

Postdoctoral Researcher in Family Demography

Reference SINGLEdem R201/2025

Location: Barcelona, Spain

Affiliation: Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics (CED)

Duration: 3 years (full-time, 37.5hrs/week)

Start Date: September 2025 (flexible, no later than November 2025)

Application Opens: March 24, 2025

Application Deadline: April 24, 2025 (15h00, Spanish local time)

The [Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics \(CED\)](#) is hiring a Postdoctoral Researcher in **Family Demography** to join the **ERC-funded project, 'SINGLE – Understanding the Demography and Stratification of Singlehood in Europe'** (PI: Dr. [Ariane Ophir](#), Grant number 101163333). This is a full-time position for three years, based at CED, located at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) Campus, just outside Barcelona.

1. About the Project

SINGLE is an ERC-funded project that examines the demographic and social dynamics of singlehood from a cross-national perspective to better understand the individual and contextual factors that drive the complex experiences and outcomes of singles in Europe. The project includes three main work packages: (1) Demography of Singlehood - Develop a framework for evaluating and disseminating demographic knowledge about singlehood, highlighting trends, patterns, and drivers; (2) Stratification of Singlehood – Investigate how social stratification is reproduced or mitigated within the single population across a wide range of social, economic, and psychological outcomes; (3) Original Survey – Develop an original survey to collect data from singles across nine countries to facilitate innovative comparative social-demographic research on singlehood in Europe.

2. About the Position

We are seeking applications for a Postdoctoral Researcher who will contribute to the **Demography of Singlehood** work packages and work alongside the PI to develop a novel conceptual and empirical framework to understand the demographic dynamics of singlehood (trends, patterns, drivers, etc.). *This position is ideal for a family demographer with an interest in union formation who would like to approach the topic from a singlehood perspective.* Key research responsibilities include:

- Collaboratively developing new ways to measure and conceptualize singlehood within demographic research
- Leading advanced demographic analysis of large-scale datasets such as censuses, EU-LFS, EU-SILC, and Harmonized Histories (GGP), etc.
- Co-authoring high-impact publications and participating in international conferences, workshops, and other project-related dissemination activities
- Providing subject-matter expertise to inform the development of the original survey
- Developing an independent line of research within the project
- Contributing to the intellectual activities of the SINGLE team and the CED research community
- Teaching is not required, but the postdoc can develop and teach short courses through the [Bcn4Seasons School](#), if desired

3. Required Qualifications

- **PhD in Demography, Sociology, or a related field with formal demographic training** (dissertation preferably defended/submitted before the start date)
- Thematic expertise in family demography, namely, marriage and cohabitation dynamics
- Strong quantitative skills and demonstrated evidence of using large, complex, and/or longitudinal datasets with Stata/R
- Ability to balance working independently and collaboratively
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English

4. Desired Qualifications (Assets, not Required)

- Experience with cross-national research
- Familiarity with singlehood research
- Knowledge of Spanish or Catalan (helpful for life in Barcelona)
- Knowledge of other European languages is a plus

5. Salary and Benefits

- Gross annual salary: €33,660 – €38,610 in accordance with CED's R2 salary scale (14 payments per year)
- Hybrid work model with 30% of the time working from home (two days)
- Annual budget for professional development activities, training, and conference travel, along with tailored professional and career development support throughout the project
- Dedicated time for independent research (20%)

6. Application Materials

Interested and qualified candidates should submit the following materials in English as PDF files:

- Cover Letter:** A one-page motivation letter outlining the candidate's interest and fit for the position based on required and desired qualifications described above [name file as: 'Surname_SINGLEdem_Cover.pdf'].
- Academic CV:** Including a complete list of publications and/or manuscripts under review/in progress [name file as: 'Surname_SINGLEdem_CV.pdf'].
- Writing Samples:** Two writing samples where the candidate is the *sole and/or first author* which best represent the candidate's research, analytic, and writing abilities (e.g., published articles, dissertation chapters, or working papers) [name file as: 'Surname_SINGLEdem_WritingX.pdf'].
- A copy of Passport/ID**¹ [name file as: 'Surname_SINGLEdem_ID']
- Application form:** Fill out and sign the application form in accordance with the application materials requested above, for administrative purposes [name file as: 'Surname_SINGLEdem_Form.pdf']. Please check ✓ across the Statement and Document sections.

7. Application Submission

- Please send your application materials to demog@ced.uab.cat (with aopfir@ced.uab.es in cc) using the subject line: 'SINGLEdem postdoc application' **by April 24, 2025 (15h00, Spanish local time)**.

¹ Why are we requesting this? Because the CED is required to publish publicly the results of the job search. To maintain privacy, a partial ID is used as a reference instead of personal names (or full ID). Copies of IDs/passports will be securely stored and deleted within 90 days after the job search is completed, with no other use.

- Applications will be acknowledged by email within two business days. If you do not receive confirmation, please contact CED's manager Dr. Hermínia Pujol (hpujol@ced.uab.es). Please note that the CED will be closed from April 14th to April 21st, and applications submitted during that period will be confirmed within two business days *after* reopening.

8. Interview and Selection Timeline (tentative)

- Shortlisted candidates will be notified on the week of May 12th. Note that candidates may be asked to provide contact information for two referees before or after the interview
- Interviews will be held online and are tentatively scheduled for the second half of May.
- Hiring decision will be made by mid-June
- All applicants will be notified in writing about the outcome of their application by the end of June.

9. About the Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics (CED)

The Centre for Demographic Studies (CED), is part of the CERCA network (Research Centers of Catalonia), which is located on the campus of the Autonomous University of Barcelona, was founded in 1984 with three basic aims: 1) to promote basic and applied research; 2) teach specific training courses and postgraduate studies; and, 3) disseminate knowledge concerning population in Catalonia by means of publications, seminars and lectures.

The CED is a public consortium with independent legal status directed by Dr. Albert Esteve. It has a Governing Council consisting of representatives from the Generalitat (Government) of Catalonia and its Scientific Advisory Board, by members of recognized prestige (governing bodies). More than sixty people, including researchers and technical and administrative staff, presently work at the CED. Scientific research in CED is organized around three main themes: 1) Families, Inequality and Social Change, 2) Globalisation, Migrations, and Space, and 3) Health and Ageing.

In July 2015, the CED was awarded the Narcís Monturiol Plaque for Scientific and Technological Merit. These awards were instituted by the Generalitat (Government) of Catalonia in recognition of individuals and entities that made outstanding contributions to science and technology in Catalonia.

10. Equal Opportunities Policy

CED is committed to the principles of the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers of the European Commission and the Open, Transparent and Merit-based Recruitment principles (OTM-R). This is applied for any potential candidate in all our processes, for example by creating gender-balanced recruitment panels and recognizing career breaks etc. CED is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion. We are pleased to consider all qualified applicants for employment without regard to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability or any other basis protected by applicable state or local law. Applications from non-EEA citizens are welcomed.

11. Contact Information

For inquiries about the position, please contact Dr. Ariane Ophir (aophir@ced.uab.es). For technical question about the application process please contact Dr. Hermínia Pujol, (hpujol@ced.uab.es) with cc to aophir@ced.uab.es.