

Position description

1. Position identification

Title of post : ITI HiSAAR contract-research position

Type of contract : temporary position

Category (A,B or C) : A **Contract/project period :** 12 months

Expected date of employment : 01/03/2026

Proportion of work : 100 %

Workplace : ITI HiSAAR (Interdisciplinary Thematic Institute of History, Sociology, Archaeology and Anthropology of Religions)

Desired level of education : PhD

Contact(s) for information on the position (identity, position, e-mail address, telephone) :
cutino@unistra.fr, ikhomri@unistra.fr

Date of publication : 02/12/2025

Closing date for the receipt of applications : 02/02/2026

2. Research project and objectives

As part of its research aimed at the critical study of religions through interdisciplinary collaboration in France, Europe and more broadly internationally, ITI HiSAAR is offering one-year contracts throughout 2026 on a specific theme, falling within at least one of the four areas of research: [1] Text, intertextuality and tradition, [2] Identities and otherness, [3] Religions and politics, [4] Ritual practices: gestures, objects and representations.

The recruitment of a contract researcher aims to support the development of innovative scientific projects and is intended to be a rewarding step in the young researcher's career path in terms of

skills acquired, scientific autonomy and career prospects. This recruitment will strengthen the research activities of ITI HiSAAR, in particular by promoting interdisciplinary interactions. It also aims to contribute to research training through research, as well as to professionalisation, by involving the contract researcher in knowledge transfer, scientific organisation and supervision activities within the framework of ITI HiSAAR's university diploma programme.

The contract is for a period of one year, renewable if justified by the research needs and/or training activities carried out by the researcher within ITI.

3. Activities

Description of the research activities

The contract researcher undertakes to conduct a research project that falls within the scope of ITI HiSAAR's scientific activities. During the term of their contract, they are supervised by a reference researcher who holds an HDR (Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches) and is a member of this ITI.

The contract researcher is required to participate actively in the scientific life of ITI HiSAAR, in particular in the organisation of seminars, study days or colloquiums, the coordination of a journal section or the publication of proceedings of scientific events. He or she is also invited to publish articles presenting the results of his or her research.

Description of teaching and supervision activities

The contract researcher undertakes to participate actively in the activities of the ITI HiSAAR's university diploma programme, in particular in the organisation of seminars and workshops, the educational support of students, and the coordination or facilitation of certain training activities related to their field of research.

4. Skills

Qualifications/knowledge :

- Ability to design and carry out an original research projects
- Ability to propose and to implement an interdisciplinary approach
- Ability to fit into the context and scientific programme of the ITI HiSAAR
- Hold a PhD in one of the specialisations offered by the three doctoral schools linked to ITI HiSAAR:

- Humanities and Social Sciences ([ED 519](#))
- Humanities ([ED 520](#))
- Theology and Religious Studies ([ED 270](#))

or, for external candidates (French/foreign), hold an equivalent PhD in the field of religious studies.

Operational skills/expertise :

- IT tools mastery
- Ability to organise a scientific event

-Preferably good level of English

Personal qualities :

- demonstrate initiative and the ability to work independently
- good interpersonal skills
- ability to work as part of a team
- be a good listener and considerate of others

5. Environment and context of work

Presentation of the laboratory/unity :

The position is part of the Interdisciplinary Thematic Institute of History, Sociology, Archaeology and Anthropology of Religions (ITI HiSAAR) of the University of Strasbourg, whose objective is the critical study of religions through multidisciplinary collaboration in France, Europe and more widely internationally. The ITI HiSAAR's mission is to develop, on the one hand, interdisciplinary research in the field of the critical study of religious systems and, on the other hand, to provide university training through its HiSAAR University Diploma, which is open to master's and doctoral students and is composed of seminars, masterclasses and summer and winter universities.

The research and training of the ITI HiSAAR covers five axes: [1] Text, intertextuality and tradition, [2] Identities and alterities, [3] Religions and politics, [4] Ritual practices: gestures, objects and representations.

Hierarchical relationship:

Reporting to the ITI HiSAAR's management team for the administrative parts and for training and research.

Special conditions of practice :

Residence in Strasbourg is required for the duration of the contract.

gross monthly salary :

3123, 02 euros

The text of the call and the application pack can be downloaded from:

<https://hisaar.unistra.fr/recherche/contrats-doctoraux-et-postdoctoraux>

To apply, the candidates must send by 12 a.m. noon on 2 February 2026 at the latest, for the attention of the ITI HiSAAR's coordinator Michele Cutino (cutino@unistra.fr), with a copy to the project manager Ikram Khomri (ikhomri@unistra.fr), the following documents:

- Detailed curriculum vitae.
- Detailed research project indicating the planned initiatives and a detailed timetable
- Copy of thesis report.
- List of publications (if applicable)
- Choice of 3 publications (if applicable).
- Letter of motivation (2 pages maximum) setting out how the candidate intends to fit into the ITI HiSAAR training and research programme

All documents listed above must be submitted as individual files in .pdf format, with the following information indicated at the beginning of each file: the eligible candidate's first and last name + the name of the document (e.g. Cutino Michele_research project).

Once all the required documents have been submitted, candidates will receive an email inviting them to attend an interview on **February 17th 2026 between 2 and 7 p.m.**

The interview will last 20 minutes and will be structured as follows:

- **10 minutes project presentation**

This high-level scientific presentation may be accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation if necessary.

- **10 minutes to answer questions or respond to comments.**

The interview will be in French.

For further information:

- Contact: cutino@unistra.fr – ikhomri@unistra.fr
- Presentation of the HiSAAR ITI: <https://hisaar.unistra.fr/>