained from the Supervisors.*	The overall aim of the research is to contribute to the safety of emergent online communities by providing automated methods for identifying and preventing agents from contravening community guidelines (aka standards, rules). The project will investigate AI techniques in the area of autonomous multi agent systems to investigate and develop techniques to predict "bullying" behaviours from conversation threads and generate counter strategies to prevent such behaviours in online communities. *Further information may be obtained from the Supervisors.*
Supervisors: Prof. Carles Sierra (IIIA-CSIC) **and** Prof. John Thangarajah, A/Prof. Julie Porteous (RMIT)		
Research Fields: Artificial intelligence		

REDI

The REDI (RMIT European Doctoral Innovators) program is a unique opportunity offering excellent PhD conditions including enviable international experience, top-class research discipline and transversal skills training as well as networking with academic and industry leaders across 60+ supporting partners and 12 countries.

As a REDI researcher you will be:

- enrolled by two entities, with the chance to be awarded dual doctorates and gain alumni status from multiple institutions, including the Marie Curie Alumni Association.
- seeing the world and spending a year at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia (ranked in the top 20 of universities under 50 years old in the world).
- part of a rich multidisciplinary network of researchers and supervisors who come together in annual, week-long training events in Barcelona.
- working closely with industry and gaining experience with the 40+ leading companies supporting the program.
- earning a salary above national standards for doctoral positions with full social security benefits (with further support available for eligible researchers with additional needs).
- receiving support and guidance from two highest-calibre, experienced supervisors with high PhD completion rates.
- enhancing your career prospects through comprehensive technical and transversal skills training from leading institutions, intersectoral and international experience and mentoring.
- working on innovative and exciting projects of high commercial and societal value with up to four years to complete your research.

For more information visit: rediprogram.eu

Are you REDI? (Expected Profile)

Your background and skills: You should have an undergraduate or postgraduate qualification in Computer Science with a research component. Skills in programming, computational logic and artificial intelligence would be ideal.

Your work experience: Professional experience is not required.

Your research experience: You should have a research component in a bachelors or masters level course.

Employment Benefits and Conditions

IIIA-CSIC offers a 36-month position (extendable to up to 48 months in duly justified cases). The position will be based in Barcelona (Spain). International travel is foreseen to Australia (up to 12 months). There is no probation period and there are 40 working hours per week.

The remuneration, in line with the European Commission rules for Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant holders, will consist of a gross annual salary of est. 28.330 EUR (gross amount before employee's taxes and contributions). Of this amount, the estimated net salary* to be perceived by the Researcher is est. 1.800 EUR per month. However, the definite amount to be received by the Researcher is subject to national tax legislation. For more information on the estimated net salary per month, please use the net salary calculator.

Net salaries can fluctuate in accordance with an individual's personal circumstances (marital status, age, disability, family and dependents, etc. The above indicative net salaries offer an approximation of what a single person in their early 20s could expect to receive in their bank account after taxes.

Benefits include:

- Paid holiday leave
- Sick / injury leave
- Parental leave
- 1,000€ yearly travel allowance to cover flights and accommodation to participate in the annual workshop at RMIT Europe in Barcelona (Spain)
- 10,000€ allowance to cover flights and living expenses for up to 12 months in Australia.

REDI to apply? First a little more about us…

IIIA-CSIC

With more than 25 years of history, the work and commitment of the Artificial Intelligence Research Institute (IIIA-CSIC), located on the Autonomous University of Barcelona, has made it a reference centre in AI investigation both in Spain and in Europe. Its main mission is to carry out very high-quality research in Artificial Intelligence, keeping a good balance between basic research and applications, and paying particular attention to graduate students' training and to technology transfer.

The IIIA has three main research lines: logic and reasoning, machine learning, multiagent systems, and a Technological Development Unit (UDT-IA) dedicated to transferring technology in the industrial ecosystem and bringing IIIA research results closer to society. Besides, the IIIA develops its research committed to the Sustainable Development Goals in education, health, mobility, and ethics, among others.

IIIA-CSIC offers to their Researchers a wide range of training, mentoring and support activities, including:

- **Open IIIA (Mentoring program):** At IIIA-CSIC is hard to feel lonely. Our open-doors philosophy allows constant and personalised attention for each one of our students. In addition to weekly follow-up meetings with your advisor, you will also be able to meet with other researchers and students to exchange opinions and resolve doubts. At the IIIA-CSIC, we believe that science advances in community, and for this, an open and pleasant environment where no one is above anyone else is crucial. If you want to know a student experience, you can read this interview with Ewa Andrejczuk: "What I really like about IIIA is that everyone is amicable and helpful, and there is no hierarchy"

- **Courses and training opportunities:** IIIA has a long tradition of running seminars on a regular basis. Weekly seminars are our research staff's (researchers, post-docs, PhD students, ...) primary mechanism for sharing their latest research work with the institute, as well as with researchers in other institutes and the public. They are also used as a grandstand for international researchers that visit the IIIA to present their work. Finally, specialised internal seminars help improve personnel training in different areas, like administrative procedures, technical skills, or infrastructures, among others.

