



Vacancy PostDoc Researcher Belgian Online Probability Panel

The Department of Political Science at the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) is hiring a postdoc researcher with a specialization in survey research. The researcher will be working for the Belgian Online Probability Panel (BOPP). BOPP is an interuniversity infrastructure for survey research in Belgium that is being constructed by the 11 Belgian universities (both Francophone and Flemish). The researcher will be member of the BOPP staff and will work in close collaboration with the other members of the BOPP staff located at KU Leuven, VUB, U Gent and U Antwerp. The BOPP staff consists of six post-doc researchers and one administrative assistant. Tasks described below will be done in direct collaboration with the other members of the BOPP staff.

The Belgian Online Probability Panel (BOPP)

BOPP is a research infrastructure for scientific online survey data in Belgium co-owned by all Belgian universities. BOPP will start with recruiting a probability sample of 4000 citizens residing in Belgium (16y +). Later extensions to more panelists are planned. Panelists will take part to several surveys per year in various disciplines. BOPP will conduct itself a few surveys per year to collect longitudinally core information on panelists (economic situation, household composition, work, social and political attitudes, health, ...). These core longitudinal data will be accessible to all researchers. For the remaining surveys, research teams from all fields will be allowed to apply to buy survey time with the panel.

The provisional agenda of the panel is the following:

- 2022
 - Preparation of the recruitment of 4000 panelists (application to national register, data linkage in collaboration with relevant data owners such as STATBEL),
 - Recruitment of 4000 panelists (in collaboration with a fieldwork company)
 - construction of the legal and IT infrastructure of the panel (in collaboration with IT providers),
 - construction of the data infrastructure,
 - first core study with panelists,
- 2023-5
 - Panel management
 - Surveys for external research team,

- Yearly core study,
- New recruitment compensating for attrition and extending the panel to more panelists,

Job description

This is a call for applications for a full-time post-doctoral researcher for four years.

The postdoc researcher will become an active staff member of the Belgian Online Probability Panel (BOPP). He will work under the supervision of Prof. Jean-Benoit Pilet who is the Francophone PI of BOPP, and in close collaboration with the BOPP management (especially Prof. Bart Meuleman and Koen Abts), with the other BOPP staff members, and with the academics and researchers involved in BOPP. The hired researcher will work as a member of the BOPP staff. The work is done collectively and weekly meetings are held with all members of the staff in order to coordinate tasks.

The researcher will be based at the Cevipol (ULB). He/she will have an office and relevant administrative support at ULB. She/he will have no teaching obligations. She/he will also take part to meetings in the other universities involved in BOPP.

According to the experience of the candidate, the monthly net income will range around 2500 euros.

The Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) is an equal opportunity employer.

Tasks

Within the project, the selected candidate will perform - in collaboration with the other BOPP staff members - the following tasks. You will:

- Contribute to prepare and supervise the recruitment of panelists for the launch of the Belgian Online Probability Panel. In particular, you are active in training and supervising the interviewers in charge of the recruitment of respondents for the panel (especially in Wallonia and Brussels),
- Manage contacts with panelists, especially in Francophone Belgium, as long as they remain within the panel,
- Contribute and supervise fieldwork for the core studies conducted each year by the BOPP staff itself,
- Contribute to the selection of external studies applying to use the panel,
- Contribute and supervise fieldwork for the studies conducted by research teams with panelists from BOPP,
- Analyze data collected via the yearly core studies of BOPP, as well as data related to non-response and attrition within the panel,
- Assist the two co-PIs and the research manager as well as the various governance bodies (general assembly, scientific committee, executive committee, task groups) of BOPP in their work

- Manage some of the administrative tasks (reporting, tenders, minutes of meetings...) related to the Belgian Online Probability Panel,
- Keep enough time to follow the most recent scientific development in survey research and panel management.

STARTING DATE is January 2022 (open to discussion).

Profile

- Holder of a PhD in one of the social sciences, or in a related discipline with a strong expertise in survey research
- Experience in supervising or coordinating the recruitment of participants to survey
- Experience in preparing, programming, and fielding survey questionnaire online or face-to-face
- Strong statistical and analytical skills for survey data
- Good command of dataset management and statistical softwares (SAS, SPSS, R, MPlus, ...)
- Good organizational and time management skills
- Ability to work in a team
- Fluency in French (native language or equivalent)
- A good command of English and Dutch. The applicant shall be able to translate questionnaires in English or Dutch into French
- Good knowledge of the political and scientific institutions of Belgium (national, community and regional levels)

INTERESTED?

Questions regarding the Postdoc scholarship can be addressed to Professor Jean-Benoit Pilet (Jean-Benoit.Pilet@ulb.be)

APPLICATIONS should include (in one single PDF document):

- a copy of the passport/ID
- a letter of motivation explaining the candidate's general interest for the project
- a full CV (including grades obtained for each study year, the title of your PhD thesis, and a list of publications, courses taken, and conference presentations)
- a short research statement detailing the applicant's expertise in survey research,
- Name, affiliation, email and phone number of two referees who can be contacted if necessary

The deadline for applications is December, 15th 2021.

A skype or face-to-face interview may be organized.

Please send the above documents electronically to Professor Jean-Benoit Pilet (Jean-Benoit.Pilet@ulb.be)