

## EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

### Vacancy in the Directorate of Science and Robotic Exploration

The European Space Agency is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from women

**POST** Scientist in the Solar System Missions Division, Research and Scientific Support Department, [Directorate of Science and Robotic Exploration](#).

This post<sup>1</sup> is classified in the A2/A4 grade band of the Coordinated Organisations' salary scale.

**LOCATION** ESAC, Villanueva de la Cañada, Madrid (Spain).

**DUTIES** The Research and Scientific Support Department (SRE-S) is responsible for the scientific oversight of ESA's space science missions, ensuring maximum scientific return within technical and programmatic constraints. Project and Study Scientists work within ESA across all phases of the missions, including study, implementation, and operations, and are responsible for establishing and maintaining the scientific interfaces to the external community.

The postholder will be a member of the Solar System Missions Division (SRE-SM) and will report to its Head. The incumbent will initially be assigned to the position of Deputy Project Scientist for the Solar Orbiter mission.

Solar Orbiter is the M1 mission of the ESA Cosmic Vision programme and will explore the connection between the Sun and heliosphere by combining remote and in situ experiments. The mission includes both PI-led and facility instruments and will be launched in 2017, to be placed in an elliptical orbit around the Sun with perihelion as low as 0.28 AU and with increasing inclination up to more than 25° with respect to the solar equator. The nominal mission lifetime is 7 years.

The main duties and responsibilities of the postholder will include:

- providing scientific expertise and support to the Solar Orbiter mission in the field of heliophysics, in particular with respect to its in-situ instrumentation;
- supporting the Solar Orbiter mission Project Scientist in acting as interlocutor on science payload matters between the science teams and scientific steering committees and the ESA Project Manager and/or engineers, in particular for in-situ instrumentation;
- supporting the Solar Orbiter mission Project Scientist in providing scientific inputs and guidance to the development and execution of the mission science operations;

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<sup>1</sup> Supernumerary post

- providing scientific support to other ESA missions and studies in the heliophysics domain, including those in the archive phase;
- preparing internal and external reports, including reports to the ESA advisory structure;
- supporting ESA outreach and education efforts in promoting the mission and its results to a variety of audiences, including the general public;
- actively pursuing personal scientific research, preferably in the area of heliophysics, and participating in the research activities of the department.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

Applicants for this post should have a PhD or equivalent qualification in physics or a related discipline, and have substantial experience in the field of heliophysics, in particular using space-based in-situ instrumentation. Demonstrated abilities in scientific leadership, team coordination, and management are valuable assets.

Candidates should have good analytical, communication, and synthesis skills, and a proactive attitude to solving problems. They should have good interpersonal skills, with the ability to work effectively in a multi-national team environment.

The working languages of the Agency are English and French. A good knowledge of one of these two languages is required. Knowledge of another member state language is an asset.

## **CLOSING DATE**

The closing date for applications is **15 July 2013**.

Applications from external candidates for this post should preferably be made [on-line](#) at the ESA Web Site ([www.esa.int/careers](http://www.esa.int/careers)). Those unable to apply on-line should submit their CV to the Head of the Human Resources Service, ESAC, P.O. Box 78, 28691 Villanueva de la Cañada (Madrid), Spain.

ESA staff members wishing to apply for this post should fill in the [Internal Application Form](#) and email it to [Apply2ESAC](#).

The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

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**Under ESA Regulations, the age limit for recruitment is 55. Please note that applications are only considered from nationals of one of the following States: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Canada.**

**Priority will be first given to internal candidates and secondly to external candidates from under-represented member states.**

**In accordance with the European Space Agency's security procedures and as part of the selection process, successful candidates will be required to undergo basic screening before appointment.**