

## Postdoctoral Position in Applied Economics and Earth Observation Data

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**Employer:** École Normale Supérieure de Lyon (ENS) – Center for Economic Research on Governance, Inequality and Conflict (CERGIC)

**Location:** ENS de Lyon, 15 parvis René Descartes, 69007 Lyon, France

**Position Type:** Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

**Deadline:** Rolling recruitment

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Within the framework of the **Satellite Data for Human and Environmental Protection and Life Improvement** (SHIELD) Research Chair, a joint initiative between the **European Space Agency (ESA)** and the **Center for Economic Research on Governance, Inequality and Conflict (CERGIC)**, the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon is pleased to open a two-year postdoctoral position. The position will start on September 1st, 2026. The successful candidate will be based at ENS de Lyon. **The monthly gross salary is €2,750**, and the postdoctoral researcher will have access to dedicated research funds. The teaching load is zero, although there is the possibility of supplementing the postdoctoral salary through optional teaching activities. Knowledge of French is not required, as all courses are taught in English.

The SHIELD Research Chair aims to build a dedicated platform for scientific exchange and collaboration centered on the use of satellite data to advance our understanding of human living conditions. The research agenda is structured around four topics: **environment and deforestation; agriculture and food security; natural resources (minerals and water); and urbanization and population movements**. By combining high-resolution Earth-observation data with micro-level socioeconomic data, the chair seeks to identify both the drivers and the consequences of environmental and economic shocks on incomes, health, migration, and social stability, with a particular focus on vulnerable regions. The overarching objective is to produce rigorous, policy-relevant research to support sustainable development, resource management, and the protection of human populations and ecosystems.

The postdoctoral researcher will be expected to actively participate in the scientific activities of the SHIELD Research Chair, including seminars, workshops, collaborative research projects, and interactions with ESA and other partner institutions. Applicants are expected to demonstrate a strong interest in conducting research aligned with the four thematic pillars of the chair. The postdoctoral researcher will work under the supervision of Professor Mathieu Couttenier.



Candidates should show outstanding commitment to research in economics, with strong quantitative skills, as well as a solid knowledge of, and strong interest in working with, **satellite and remote-sensing data**. Applicants must hold a PhD, or be in the process of completing one, by the time of hiring.

A one-year appointment may be considered for candidates who have already accepted a subsequent position, such as an Assistant Professorship.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. All applications should be submitted through EconJobMarket:

<https://econjobmarket.org/positions/12326>

Interviews with the most promising candidates will be conducted on a rolling basis. A selected subset of candidates will subsequently be invited to ENS de Lyon for a fly-out (last week of February), with travel expenses fully covered.

More on economic department of the ENS de Lyon: <http://economie.ens-lyon.fr/>

More on CERGIC research unit department: <https://www.cergic-lyon.fr/>

For further information, please contact Mathieu Couttenier ([mathieu.couttenier@ens-lyon.fr](mailto:mathieu.couttenier@ens-lyon.fr))

