FULL-TIME ACADEMIC POSITION IN POLITICAL ACTORS AND BEHAVIOURS

FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Reference : 2027/A017
Application deadline: 25/01/2027 12:00 PM
Start date: 01/10/2027

Job Description

The Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) is recruiting a full-time academic in political science (at Lecturer/Associate Professor level) with a specialisation specialising in the study of political actors and behaviours. This recruitment is part of the creation of a full-time academic chair in political science.

Research areas: Political science, political actors, political behaviour, political life.

Educational and scientific objectives

The establishment of this chair aims to strengthen research and teaching on political actors and behaviours within the ULB, in line with the strategic directions proposed by the Department of Political Science. It is intended to facilitate the analysis of contemporary changes in political life through the study of the actors, behaviours and dynamics that shape political systems. In particular, the post aims to strengthen research into forms of political participation and mobilisation, electoral behaviours, political parties and organisations, as well as the relationships between citizens, organised groups and institutions. Particular attention may be paid to the realignment of political and social divides, new forms of engagement and disengagement, changes in political identities and attitudes, and the emergence of new actors and repertoires of action. The post will thus enable the analysis of individual and collective behaviours to be linked to that of broader transformations in political competition and political life, from a perspective that may be Belgian and/or comparative across established democracies.

As a holder of a PhD in political science, you will have an excellent academic record and possess international research experience as well as teaching experience in higher education.

Your teaching and research activities will form part of the programs offered by the Department of Political Science at the ULB and the research centres of the Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences (https://phisoc.ulb.be), respectively. The Department currently has twenty-five full-time academic staff working across all areas of political science. They are affiliated with research centres whose work is internationally recognised. The Department organises undergraduate (Bachelor's), postgraduate (Master's) and doctoral programs for a student body of around 2,000.

You will propose a programme of teaching and research in political science focusing on political actors, political behaviours and the transformations of contemporary political life. This programme may, in

particular, address forms of participation and mobilisation, electoral behaviours, political parties and organisations, political attitudes and identifications, as well as the restructuring of political institutions and systems, and the relationships between citizens, collective actors and institutions.

You will teach at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, delivering courses on political life, political behaviours and institutions, as well as more general modules in political science within the Bachelor's degree in Political Science and the various Master's programs organised by the Department (notably the 60-credit Master's programs, including the daytime programme in English and the staggered-timetable programme). In particular, you will be required to teach quantitative analytical methods applied to political science. You will demonstrate the ability to lead a teaching team and to teach in both English and French. Finally, you will supervise Master's-level dissertations and final-year projects, both within your areas of expertise and in the broader field of political science.

In terms of research, your activities will primarily fall within the research areas of the Centre for the Study of Political Life (CEVIPOL) or will contribute to the development of one or more new research areas within the Centre. You are expected to demonstrate your ability or potential to conduct and promote your research at an international level, notably through an excellent publication record (primarily in English) in leading international academic journals and with leading academic publishers. Furthermore, you demonstrate an ability or potential to set up research projects and submit them in response to internal or external funding calls (e.g. FNRS, European funding). Finally, you will be expected to supervise PhD theses and postdoctoral projects.

Courses to be taught at the time of hiring

A tenured lecturer's teaching workload consists of four teaching assignments per academic year, as well as supervising dissertations and final-year projects each year in the roles of supervisor and external examiner. You will also eventually be required to take on administrative and logistical responsibilities within the Department of Political Science, the Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences, or your affiliated research centre. The teaching load is flexible, depending on the department's resources and needs. It is generally divided into four 24-hour courses and, ideally, spread across both Bachelor's and Master's programmes. The provisions relating to the workload of academic staff are set out in Article 193 of the Consolidated Text of Provisions Relating to the Careers of Research and Academic Staff (*Texte coordonné des dispositions relatives à la carrière du corps scientifique et du corps académique*).

Your teaching load will be developed gradually over the first three years of your appointment. Upon recruitment, you will be asked to teach courses on **political actors and behaviour in consolidated democracies** (for undergraduate students; specific expertise on Belgium may be an asset in this context) and on **quantitative methods applied to political science** (for postgraduate students).

A third course will be assigned during the second year of the appointment, and a fourth course during the third year. Depending on the Department's needs and resources, and on the academic coordination between lecturers, these courses may form part of the general curriculum or those dedicated to political actors and behaviour at undergraduate or postgraduate level. At regular intervals, the Political Science Departmental Council discusses the teaching load of all its members. The content of the teaching load may be amended on this occasion in consultation with the lecturers concerned.

Hiring procedure

The recruitment procedure is organised in two stages, as provided for in Article 179 of the Consolidated Text of Provisions Relating to the Careers of the Scientific and Academic Staff.

The academic committee will first carry out an individual assessment and rank the applications received on the basis of their formal eligibility and the teaching and academic qualities demonstrated. Following this initial assessment, the candidates whose applications are ranked highest will be invited to an interview before the assessment committee. The interview comprises an individual discussion with the Scientific Committee and a public lecture lasting approximately 20 minutes, which may involve the participation of students enrolled on courses within the Department of Political Science. The candidates who attend the audition will be ranked a second time, and the candidate ranked first will be offered the post.

