

Evaluation Panel: SOCIAL SCIENCES - Sociology, Anthropology, Demography e Geography

Panel Members

Sue Scott (Chair)	University of York, United Kingdom
Apostolos Papadapoulos	Harikopio University of Athens, Greece
Arne Dulsrud	Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway
Csaba Szalo	Masaryk University, Czech Republic
Diane Richardson	University of Newcastle, United Kingdom
David Inglis	University of Helsinki, Finland
Hannah Bradby	Uppsala University, Sweden
Marta Soler Gallart	University of Barcelona, Spain
Theo Wubbels	Utrecht University, The Netherlands

R&D Units

Centro de Estudos das Migrações e das Relações Interculturais (CEMRI)	Universidade Aberta (UAberta)
Centro de Estudos de Geografia e Ordenamento do Território (CEGOT)	Universidade de Coimbra (UC)
Centro de Estudos Geográficos - Universidade de Lisboa (CEG)	Instituto de Geografia e Ordenamento do Território da Universidade de Lisboa (IGOT/ULisboa)
Centro de Estudos Sociais (CES)	Centro de Estudos Sociais (CES)
Centro de Estudos Transdisciplinares para o Desenvolvimento (CETRAD)	Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro (UTAD)
Centro de Investigação e Estudos de Sociologia (CIES-IUL)	ISCTE - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (ISCTE-IUL)
Centro de Investigação em Antropologia e Saúde (CIAS)	Universidade de Coimbra (UC)
Centro em Rede de Investigação em Antropologia (CRIA)	Centro em Rede de Investigação em Antropologia (CRIA)
Centro Interdisciplinar de Ciências Sociais (CICS.NOVA)	Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas (FCSH/UNL)
Centro Interdisciplinar de Estudos de Género (CIEG)	Instituto Superior de Ciências Sociais e Políticas (ISCSP/ULisboa)
Centro Lusíada de investigação em Serviço Social e Intervenção Social (CLISSIS)	Fundação Minerva - Cultura - Ensino e Investigação Científica (FMinerva)
CSG - Investigação em Ciências Sociais e Gestão (CSG)	Centro de Investigação em Sociologia Económica e das Organizações (SOCIUS/ISEG/ULisboa)
DINÂMIA'CET-IUL, Centro de Estudos Sobre a Mudança Socioeconómica e o Território (DINÂMIA'CET-IUL)	ISCTE - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (ISCTE-IUL)
Instituto de Ciências Sociais da Universidade de Lisboa (ICS-ULisboa)	Instituto de Ciências Sociais da Universidade de Lisboa (ICS/ULisboa)
Instituto de Sociologia da Universidade do Porto (IS-UP)	Faculdade de Letras da Universidade do Porto (FL/UP)
Unidade de Investigação em Educação e Intervenção Comunitária (RECI)	Instituto Piaget, Cooperativa para o Desenvolvimento Humano, Integral e Ecológico CRL (IPiaget)
Unidade de Investigação em Governança, Competitividade e Políticas Públicas (GOVCOPP)	Universidade de Aveiro (UA)
Unidade de Investigação Interdisciplinar - Comunidades Envelhecidas Funcionais (Age.Comm)	Instituto Politécnico de Castelo Branco (IPCB)

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R&D Unit: Instituto de Ciências Sociais da Universidade de Lisboa (ICS-ULisboa)

Coordinator: José Luís Cardoso

Integrated PhD Researchers: 112

Overall Quality Grade: ExCELLENT

Evaluation Criteria Ratings

- (A) Quality, merit, relevance and internationalization of the R&D activities of the Integrated Researchers in the R&D Unit Application: 5
- (B) Merit of the team of Integrated Researchers: 5
- (C) Appropriateness of objectives, strategy, plan of activities and organization: 4

Base Funding for (2020-2023): 2038 K€

Recommended Programmatic Support

PhD Fellowships: 8

Programmatic Funding: 613 K€, including for 2 (Junior) New PhD Researchers Contracts.

Justification, Comments and Recommendations

The Institute of Social Sciences is an excellent and successful R&D Unit with relevant research achievements and broad international scientific dissemination, becoming a reference in their area of activity, both nationally and internationally. It is integrated by seven research groups in fields of study such as environment, political institutions, social policy, identities and cultures, inequalities, vulnerable groups, empires and postcolonial societies. All of them are strategically coordinated through three thematic axes of citizenship, sustainability and social inclusion, while at the same time promoting academic freedom and innovative and creative proposals among researchers.

