**IRSEM POSTDOCTORAL CONTRACT 2025**

**“Resident” Program**

AWARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Every year, IRSEM awards three “Resident” postdoctoral contracts. These form part of IRSEM’s policy of providing financial and scientific support to young researchers. The purpose is to fund, for a period of two years, a research project **on defense, contemporary strategy and security issues, irrespective of the academic discipline in the humanities and social sciences** (philosophy, economics, political science, law, history, psychology, sociology, geography, etc.).

During the term of their contract, the “Resident” postdoctoral researcher becomes an integral member of the IRSEM team located at the Ecole Militaire in Paris, and participates in its scientific activities. The Resident will organize, in coordination with the IRSEM team and their host laboratory, a **scientific event** (seminar, study day, or conference). They will also conduct **original research** leading to publication in one of IRSEM’s series (special issue of Champs de Mars, *IRSEM Study*, *Research Notes*, etc.). An office equipped with a computer workstation, Internet access, and a landline phone will be made available to them on the IRSEM premises.

Applicants must submit a scientifically and methodologically sound research proposal, detailing the planned activities and intended publications for IRSEM or for other journals and publishers during their stay. Prior to applying, applicants must have secured affiliation with a research laboratory at a French university. A letter of support from the host laboratory is required for the application file. Finally, applicants must ensure their availability **as Resident at IRSEM before submitting their application.**

IRSEM provides an annual grant of approximately €60,000 to the postdoctoral researcher’s French host university, enabling the university to employ the researcher for a minimum monthly net salary of €2,200 (this remuneration may vary depending on the host institution’s employment status). Authorization to combine this position with teaching activities per academic year is possible.

Eligible applicants must hold a Doctoral degree, be a national from an EU member state, and have successfully defended their thesis within the past five years at a French university or at a foreign university. **PhD candidates with a confirmed defense date before the end of December 2025, certified by their university and thesis supervisor may also apply.**

Applications are evaluated by IRSEM researchers and IRSEM’s Scientific Council, who will provide scientific assessments of the applications.

Pre-selected candidates will be invited for an interview with a recruitment committee composed of the IRSEM Director, Scientific Director, and Domain Directors. The interview will assess:

* The relevance of the research project;
* The relevance of the professional project;
* The scientific value of the thesis and published works;
* The quality of supervision offered by the host university laboratory.

Under this program, the applicant must be associated to a French University which will in charge to establish an employment contract with the successful postdoctoral researcher. The university and IRSEM will then sign an agreement to enable funding, and the university and postdoctoral researcher will sign a charter with IRSEM outlining the rights and obligations of all parties. **Prior to submitting their application, candidates must verify that their university fulfills the conditions necessary for signing the funding agreement.**

Given the current international context, many countries or regions present a high level of risk. For security reasons, the Ministry of Armed Forces will not award postdoctoral grants to host institutions located in these high-risk areas.

Finally, for reasons of national defense secrecy, applicants are advised that, depending on the topic of their postdoctoral research, they may be subject to a background check, a security clearance decision, or an authorization procedure. Failure to obtain clearance will result in the automatic termination of the postdoctoral funding agreement.

TIMELINE

* 25 July 2025: Launch of the IRSEM “Resident” Postdoctoral Contracts campaign
* **15 September 2025: Deadline for submission of application files (electronic submission)**
* First half of October 2025: Pre-selection and interviews
* 15 October 2025: Notification of results

**Applications and all supporting documents must be submitted**

**by midnight on Monday 15 September 2025**

**Via electronic submission (preferably France transfert) to:**

**postdoc@irsem.fr**

DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE APPLICATION FILE

* The application form completed **by the candidate** (including the personal details sheet on the cover page, the candidate’s professional project, thesis summary, postdoctoral research project presentation, and signature);
* A detailed *curriculum vitae*;
* A list of publications and works;
* A letter of recommendation written and signed by the thesis supervisor(s) or, failing that, by a member of the thesis jury;
* A letter of agreement in principle from the host research laboratory;
* The doctoral degree certificate or confirmation from the thesis supervisor of the upcoming defense date **(Thesis defense scheduled before the end of 2025)**;
* The thesis defense report (for Doctorate holders);
* A PDF copy of one of the candidate’s published articles or a 20-page excerpt of their thesis, chosen at the candidate’s discretion.

INCOMPLETE OR INCORRECTLY COMPLETED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

APPLICATION FORM

**Deadline for submission: 15 September 2025**

**(Electronic submission)**

Candidate’s full name:

Title of the postdoctoral project:

Date and place of birth:

Nationality (indicate dual nationality if applicable):

Social security number:

Personal address:

Phone number:

Email address:

Host university:

Host research center:

Thesis start and defense dates, jury appraisal:

Name of thesis supervisor and laboratory:

Joint supervision (name of co-supervisor and laboratory):

Title of the postdoctoral project submitted:

CANDIDATE’S PROFESSIONAL PROJECT (max. 5,000 characters including spaces)

The candidate should outline their professional project and the importance of the postdoctoral experience in their career trajectory (what the postdoc can contribute).

THESIS TITLE AND SUMMARY (max. 5,000 characters including spaces)

The candidate should present the main conclusions and contributions of their thesis.

POSTDOCTORAL PROJECT (max. 20,000 characters including spaces)

The candidate should present the research problem, objectives, methodology, scientific approach, and relevance to the Ministry of Armed Forces of the proposed scientific approach, in relation to the host research center and the candidate’s professional project. They should also present the planned scientific activities and publications within the IRSEM framework.

I hereby declare on my honor the accuracy of the information provided in this application form and undertake to inform IRSEM of any changes in my situation.

*In , on*

*Candidate’s signature*