



## COES - THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL CONFLICT AND COHESION STUDIES

### Postdoctoral Research Positions at the Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies, at the University of Chile, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez and Universidad Diego Portales.

The Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies (COES – FONDAF) invites applications for three postdoctoral research positions. The COES will develop collaborative research on issues related to social conflict and cohesion (convivencia) in Chile through a multidisciplinary team from the social sciences and humanities. COES will centre its academic and outreach activities on the analysis of the multiple manifestations of social conflict in Chile, its causes as well as historical and cultural context. Our main objective is to contribute to the improvement of social cohesion, not only by generating cutting edge research, but also by informing public policy and social dialogue in Chile through our outreach activities and specific proposals for public action.

COES' main research areas are the following: 1) the socio-economic dimensions of conflict, 2) group and individual interactions, 3) social and political conflict, and 4) the geographies of conflict. In this call priority will be given to candidates applying to the research area 2, **group and individual interactions**. This research area will contribute to the analysis and understanding of social conflict and cohesion in Chile by integrating interpersonal and intergroup dimensions into the macro-social context. It is divided into four separate sub-dimensions: (a) interpersonal conflict, with an emphasis on the family unit and neighbourhood; (b) intergroup relations, including issues of intergroup contact, prejudice, and discrimination; (c) class-based hierarchical group interactions and socio-political cleavages; and (d) interactions between individuals and the public sphere through citizen participation. These research areas will give special consideration to subjective aspects, such as attitudes and perceptions towards others and the social system, as well as to their behavioural consequences in terms of promoting or mitigating conflict situations and/or social cohesion.

Qualified candidates must have a PhD (awarded within the last 5 years or an approved PhD thesis with graduation pending) in one of the social sciences as well as strong writing and statistical skills. They should possess expertise in topics that fit into the Centre's research agenda such as social movements, social theory, political socialization, social stratification, intergroup relations, social identity and intergroup contact, multidimensional inequalities, among others. Theoretical background and experience with multilevel modelling and longitudinal data analysis will be preferred. In addition to the completion and publication of their own research, the postdoctoral scholars' primary responsibilities will be planning and conducting studies, statistical data analysis and preparation of manuscripts for publication and conference presentations. They will also be expected to be actively involved in developing and publishing articles related to cross-sectional and panel studies using national representative samples. Selected candidates will be able to undertake some teaching in English or Spanish. Selected candidates will work collaboratively with a multidisciplinary research team of social scientists led by Professor Dante Contreras.

The salary offered for this position is US\$ 36,000 per year approximately plus USD 3,000 for research expenses (precise amounts may vary depending on exchange rates). There is also financial support for relocation costs for candidates from overseas. Each position is for two years, but renewal for the second year will be subject to the fulfilment of objectives.

We also welcome applications from post-docs who would like to undertake a joint post-doc with another Chilean or international partner institution. In this case, partner institutions will share in the cost of the post-doc appointment, and candidates may reside in another country as well as Chile.

**Applications are open until April 30, 2014.** Please send a letter of introduction, curriculum vitae, summary of Ph.D. research, brief research proposal (no more than two pages) and two letters of support to [info@coes.cl](mailto:info@coes.cl). The review of applications and the interviews will take place during May. Interviews with the selection committee could also be by telephone or through video conference. Results will be announced by the end of May.