- **Language courses:** We do not offer language courses, but you can find a variety of courses (Catalan, English, Spanish, Russian, Portuguese, German ...) in the language department of the UAB, the university where our building is located. In addition, if you want to learn Catalan, you can also take advantage of *Parla.cat*, a public online courses platform and the courses offered by the *Consorci de Normalització Lingüística.*

- **Relocation support:** At the moment, we do not have a relocation support program, but we can offer our guide and help.

- **Cultural and social activities:** We firmly believe that in any human activity, people and their wellbeing come first. We have strived to achieve a relaxed yet productive work environment. Social activities have been our way to unite us and give us a sense of community. End-of-year concerts, luncheons in the Catalan countryside, and celebrations of academic success are our signature.

- **Further benefits:**

- **Ars Magna Cluster:** A high-performance high-availability computing cluster that operates continuously thanks to its batch system. You can know more about it on ARS Magna Cluster & HPC-AI Services.

- **UDT:** The UDT-IA is as a service of the IIIA-CSIC research lines promoting the transfer of knowledge and technologies from IIIA research to society, as well as promoting and managing collaboration with innovative companies and organizations that want to incorporate AI into their processes.

- **Accident Insurance**: The CSIC currently carries insurance through FREMAP, a mutual insurance company.

Find out more: iiia.csic.es

RMIT

RMIT is a global university of technology, design and enterprise, ranked in the top 20 of universities under 50 years old in the world. World-class people, leading edge resources, collaboration with industry partners and multi-disciplinary approaches are just a few of the trademarks of research at RMIT, which boasts almost 90,000 students

and campuses in Australia, Vietnam, a centre in Barcelona, Spain and research and industry partners on every continent.

As Doctoral Student at RMIT you will be able to benefit from a wide range of training and mentoring opportunities including:

- **The PhD Up** program offering a huge range of workshops, seminars and short courses to build research knowledge and skills, including research writing, publishing, research methods, ethics, project management and careers (see more at: https://www.rmit.edu.au/students/student-essentials/information-for/research-candidates/enriching-your-candidature/phd-up-program)
- **RMIT PhD Online Modules**, designed specifically for PhD students, including *Researching your literature review, Writing a research proposal, Choosing where to publish, Writing for Publication, Research Integrity*, etc.
- **RMIT Creds**, RMIT's Digital Credentials Platform, which includes over 80 credentials covering a wide range of topics such as *Understanding Responsible Research and Innovation, Academic Integrity Awareness, Emotional Intelligence, Diversity Matters, Agile Ways of Working, Why Gender Matters, Cross Cultural Communications*, etc. (see more at: https://www.rmit.edu.au/study-with-us/levels-of-study/short-courses);
- **The e-Grad School**, the online learning modules of the Australian Technology Network (ATN) of Universities' covering a multitude of transferrable skills such as *Critical and Creative Thinking, Leadership and Communication, Entrepreneurship, Research Commercialisation, Public Policy*, etc.
- **The RMIT Mentoring platform also** gives you access to mentoring from trained professionals and experts, including:
  - *Career Mentoring* - career guidance from industry professionals from all disciplines and global locations.
  - *Women@RMIT Mentoring* - career guidance from industry professionals who are committed to gender diversity and equality in the workplace (especially for female students in male dominated industries)
  - *Pride Mentoring* - a chance for students who identify as LGBTIQ+ to receive professional and social guidance from industry professionals who also identify as LGBTIQ+ or are familiar with the additional challenges these groups face in the workforce.

Find out more: rmit.edu.au

UAB

The Autonomous University of Barcelona is a leading university providing quality teaching in a wide variety of courses that meet the needs of society and are adapted to the new models of the Europe of Knowledge. Our courses provide students with outstanding practical experience, helping them to be better prepared as they enter the professional world. UAB is internationally renowned for its quality and innovation in research.

UAB is internationally renowned for its quality and innovation in research. UAB has over 65 PhD programmes regulated by Royal Decree 99/2011, on PhD studies, and these are categorised in 5 areas of interest: Arts and Humanities, Sciences, Social and Juridical Sciences, Health Sciences and Engineering.

In recent years, the UAB has seen recognition for its efforts in promoting quality in teaching, in attracting international talent and in obtaining a growing impact in research, together with a progressive improvement in its classifications in the most prestigious and influential international rankings. Thus, the UAB is well as occupying an outstanding position among Spanish universities in world rankings such as the QS World University Rankings (QS WUR), the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (THE WUR) and the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU).

