

# EURAXESS

## Job offer

JOB

PORTUGAL

[Fundação Gaspar Frutuoso](#) | Posted on: 15 April 2026

**1 (one) junior doctoral researcher position for the exercise of scientific research activities in the scientific area of Marine Sciences, Oceanography, within the scope of project microGASP**

Apply now [🔗 \(mailto:catharina.pieper@gmail.com?subject=1 \(one\) junior doctoral researcher position for the exercise of scientific research activities in the scientific area of Marine Sciences, Oceanography, within the scope of project microGASP\)](mailto:catharina.pieper@gmail.com?subject=1%20(one)%20junior%20doctoral%20researcher%20position%20for%20the%20exercise%20of%20scientific%20research%20activities%20in%20the%20scientific%20area%20of%20Marine%20Sciences%2C%20Oceanography%2C%20within%20the%20scope%20of%20project%20microGASP)

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15 Apr 2026

## Job Information

Organisation/Company	Fundação Gaspar Frutuoso
Research Field	Biological sciences
Researcher Profile	First Stage Researcher (R1)
Positions	PhD Positions

<b>Application Deadline</b>	29 Apr 2026 - 23:59 (Atlantic/Azores)
<b>Country</b>	Portugal
<b>Type of Contract</b>	Other
<b>Type of Contract Extra Information</b>	a unfixed-term employment contract
<b>Job Status</b>	Full-time
<b>Hours Per Week</b>	35
<b>Offer Starting Date</b>	1 Jun 2026
<b>Is the job funded through the EU Research Framework Programme?</b>	Not funded by a EU programme
<b>Reference Number</b>	microGASP_INVDOUTORADO
<b>Is the Job related to staff position within a Research Infrastructure?</b>	No

## Offer Description

1. By order of the President of the Board of Directors of the Gaspar Frutuoso Foundation of 15/04/2026, by delegation of authority, the opening of an international selection process for 1 (one) junior doctoral researcher position on an exclusive dedication basis was authorized, for the exercise of scientific research activities in the scientific area of Marine Sciences, Oceanography, Environmental Sciences, Environmental Chemistry, Biogeochemistry, Marine Pollution, Microplastics, Environmental Management and related fields, under a fixed-term employment contract of uncertain duration, under the Labour Code, for the purpose of carrying out research functions, within the scope of project microGASP – Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Plastic Pollution: The Azores as a Beacon for Ecological Transition at the Space–Ocean Interface, Ref<sup>a</sup> **2025.04688.AZO** funded by the Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT, I.P.).

2. Applicable legislation: pursuant to Decree No. 57/2016, of August 29, as amended by Law No. 57/2017 of July 19, which establishes a hiring scheme for PhD holders aimed at promoting scientific and technological employment in all fields of knowledge (RJEC), and the Labor Code, approved by Law No. 7/2009 of February 12, in its current version.

3. The contest jury is composed of the following members: Chair of the Jury: Dr Catharina Pieper Principal Investigator of the Project; effective members: Dr Clara Loureiro, member of the Project team, who shall replace the Chair in her absence or impediment, Dr Freya Radford, member of the Project team; Alternate members: Lúcia Cláudio, Project Manager at Fundação Gaspar Frutuoso, and Dr João Frias, Project team member.

4. Workplace: The workplace is at OKEANOS – Institute of Marine Sciences Research, located at the Department of Oceanography and Fisheries of the University of the Azores, 9901-862 Horta.

5. The monthly remuneration to be awarded is that provided for in Article 15(1)(a) of the RJEC, corresponding to level 33 of the single remuneration scale, approved by Administrative Order No. 1553-C/2008 of December 31, updated by Decree-Law No. 29-A/2026, of January 30, amounting to 2,408.11 euros gross.

6. The competition is open to Portuguese, foreign, and stateless candidates who hold a Ph.D. in fields related to Marine Sciences, Oceanography, Environmental Sciences, Environmental Chemistry, Biogeochemistry, Marine Pollution, Microplastics, Environmental Management, and related fields, under a fixed-term employment contract of indefinite duration, under the Code, and who possess a scientific and professional background demonstrating a profile suitable for the duties to be performed.

7. The general requirements for admission to the competitive examination are:

- PhD degree in Marine Sciences, Oceanography, Environmental Sciences, Environmental Chemistry, Biogeochemistry, Marine Pollution, Microplastics, Environmental Management or other related fields.
- Excellent record of scientific publications in areas related to marine pollution, microplastics, marine litter, environmental oceanography, environmental chemistry, biogeochemistry, environmental monitoring or related topics.
- Experience in microplastics, marine litter, plastic pollution, marine pollution or environmental contaminants.
- Experience in coastal fieldwork, environmental sampling and/or environmental monitoring.
- Experience in laboratory pre-processing of environmental samples, including filtration, digestion, separation, contamination control and sample preparation.
- Experience in handling and analysing large environmental datasets.
- Experience in one or more programming languages for data handling, treatment and analysis (e.g. R, Python).
- Experience in writing technical reports, scientific articles and other dissemination materials.
- Excellent knowledge of English, both spoken and written.

