

## CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS (AE2025-0264)

INESC TEC is now accepting grant applications to award 1 Research Grant (BI) within the scope of the within the HOSKY project with reference 2024.07347.IACDC, co-funded 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, measure RE-C05-i08.M04 - To support the launch of a programme of R&D projects geared towards the development and implementation of advanced cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and data science systems in public administration, as well as a scientific training programme, as part of the funding contract signed between the Recovering Portugal Mission Structure (EMRP) and the FCT - Fundacao para a Ciencia e a Tecnologia, I.P. (Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology), as intermediary beneficiary.

### 1. GRANT DESCRIPTION

**Type of grant:** Research Grant (BI)

**General scientific area:** COMPUTER SCIENCE

**Scientific subarea:** Programming, Informatics

**Area of Work:** Cybersecurity

**Grant duration:** 5 months, starting on 2025-09-01.

**Scientific advisor:** João Soares Resende

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

**Maintenance stipend:** € 1309.64, [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:

- Study of the infrastructure and interactions related to feature extraction from open or closed data sources;
- Study and implementation of an anomaly detection method in streaming and real-time contexts;
- Definition of adversarial attacks within the context of Artificial Intelligence methods and implementation of a prototype;
- Integration of the "human-in-the-loop" concept in a prototype environment.

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

The work plan includes an in-depth study of tools, infrastructures, and methodologies associated with the collection, processing, and feature extraction of data from both open and closed sources. Particular attention will be given to the automatic detection of anomalies in real-time data, through the design and implementation of methods suitable for streaming contexts.

In parallel, strategies for adversarial attacks on Artificial Intelligence models will be analysed and defined, with the goal of understanding vulnerabilities and developing appropriate defence mechanisms. This work will culminate in the development of a prototype that integrates these components, including human participation in

the decision-making loop ("human-in-the-loop"), promoting a more robust, transparent, and adaptable system.

#### 4. REQUIRED PROFILE:

##### Admission requirements:

MSc in Computer Science, with a specialization in Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence.

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

##### Preference factors:

Scientific publications in the areas of Host Intrusion Detection and Stream-based Artificial Intelligence.

##### Minimum requirements:

One scientific article published in a Q1 journal or equivalent (from WoS).

#### 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, 50%), Scientific Publications (PC, 20%), Experience (EX, 10%) and Motivation Letter (CM, 20%).

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 (70%) and EI (30%).

#### DISABILITY INCENTIVE

Candidates who present a degree of disability equal to or greater than 90% will benefit from an incentive (20) in the score of the CV Assessment.

Candidates who present a degree of disability equal to or greater than 60% and less than 90% will also benefit from an incentive (10) in the score of the CV Assessment.

Said score may, in these cases, exceed 100 points.

Candidates must demonstrate the degree of disability during the application, namely through the submission of the Multi-Purpose Medical Certificate of Disability, issued in accordance with Decree-Law no. 202/96, of October 23 - currently in effect.

Candidates must declare, in the application form, the type of disability used throughout the selection process, in order to proceed with the required adaptations.

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

President of the Jury: João Soares Resende

Full member: Miguel Gonçalves Areias

Full member: Ricardo Rocha

Substitute member: Fernando Silva

**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;
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 the infringement of the grant holder's duties (article 14, no. 4)
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 2025-06-26 to 2025-07-09

**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)



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