All research groups have their distinct research activities and periodical seminars to create in each of them true hubs of intellectual exchange, where all researchers from PhD to senior members participate. Each of the seven research groups have been successful in achieving international funding, mostly EU, in prestigious R&D programmes such as FP7 and H2020 collaborative schemes, ERC grants, MSC actions, HERA and ERAnet. Competitive R&D funding has also been awarded at the national level by FCT, and some groups have attracted resources from private foundations as well. The fact that all research groups have been successful in internationalizing their research activity talks about the excellent overall coordination and support to talent in each or the different areas. The level of research and international activity makes the institute an attractive place for visiting scholars, who come from different parts of the world, contributing at the same time to the periodical intellectual exchange within groups and also to the institute as a whole.

The Unit is also a leader in the creation and coordination of PASSDA infrastructure for national survey data, which involves also the coordination of Portuguese participation in ESS, ESV and other international surveys. This is another important contribution and also one of the strong potentials that lay within this Unit.

The Institute counts on a strong organization structure, with a School Board and other more operational Boards: Management, Scientific, Pedagogical, Ethics, and Outreach boards. They are composed by representatives from the different research levels in the Unit, namely PhD students, post-doc and non-permanent researchers and full-time permanent researchers. While this is very well structured, there seems to be a strong level of formalization. Accordingly, more space for team work which would motivate emergence and flow of ideas about new research avenues and strategies would strengthen and project further the potential encapsulated within this R&D Unit.

The researchers with a PhD degree and nuclear CV demonstrate a relevant scientific profile, both at national and international level. The information provided in their ORCID and available websites shows clear advancements in different fields in the social sciences, with a high number of publications in peer reviewed international journals well positioned in Scopus or JCR WoS (some of them Q1, like 'New Media and Society' or 'Journal of Politics'). Furthermore, there are publications of books and book chapters with renowned publishers such as Springer, Routledge or Cambridge University Press. There is a good balance between publications in Portuguese language and other international publication forums. In addition, while co-authorship with colleagues from other countries is emphasised, collaboration and co-authorship among researchers from different research groups within the Institute can be also found, which mirrors the synergies that the Institute tries to promote among research groups. Open access publishing is discussed in

the Unit, and there is full awareness among researchers about the challenges of Plan S. However, funding for Golden Open access is still a big issue, not only for the Institute but for researchers in Portugal in general. Researchers with EU funding have budgets for covering author processing charges, but this is not the case for all research happening within the Unit. Anyhow, the use of the institutional repository for Green open access is in place. Furthermore, the journal and book series published from the Unit both have an open access strategy in place.

The Institute includes 9 PhD programmes, some of which are transdisciplinary and coordinated with other faculties or universities. This provides the opportunity for PhD students to work in a highly stimulating environment, with weekly seminars and ongoing research activities, while at the same time know and collaborate with scholars outside the institute. Advanced training programmes and summer schools for both PhD students and postdoc researchers is successfully provided and strong encouragement to participation in them is in place. There is strong sense of belonging among students and in general a feeling of closeness and good collaboration with supervisors; however, it seemed that there are many formal seminars for academic exchange and less opportunities for informal meetings and collaborations among them. In this sense, there is some room for improvement at the level of doctoral training research possibilities. Furthermore, while most of the PhD students are encouraged to go to international conferences and publish articles in international journals, almost all of them write their dissertations as a monograph and in Portuguese language. Promoting the possibility of doing doctoral dissertations as a compendium of articles would open more possibilities for young scholars to continue research careers when they finish their PhDs.

The Institute counts on technical staff which is specialized and crucial in supporting researchers grant applications. Furthermore, there are informal strategies from the senior researchers to support younger research scholars in their research proposals. For instance, an ERC coaching promoted by a senior who obtained an advanced ERC grant is a valuable internal human resource. Similar strategies of teamwork and optimization of expertise can strengthen strategic planning for the future.

While this Institute has a strong contribution in terms of cutting-edge fundamental research, there is also some indication of outreach and impact on society. However, evidence of the societal and political impact of the research activity of the Unit has not been provided in sufficient detail. It is advisable to think further in including a new strategy for developing outreach activities, promoting co-production of knowledge with the diversity of stakeholders related to some of the research projects and creating a systematic way of monitoring and gathering societal and political impact in qualitative and/or quantitative forms.

The objectives for 2018-2022 and future strategy are well planned, but not always well specified. The objectives include emergent research in the three axes of inclusion, citizenship and sustainability. The plan addresses properly the need to continue promoting international and national data infrastructures, the presence of the Institute in contributing to the SSH research agenda internationally and the promotion of postgraduate and young researchers careers. In this line, it is important to mention the creation of an international research-led master's course in advance quantitative and qualitative methods, which is coherent with the lines of research of the Institute and its transdisciplinary approach, and covers a gap in early career training. Strengthening the future strategy with elements of teamwork and optimization of expertise among researchers would be important for the future, as well as a more clear plan for transferring scientific research outcomes into benefits for society and public policy.