Preferred qualifications:

- Ability to carry out fieldwork in coastal environments, including equipment transport, experimental setup and work under demanding environmental conditions.
- Experience in assembling, adapting and maintaining experimental devices, sensors, chambers, field structures or other environmental monitoring equipment.
- Good organizational skills, autonomy and problem-solving capacity regarding methodological and logistical issues.
- Experience in interdisciplinary work and collaboration with national and international teams.
- Availability for travel, fieldwork, sampling campaigns and short stays with project partners.
- Valid driving licence.
- Knowledge of FTIR/ATR-FTIR, Raman, GC, HPLC, gaseous emissions, biogeochemistry, material degradation, environmental modelling, GIS and science communication.

8. The selection of the PhD holder to be hired will be based on an evaluation of the candidates' academic and professional backgrounds. This evaluation will focus on the relevance, quality, and timeliness of: a) the scientific and technological output from the past five years that the candidate considers most relevant and related to the subject area of the position; b) the research activities conducted in the past five years that the candidate considers to have had the greatest impact and are related to the subject area of the position; c) involvement in outreach and knowledge

dissemination activities that promote scientific practice and culture, considered most important by the candidate and related to the position now open for application; d) management activities related to science, technology, and innovation programs and projects.

The five-year period referred to above may be extended by the Jury, at the candidate's request, when justified by a suspension of scientific activity for socially protected reasons, namely parental leave, prolonged serious illness, and other legally protected situations of unavailability for work.

9. The position being advertised is described in detail in the following paragraphs:

This position is intended for the execution of research activities within the project microGASP – Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Plastic Pollution: The Azores as a Beacon of Ecological Transition at the Space–Ocean Interface.

The hired researcher will support the development of coastal fieldwork on beaches and other marine environments, as well as laboratory work, including environmental sample collection, measurement of environmental variables, transport of materials, assembly of experimental structures and use of monitoring equipment.

The researcher will be responsible for the pre-processing and preparation of environmental samples, including filtration, digestion, separation, contamination control, storage and organisation of samples, as well as for the adaptation and implementation of laboratory protocols and quality control methodologies.

The researcher will also support the assembly, adaptation and maintenance of experimental devices, sensors, chambers and other equipment used in microplastic degradation experiments and gaseous emissions monitoring.

The planned functions also include the management and integration of environmental and laboratory databases, statistical treatment and visualisation of data, interpretation of results, preparation of figures, tables and outputs for reports and scientific publications.

The researcher will also participate in the writing of technical reports, scientific papers, dissemination materials and other project outputs, as well as dissemination activities, science communication, stakeholder interaction and support to the scientific, technical and operational coordination of the project, including schedule monitoring, organisation of activities, liaison between partners, support for deliverables and milestones management, and monitoring of the project's daily execution.

The position also involves technical and scientific liaison with national and international partners, including collaboration with the University of the West of England, namely in sample management and processing, protocol development, interpretation of laboratory results and data integration, as well as support in organising meetings, preparing technical documentation, monitoring tasks and communication between project partners.

The researcher will also participate in scientific communication and dissemination activities, including preparation of content for the website, social media, workshops, conferences, educational materials, policy briefs, exhibitions, art-science initiatives and other engagement actions with stakeholders, schools, local communities and the general public.

10. Selection methods and curriculum evaluation criteria:

Candidates will be evaluated based on a comprehensive assessment of their academic and professional background (AC, weighted at 90%) and an interview (EPS, weighted at 10%).

10.1 The first evaluation component will be based on the candidate's CV, taking into account the following items:

- scientific output in journals with an impact factor – 50% of AC;

- participation in R&D projects, with consideration given to the percentage of time allocated to each, duly documented – 15% of AC;

The classification of this parameter results from the sum of the score obtained in the following sub-items:

- a) Experience in microplastics, marine litter, plastic pollution, marine pollution or environmental contaminants (20 points);
- b) Experience in coastal fieldwork, environmental sampling, environmental monitoring, use of monitoring equipment, material transport and/or assembly of experimental structures (20 points);
- c) Experience in laboratory pre-processing, including filtration, digestion, separation, contamination control, quality control, sample preparation and laboratory techniques applied to environmental samples; knowledge of FTIR/ATR-FTIR, Raman, GC, HPLC or equivalent methodologies will be valued (20 points);
- d) Experience in one or more programming languages for data handling, treatment and analysis (e.g. R, Python) (20 points);
- e) Experience in writing technical reports, scientific articles, dissemination materials and other communication outputs; preferably with experience in science communication and dissemination, including workshops, conferences, exhibitions, art-science activities or stakeholder engagement activities (20 points).