Barring circumstances beyond our control, the results of the first phase of assessment will be communicated to candidates during March 2027. The interviews will be organised over a single day and, barring circumstances beyond our control, will take place on 16 April 2026; they will be held exclusively in person. **These dates should be considered as indicative at this time and will be confirmed after the application deadline**.

Qualifications required

PhD Degree (with doctoral thesis) in political science, European studies or related fields.

You must **imperatively** hold the aforementioned degree at **the time of submitting your application**. Candidates who do not hold the required qualification in the required field, or who expect to graduate with the required title after the application deadline, **need not apply**.

Skills required

- You must have at least four years' academic experience at the time of appointment. Academic experience includes, in particular, the period spent as a research student working on a doctoral thesis, provided that you received full-time funding via a scholarship or contract during that period.
- You must have postdoctoral experience and an excellent academic record.
- Any periods spent away from the institution where you completed your PhD (either during your doctoral studies or thereafter) will be taken into account when assessing your application.
- If you are not fluent in French (level C1), an adaptation period may be granted. You must, however, be able to teach in French by the end of the third year following your appointment.
- You are able to publish your research and teach in English (level C1).

Interested ?

For more information, please contact Corinne Torrekens, Chair of the Department of Political Science (phone number during regular business hours : +32 2 650.33.26– Email: presidence.scpo.phiso@ulb.be).

Your application will consist of a Curriculum Vitae *(if you wish, a standard CV can be downloaded from the website: https:* //www.ulb.be/fr/documents-officiels/emplois-academiques-et-scientifiques-cv-type) and a document completed using the template available at this URL address https://www.ulb.be/fr/documents-officiels/1e-applic-form-acad-tps-plein-docx.

This template structures your application by including the following elements:

- an application letter
- a research report of approximately 3 pages, comprising a summary of previous research activities and a research proposal for the first 5 years of the appointment, which will, in particular, take into account the candidate's planned integration into ULB's research teams;
- a teaching portfolio of approximately 4 pages that fits coherently within the vision of the host department and the teaching profiles of the degree programs to which the candidate will contribute, comprising:

- a report on previous teaching activities (including a summary of teaching evaluations, if available)
- a detailed teaching proposal setting out the teaching philosophy and a syllabus for the course 'Political Actors and Behaviour in Consolidated Democracies' (a course intended for Bachelor's students; specific expertise on Belgium may be an asset in this context)
- a detailed teaching proposal setting out the teaching philosophy and a syllabus for the course 'Quantitative Methods Applied to Political Science' (a course for Master's students, enabling them, in particular, to analyse existing quantitative data for use in their dissertation)

- a statement of up to 2 pages on international achievements and projects. International achievements and projects include any completed or ongoing research activity taking place outside the country where your current or former host institution is located, or involving institutions or researchers based outside that country. These activities include, by way of example, active participation in international networks or major international conferences of thematic or disciplinary significance, or the organisation of scientific events bringing together participants based in at least two different countries; leading or actively participating in research projects involving institutions based in at least two different countries; securing external funding of an international nature or recognition of scientific merit (scientific awards, specific grants, etc.); or any other relevant research activity (e.g. research visits of at least one month to an institution located in a country other than that of your home institution, long-term fieldwork, etc.).
- The names and email addresses of five referees who may be contacted by the bodies responsible for assessing applications, with due regard to gender balance. These individuals must not have a conflict of interest arising from family or personal relationships. **Letters of recommendation should not be included with the application at this stage.** If you are invited to an interview before the assessment committee, two of the five referees will be selected at random. They will be contacted directly by the committee chair and asked to provide a letter of recommendation.

The application must be submitted in the following order: CV, followed by **a single PDF** containing the cover letter, research activity report, teaching dossier, international dossier and referees.

Incomplete applications or applications that do not follow the template provided will be deemed ineligible by the assessment committee from the outset and excluded from the recruitment procedure.

The appointment to the academic staff of ULB is made at "Chargé de Cours" level. As of their appointment, members of academic staff are authorised to use the honorary title of "Professeur".

Where to go to apply?

Click here: https://jobs.ulb.be/job-invite/2088/?isInternalUser=true

For any connection problems or questions about our application, consult our FAQ : e-recrut-mode-d-emploi-candidat-en-_1734942996246-pdf

N.B.: SAP complies with European and U.S. regulations and, as a result, does not allow access to its application from the following countries/regions: Crimea, Sevastopol, the Donetsk People's Republic (DNR) / Luhansk People's Republic (LNR), areas not controlled by the Ukrainian government in the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Syria, Russia, and Belarus.

Therefore, candidates applying from these countries – and only from these countries – can submit their CV and application to this address: rectrice@ulb.be

Equal opportunities policy

ULB's personnel management policy is geared towards diversity and equal opportunities.

We recruit candidates on the basis of their skills, irrespective of age, gender, sexual orientation, origin, nationality, beliefs, disability, etc.

Would you like to be provided with reasonable accommodation in the selection procedure because of a disability, disorder, or illness? Please contact Marie Botty, the person in charge of diversity aspects for the academic and scientific staff (marie.botty@ulb.be). Be assured of the confidentiality of this information.

More details on the ULB gender and diversity policy are available at Diversity at ULB - ULB.