Call for applications 2026

Application for Project-led PhD

Call opens: 2 March 2026 at 2 p.m.
Call closes: 13 April 2026 at 2 p.m.

The complete PDF file must be sent as **a single compiled file** to the following email address:
candidature-aac-eur@cyu.fr

For submission details, candidates are required to refer to the
Call Regulations.

The complete application must include the following documents, combined into a single PDF file:

1. The application form presenting the thesis project.

2. A copy of the diploma certifying the required five years of higher education.

3. The candidate's CV, maximum five (5) pages, followed by any supporting documents.

4. A letter or email of commitment from the thesis supervisor and/or the head of the specialisation, or the director of the host laboratory; where applicable, the CV of the professional co-supervisor.

5. A portfolio (layout flexible), in PDF format, explaining the candidate's professional practice. It may contain photos, drawings, etc. For the *Practice and Theory of Literary Creation* specialisation, it may contain relevant extracts from the candidate's works. Websites are accepted, and the URLs must be provided in the portfolio.
The portfolio is limited to five (5) pages, except for the *Arts* specialisation, where there is no page limit.

The application file must be named as follows: PSGS_HCH_AAC_2026_Candidate's name.

Candidates must submit their application for ONE AND ONLY ONE SPECIALISATION.

Candidate

SURNAME, first name:

Email:

Phone number:

Postal address:

Country of residence:

Project

Title of the thesis project:

Acronym of the project:
Optional, if relevant.

Speciality chosen:
Select ONE option.

- Arts
- Landscape
- Architecture
- Practice and theory of literary creation
- Conservation-restoration of cultural goods
- Heritage studies

Funding

Are you applying for a doctoral contract with EUR *Humanities, Creation, Heritage*? (if doctoral contracts are being offered by EUR this year)

- Yes
- No

If no doctoral contracts are being offered by EUR this year (confirmation by June 2026), will you still maintain your application?

- Yes
- No

Have you applied for or obtained other funding/doctoral contract for your thesis?
(CIFRE contract, Casa Velázquez, ENS, etc.)

- Applied for
- Obtained
- Type of contract and duration, funder or employer, amount:

Are you currently employed?
If you wish to apply for a doctoral contract, you will not be able to work full-time in another professional capacity.

- Yes
- No

For employees, are you applying for a thesis spread over 6 years?

- Yes
- No

Degree qualifying for doctoral studies

Have you obtained a degree that qualifies you for doctoral studies (e.g. master's degree):

- Yes, specify the year of graduation:
- No, currently studying.

Type of diploma:

- Wording, title, reference:
- Speciality (if relevant):
- Awarding institution:
- City and country of obtention:
- Year of obtention:

Provide a copy of your Master's degree, Master 2, DEA, DESS or any equivalent Bac +5 qualification.
If you are currently studying for your degree, provide a certificate confirming this.

Thesis project

Thesis project summary (maximum 200 words)
This summary may be used by EUR for communication purposes.

Objectives and description of the thesis topic (maximum 900 words):
In describing the project, candidates should focus on the issues to be addressed or questions likely to arise, the scientific objectives and the strategy for achieving them.

How the topic fits into the framework of a project-based PhD (maximum 150 words):
Candidates should emphasise the link between theory and practice in project-based research.

Importance of the project-based PhD in the candidate's career prospects (maximum 150 words):
Candidates should explain the expected impact of the project-based PhD on their career development.

Supervision

Only to be completed if the candidate has identified at least one supervisor.
Identifying supervisors at this stage of the application is not mandatory, but it is strongly encouraged.
The project-based PhD requires dual supervision: academic and professional (see Regulations*, p. 5):*
- *The thesis supervisor with HDR (=* Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches*, or accreditation to supervise research) must be affiliated with the CY Cergy Paris University Doctoral School No. 628* Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences *(AHSS). His/her role is to guide you in research methodology, scientific analysis and thesis structure.*
- *The professional supervisor's role is to support you in the professional practice of the project.*

SURNAME, first name of the proposed HDR (Thesis Supervisor) attached to ED 628 AHSS at CY Cergy Paris University:

Have you already contacted the proposed HDR (Thesis Supervisor) and/or obtained their agreement?

- Yes, I have contacted him/her and obtained his/her agreement*.
- Yes, I have contacted him/her but have not obtained his/her agreement at the time of application.
- No, I have not contacted anybody yet.

* If you have identified a supervisor (HDR thesis supervisor) and obtained their agreement, please provide a letter of commitment.

SURNAME, first name of the proposed professional supervisor:

Have you already contacted the proposed professional supervisor and/or obtained their agreement?

- Yes, I have contacted him/her and obtained his/her agreement*.
- Yes, I have contacted him/her but have not obtained his/her agreement at the time of application.
- No, I have not contacted anybody yet.

* If you have identified a professional supervisor and obtained their agreement, please provide a letter of commitment and a CV (maximum 2 pages).

Host laboratory (name and acronym):

Partners and bibliography

Potential professional partners and proposed avenues for promotion (maximum 1/2 page)
For example, institutions, local authorities, associations, companies, etc.
The avenues for promotion will highlight potential extensions and spin-offs.

Bibliography
The bibliography will help to situate the thesis project and will be limited to a maximum of 15 references.

Additional documents

Portfolio
A portfolio of the candidate's work (layout flexible), in PDF format, explaining his/her professional practice. It may contain photos, drawings, etc. For the specialisation in Practice and Theory of Literary Creation*, it may include relevant excerpts from the candidate's work. Websites are accepted; URLs must be provided in the portfolio.*
The portfolio is limited to 5 (five) pages, except for the Arts *specialisation, where there is no page limit.*

Candidate's CV
The candidate's CV should be no more than 5 (five) pages long, followed by any supporting documents.