Candidates obtaining less than 50% in AC shall be excluded from the procedure and shall not be invited for interview

10.2 - The second evaluation component is the interview, which accounts for 10% of the total score.[S1.1]

11. The final grading system for candidates is expressed on a scale of 0 to 100.

12. The jury deliberates through a roll-call vote with justification in accordance with the adopted and published selection criteria; abstentions are not permitted.

13. Minutes are taken of the jury's meetings, containing a summary of what transpired, as well as the votes cast by each member and their respective justifications; these are made available to candidates upon request.

14. After applying the selection criteria, the jury compiles a ranked list of successful candidates with their respective scores.

15. The jury's final decision is approved by the head of the institution, who is also responsible for making the hiring decision.

16. Submission of Applications:

16.1 - Applications must be submitted by means of a written request addressed to the Chair of the Selection Committee, including the internal reference (Euraxess), full name, parentage, number

and date of the identity card, Citizen Card, or civil identification number, tax identification number, date and place of birth, marital status, profession, residence, and contact address, including email address and telephone number;

16.2 - The application must be accompanied by documents proving compliance with the conditions set forth in points 6 and 7 for admission to this competition, namely: a) a copy of certificate or diploma; b) a PDF copy of the doctoral dissertation and publications; c) a detailed curriculum vitae, structured in accordance with the items listed in sections 7 and 8; d) other documents relevant to the evaluation of qualifications in a related scientific field; e) brief description of the most relevant scientific activities over the past 5 years (max. 1 page), in accordance with point 10.1 (a-e) of this notice;

16.3 - Candidates must submit their applications and supporting documents, addressed to the Chair of the Selection Committee, to the email address [catharina.pieper@gmail.com](mailto:catharina.pieper@gmail.com) with a copy to [silvia.f.martinho@uac.pt](mailto:silvia.f.martinho@uac.pt), by the last day of the application period, which will last for 10 business days.

17. Candidates who submit an incorrect application or fail to meet the requirements specified in this competition will be excluded from participation. The selection committee reserves the right to request, in cases of doubt, that any candidate submit supporting documents to verify their statements.

18. Candidates who do not achieve a final score of 50% or higher will not be admitted to the position due to a lack of merit.

19. False statements made by candidates will be punished in accordance with the law.

20. The list of admitted and excluded candidates, as well as the final ranking list, will be published at the Gaspar Frutuoso Foundation, and the selected candidate will be notified by email with a delivery receipt for the notification.

21. Preliminary Hearing and Deadline for Final Decision: after the results are published, candidates have 10 business days to file an appeal. Within the following 5 business days, counted from the deadline for submitting complaints, the jury's final decisions will be issued and posted at the Gaspar Frutuoso Foundation, FP. Within a period not exceeding 90 business days, counted from the deadline for submitting applications, the jury's final decisions will be issued.

22. Non-Discrimination and Equal Access Policy: OKEANOS, the University of the Azores, and the Gaspar Frutuoso Foundation actively promote a policy of non-discrimination and equal access; therefore, no applicant may be given preferential treatment, favored, disadvantaged, or deprived of any right, nor exempted from any duty on the basis of, namely, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic status, education, origin or social status, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs, and union membership.

23. Pursuant to Decree-Law No. 29/2001 of February 3, candidates with disabilities shall be given preference in the event of equal classification, which shall take precedence over any other legal

preference. Candidates must declare on the application form, under oath, their degree of disability, the type of disability, and the means of communication/expression to be used in the selection process, in accordance with the aforementioned legislation.

24. Pursuant to RU 2016/679 of April 27, 2016, and Law No. 67/98 of October 26, the personal data collected by the entity is intended solely for recruitment purposes. The personal data collected by the entity through this application is intended to assess whether candidates are suitable for the position applied for and to calculate preliminary compensation, bonuses, and benefits for candidates who are hired. The information provided in the application is essential for evaluating candidates and may affect the efficiency and outcome of the application process if candidates do not provide it. The personal data of unsuitable candidates will be retained by the entity for a period of five years for the purpose of future recruitment. Candidate applications may be transferred by the entity to its own facilities or to entities within the consortium where job openings exist during the aforementioned period. Candidates are entitled to, in accordance with the law, regarding the rights of access and rectification. To exercise the right of access, you must submit a written request to the entity's data controller.

## Where to apply

**E-mail** catharina.pieper@gmail.com

## Requirements

**Research Field** Biological sciences

**Education Level** PhD or equivalent

## Additional Information

### Work Location(s)

**Number of offers available** 1

**Company/Institute** OKEANOS – Instituto de Investigação em Ciências do Mar

**Country** Portugal

**City** Horta

**Postal Code** 9901-862

**Geofield**



## Contact






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