

Job announcement: ECON-PSR-INDF-2026-15

Full-time research assistant in Macroeconomics / International Economics, Department of Economics and Business, Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona

Position overview

Starting in September 2026, Professor Manuel García-Santana seeks to hire a full-time research assistant for his ERC-funded research project. The main tasks will involve (full details in sections below)

- Data collection through web scraping
- Data cleaning
- Datasets merging
- Trade general equilibrium models solving

Job location

Barcelona (Spain), Pompeu Fabra University (UPF), Ciutadella Campus, Department of Economics and Business. **The work is to be carried at the campus.**

About UPF: <https://www.upf.edu/web/universitat/>

About the Department of Economics and Business: <https://www.upf.edu/web/econ/publications>

Funding body and project

This contract is funded by the EU's Horizon Europe Programme, European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Grant 'Government Intervention and the Macroeconomy: Micro-evidence on the Transmission of Government Procurement', 2025–2030, grant agreement ID: 101125744.

This project studies the role of public procurement in the overall economy.

More information can be found here: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101125744>

Principal Investigator

Professor Manuel García-Santana (PhD CEMFI) is a Tenured Associate Professor at Pompeu Fabra University, Affiliated Professor at the Barcelona School of Economics, and CREI Research Associate. Since 2024 he is co-leader of CEPR-STEG Theme 5: The Role of the Public Sector. At present he serves as an Associate Editor of the *Journal of International Economics* and the *Journal of*

the Spanish Economic Association.

He is an applied macroeconomist with interests in trade, growth and development. His research focuses on understanding how trade, government policies, and market distortions affect aggregate productivity and welfare by changing the way resources are allocated across firms.

<https://sites.google.com/view/manugarciasantana/home>

Job offer

Research Support Staff (*personal de suport a la recerca*), Department of Economics and Business, Pompeu Fabra University.

Type of contract: Open-ended, in accordance with Decree RD 32/2021 of 28 December 2021.
Incompatibilities: This contract might be incompatible with other contracts.

Employer: Pompeu Fabra University.

Starting date: September 2026.

Job description

The project involves data collection, econometric analysis, and the solution of general equilibrium models, tasks in which the research assistant will play an active role. Specifically, the research assistant will:

In collaboration with the PI and associate researchers, implement and extend spatial, multi-sector, and multi-firm general equilibrium models applied to the analysis of public procurement. This will involve coding and solving the models in Python or Matlab.

Contribute to the quantitative implementation of the models by collecting, cleaning, merging, and integrating multiple datasets into the modeling framework, including: (i) transaction-level public procurement data, (ii) firm-to-firm network data, and (iii) firm-level datasets.

Apply statistical and econometric techniques to support reduced-form analyses using both observed and model-simulated data.

Reporting line: this position reports to the principal investigator of the project.

REQUIREMENTS

EXPERIENCE

1. No previous experience as RA is required
2. Familiar with economic literature through work experience in academia or similar research environments (e.g. government agencies, NGOs).
3. Experience in data collection, data cleaning, econometric analysis and programming.

4. Good knowledge of models used in the macro-development literature, e.g., multi-sector growth models.

QUALIFICATIONS

Masters' degree in Economics, finished or close to completion. High GPA required.

SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE

- Scientific software: Advanced or proficiency command of Python, Matlab, Stata, R, QGIS. Version control and debugging is a plus.
- Language: Advanced or proficiency level in English, both spoken and written.
- Knowledge: Advanced/master level courses in International Trade, Economic Geography, Development Economics.

Expected remuneration

Annual gross salary: 29979,98 euros.

Group and level: Group 3, level U

Working hours: Full-time, 35 hours/week

SELECTION PROCESS

14 May 2026 Job advertisement is posted in:

- EURAXESS, <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/436072>
- Department of Economics and Business (Pompeu Fabra University):
<https://www.upf.edu/web/econ/research-project-positions>
Job opportunities > Research Project Positions > Research Support Positions
Position reference: ECON-PSR-INDF-2026-15

All the announcements about the selection process for this position will be posted on the Pompeu Fabra University website.

31 May 2026 Application period ends.

Next steps:

Publication of the list of admitted and excluded candidates to take part in the selection process. The list includes the motivation for exclusion from the selection process, and 5 working days are given to submit allegations.

The Selection Committee preselects the candidates to be evaluated based on their CVs and motivation letter. Rating will be given according to the candidates' match to the required experience, qualifications and skills/knowledge.

After the publication of the selection process results, allegations can be submitted in the following 5 working days.

The candidate with the highest score in the selection process will be awarded the job. The minimum score needed to pass the selection process is 75 points.

General rating system

Experience: 10%

Qualifications: 80%

Skills/knowledge: 10%

Selection Committee

Chair: Manuel García-Santana

Committee members: Isaac Baley (UPF) and Priit Jeenas (UPF).

Application documents

- CV in English (maximum: two pages).
- Motivation letter in English explaining the applicant's interest in and fit for the position.
- Scanned copy of the master's degree diploma.
- Names, positions and contact details of 1 or 2 referees (NB no referee will be contacted without the candidate's prior permission).

Submitting an application

- A zip file containing all the application documents should be sent to Mariona Novoa via email (mariona.novoa@upf.edu), **with the subject line ECON-PSR-INDF-2026-15. Please name the zip file ECON-PSR-INDF-2026-15_Lastname_Firstname.**
- The application submission deadline is 31 May 2026, 23:00pm (UTC+1).

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Data protection

Please refer to: <https://rat.upf.edu/en/ll014>

UPF Equality Plan: <https://www.upf.edu/web/pla-igualtat>

Date of publication: 14 May 2026

More information

Please send any inquiries about this vacancy to:

Mariona Novoa

Department of Economics and Business

Pompeu Fabra University

mariona.novoa@upf.edu