

## CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS (AE2023-0265)

INESC TEC is now accepting grant applications to award 1 Research Initiation Grant (BII) within the scope of the Produtech\_R3 funded by IAPMEI with reference 60 Co-financed by Component 5 - Capitalization and Business Innovation, integrated in the Resilience Dimension of the Recovery and Resilience Plan within the scope of the Recovery and Resilience Mechanism (MRR) of the European Union (EU), framed in the Next Generation EU, for the period 2021 - 2026.

### 1. GRANT DESCRIPTION

**Type of grant:** Research Initiation Grant (BII)

**General scientific area:** ENGINEERING

**Scientific subarea:** Electrical engineering

**Grant duration:** 6 months, starting on 2023-09-01, with the possibility of being renewed for a maximum term of one year.

**Scientific advisor:** Hélio Mendonça

**Workplace:** INESC TEC, Porto, Portugal

**Maintenance stipend:** € 541,12, [according to the table of monthly maintenance stipend for FCT grants](#), paid via bank transfer. Grant holders may be awarded potential supplements, according to a quarterly evaluation process (Articles 19, 21 and 22 of the [Regulations for Grants of INESC TEC](#) and Annex II), up to a maximum limit of 50% of the monthly maintenance stipend.

INESC TEC supports costs with registration, enrolment or tuition fees, during the grant duration, under the terms established in the internal document: "[Payment of Tuition fees to grant holders](#)".

The grant holder will benefit from health insurance, supported by INESC TEC.

### 2. OBJECTIVES:

Camera selection and 5G network parameterization for low latency image transmission in an industrial environment

### 3. BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AND TRAINING:

In the logistics sector, the overwhelming majority of loads transported today are packed on pallets that are usually handled by pallet trucks or forklifts. In recent times, this sector has been experiencing an increasing difficulty in recruiting forklift operators, which is why various autonomous vehicle solutions for automated pallet handling are starting to appear on the market. One of the problems that arise in this situation is that these vehicles still do not have 100% reliability and, sometimes, they enter into a deadlock situation.

In this context, INESC TEC's Center for Industrial Robotics and Intelligent Systems (CRIIS) is participating in a project that involves the development of semi-autonomous forklift trucks (AMR Stackers), which can be tele-operated (driven manually) by an operator from a remote control center in the event of a deadlock, and whose demonstration will take place at the Navigator factory in Setúbal, but may also be applicable at the logistics warehouses of Sonae Modelo Continente Hipermercados and the transport company Luís Simões. These AMR stackers have to be able to pick up the pallets at the exit of the warehouse and place them in the trailers of the trucks that will transport them to the end customer. For this purpose, the remote operator needs to receive images of the surroundings of the forklift operation area and also have a view of the load handling area. That said, the aim of this project is to identify suitable cameras and carry out tests on their transmission quality and reliability in case of transmission over 5G networks. Additionally, it is intended to understand how the 5G network must be parameterized in order to achieve low latency in the transmission of these images so that

remote control is possible.

#### 4. REQUIRED PROFILE:

##### Admission requirements:

Enrollment in a Master's course in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Engineering, or related areas. The attribution of the scholarship presupposes that the candidate is a student of a cycle of studies or of a non-degree-conferring course taught at a Higher Education Institution.

The awarding of the fellowship is dependent on the applicants' enrolment in study cycle or non-award courses of Higher Education Institutions.

##### Preference factors:

Robotics knowledge  
Previous experience working with image transmission  
Previous work experience with communication over 5G network

##### Minimum requirements:

The candidate must be enrolled in a Master's course

Experience in C/C++ programming

#### 5. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS AND SELECTION PROCESS:

**Selection criteria and corresponding valuation:** the first phase comprises the Academic Evaluation (AC), based on the criteria referred to in Article 12 of the [Regulations for Grants of INESC TEC](#), while the second phase comprehends the Individual Interview (EI). All factors are evaluated on a scale of 0 to 100, taking into account the applicants' merit, suitability and conformity with the preference factors.

The weight of the AC factors are as follows: Academic Qualifications (FA, 45%), Scientific Publications (PC, 5%), Experience (EX, 45%) and Motivation Letter (CM, 5%).

Candidates who score less than 50 points in the AC average will be considered excluded on absolute merit. The top five candidates approved on absolute merit will be qualified for the individual interview. The Final Grade (CF) is obtained by the weighted average of AC (80%) and EI (20%).

##### The Selection Jury is composed of the following members:

President of the Jury: Hélio Mendonça

Full member: Manuel Santos Silva

Full member: Héber Miguel Sobreira

Substitute member:

**Release of results and prior hearing:** the results of the selection process, as well as the terms and procedures for prior hearing, will be released to the applicants by email, under the terms referred to in Article 13 of the Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of INESC TEC.

#### 6. FORMALISATION OF APPLICATIONS:

##### Application Documents:

1. Motivation letter;
2. Curriculum Vitae (must include the list of previous fellowships, their type, beginning and end dates, funding entities and host institutions);
3. Certificate or diploma degree dully recognised in Portugal;
  - Documents proving the awarding of academic degrees and diplomas, or the according recognition - in cases of academic degrees or diplomas granted by a foreign higher education institution - can be dismissed in the application process, and replaced by the applicant's declaration of honour, with the verification of said condition taking place during the grant's hiring stage. The submission of the certificate is mandatory when signing the contract.
  - Academic degrees or diplomas awarded by a foreign higher education institution require an authentication by a Portuguese higher education institution, and the corresponding registration on the DGES platform, in conformity with Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16, and Ordinance no. 33/2019, of January 25. More information available on the website <https://www.dges.gov.pt/pt/pagina/reconhecimento?plid=374>
4. Proof of enrollment in a degree awarding study cycle or in a non degree awarding Higher Education program.
  - The proof of enrollment may be presented just during the grant hiring stage.
5. Signed declaration stating not having benefited from any other research fellowship (Article 5, no. 5)

6. Documental evidence to support the country of residence, residence permit or other legally equivalent document, in cases where the applicant is a foreigner or non-resident in Portugal - valid until the beginning of the grant.
7. Other supporting documents relevant to the final assessment.

Failure to deliver the required documents within the 90-day period after the date of the notice of the conditional awarding of the grant implies its cancellation.

**Application period:** From 2023-07-17 to 2023-07-28

**Submission of applications:** the application will be formalised by submitting the form available in the *Work With Us* section of INESC TEC website.

## 7. BINDING LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

The hiring process shall comply with the current legislation regarding the Research Grant Holder Statute, approved by Law no. 40/2004 of August 18, in its current wording, as well as by the [Regulations for Grants of INESC TEC](#) and for [FCT Grants Regulation in force](#).

For more information, please check the [Regulations for Grants of INESC TEC](#) and relevant annexes at [www.inesctec.pt/bolsas](http://www.inesctec.pt/bolsas)