Find out more: https://www.uab.cat/web/universitat-autonoma-de-barcelona-1345467954774.html

A little more about you…

Eligibility

You need to fulfil criteria of the REDI program and both universities to be recruited.

To apply for REDI, you must comply with the MSCA-COFUND eligibility criteria by the application deadline:

- **Be in the first four years Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) research experience** of your research career and not yet have been awarded a doctoral degree. FTE Research Experience is measured from the date when a researcher obtained the degree entitling him/her to embark on a doctorate, **AND**

- **Not have resided or carried out your main activity (work, studies, etc.)** in the country of your research host for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before this call's deadline. Time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention (1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol), compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays is not taken into account.

AND the following criteria:

- **Hold a bachelor's degree requiring at least 4 years of full-time study** in a relevant discipline awarded with honours and including a research component; **OR**

- **Hold a master's degree that includes a research component** or a master degree without a research component with at least a high distinction average; **OR**

- **Have evidence of appropriate academic qualifications and/or professional experience** demonstrating that the applicant has developed knowledge of the field of study or cognate field and the potential for research sufficient to undertake the chosen project.

    AND

- Have **English level C1 language proficiency**.

In addition to the above, if your application is successful, you will be required to:

- Apply for a working visa in Spain (More information: https://www.euraxess.es/spain/information-assistance/entry-conditionsvisas-spain)
- Apply for a student visa in Australia (More information: https://www.rmit.edu.au/study-with-us/international-students/apply-to-rmit-international-students/student-visas/apply-for-a-visa)

In addition to meeting the eligibility criteria for the REDI Program, you will also need to meet the admission criteria of both institutions:

Admission at UAB

You will be enrolled as Doctoral Student at UAB for the entire duration of the assignment. At admission, you will need to supply:

- Degree certificate and the transcript of records of a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree (original and photocopy). Access may be granted where the following cases apply:

- Hold an official Spanish university degree or a degree from another country in the EEES which grants access to a Master's degree in accordance with article 16 of RD 1393/2007, of 29 October, and have achieved a minimum of 300 ECTS credits in university studies of which at least 60 must be at Master's level. In this case we must remember that the official university degree obtained correspondence to Level 2 of the Spanish Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (MECES), for official titles of Graduate or Engineer will be accounted for as a degree of 180 ECTS.

- Hold an official Spanish qualification at graduate level, the duration of which, in accordance with community law, must be at least 300 ECTS credits. These graduates must take compulsory background credit referred to

in article 7.2 of RD 99/2011, except where the syllabus of the degree course includes research training credits equivalent to the research credits awarded on Master's courses.

- University graduates who, before obtaining a place as a result of the entrance exam for specialist health courses, have passed at least two years of a programme for an official qualification in one of the Health Science specialisations.

- Holder of a qualification obtained in accordance with foreign educational systems without the need for official recognition, having previously confirmed with the university that this qualification accredits a level of training equivalent to the official Spanish university Master's degree and that it would serve as a means of access to a PhD in the country in which it was awarded. This admission does not under any circumstances imply official recognition of the previous qualification or recognition for any purpose other than access to PhD studies.

- Holders of another Spanish PhD qualification obtained in accordance with the previous university's rules.

- Holders of a degree who also have the Diploma of Advanced Studies obtained in accordance with the provisions of RD 778/1998, of 30 April, or have achieved research proficiency under the terms outlined in RD 185/1985, of 23 January.

- Hold an official university degree which has obtained correspondence to level 3 of the Spanish Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (MECES), for official degrees of Architect, Engineer or Bachelor.

- Cover Letter
- CV including contact details
- 2 reference letters
- At the time of admission, the assignment of tutor, director and line of investigation will be necessary.
- Admission to the PhD programme is decided by the Rector and depends on having passed the bridging courses, where they exist.

For those Candidates who have obtained their qualifications abroad formal requirements are needed to be followed to validate them. For more info, visit: https://www.educacionyfp.gob.es/en/servicios-al-ciudadano/catalogo/general/20/203615/ficha.html

More information: https://www.uab.cat/web/study/phds/admission/admission-new-doctoral-studies-regulated-by-rd-99/2011-1345666996343.html

Admission at RMIT University

You will also be enrolled as Doctoral Student at RMIT University for the entire duration of the assignment. At admission, you will need to supply:
- CV
- Complete transcripts for all academic qualifications
- Research proposal or statement of interest in an available research project
- Language certificates
- List of referees

More information: https://www.rmit.edu.au/research/research-degrees/how-to-apply

Apply now (https://www.rediprogram.eu)