



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHĒ
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Postdoctoral Researcher/Research Associate – LE CHÉILE

Economics/Behavioural Science

School of Business and Economics

Ref. No. 011842

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a full-time (1 FTE), 12-month fixed term position as a Postdoctoral Researcher/Research Associate in Economics at the University of Galway, Ireland.

This position is available through the EPA Ireland's funded project '**Local Examples of Cooperation and Harnessing Experimental Insights to Lower Emissions**' (LE CHÉILE) and is available from September 1st 2026.

Project Description:

Local Examples of Cooperation and Harnessing Experimental Insights to Lower Emissions (LE CHÉILE) is an 18-month research project that aims to generate practical evidence on how to foster and sustain collective climate action.

The project combines three complementary strands:

- A comparative analysis of successful and unsuccessful examples of local climate-related collective action
- Experimental testing of factors that influence cooperation on climate action, such as fairness, leadership, communication, and framing
- Development of a practitioner-focused toolkit to help policymakers, community organisations, and public agencies design and communicate effective climate initiatives

The project will produce evidence-based recommendations to support the design, communication, and implementation of climate policies that require collective action. Project outputs will contribute to growing international research on behavioural climate policy and understanding the mental models of participants engaged in collective action problems.

The successful candidate will join a dynamic interdisciplinary research environment focused on behavioural science, climate action, and public policy. The project offers opportunities for academic publication, policy engagement, stakeholder collaboration, and the development of future research initiatives. The position supports hybrid working.

Salary: Postdoctoral Researcher/Research Associate salary scale €47,273 - €60,250 per annum. The default position for all new public sector appointments is the 1st point of the salary scale. Consideration will be given to appointment at a higher point on the payscale where evidence of prior years' equivalent experience is demonstrated.



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHĒ
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

[\(Research Salary Scales - University of Galway\)](#)

Closing date for receipt of applications is 17:00 (Irish Time) on July 3rd. It will not be possible to consider applications received after the closing date.

Interviews are planned to be held online in July 2026.

***Please review full job description for further details and essential requirement**

JOB DESCRIPTION

The successful candidate will, over the course of the project, work with the wider project team to:

- Conduct a comparative synthesis of successful and unsuccessful examples of climate-related collective action
- Design, programme, conduct, and analyse online experiments that test drivers and inhibitors of productive cooperation on climate action
- Produce policy-relevant outputs, including reports, academic publications, and stakeholder briefings and presentations, translating empirical findings into actionable recommendations for policymakers
- Contribute to the development of a practitioner-focused toolkit to support climate communication, public engagement, and collective action initiatives

DUTIES

To deliver the overall project aim, the successful candidate will perform the following activities:

- Conduct the specified programme of research and scholarship as described above under the primary supervision and direction of Dr Féidhlim McGowan
- Design and programme online behavioural experiments using platforms such as oTree, Gorilla, Qualtrics, jsPsych, or similar tools
- Analyse experimental data and contribute to the publication of research findings in leading disciplinary journals
- Prepare high-quality academic papers for publication in leading journals, and also produce project reports, policy briefs, and other dissemination outputs
- Present research findings at seminars, workshops, national and international conferences, and stakeholder engagement events
- Contribute to the management and reporting requirements of the project



- Contribute to the Discipline of Economics by, for example, participating in seminars, workshops, etc.
- Any other duties assigned commensurate to this level of post

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Essential Requirements

- PhD completed, or close to completion with submission expected before the start date, in Economics, Behavioural Science, Psychology, Public Policy, Political Science, Environmental Social Science, or a related discipline, or 4 years of relevant research experience post primary degree. Successful candidates without a PhD will be placed on the Research Associate scale.
- Experience programming online experiments using platforms such as oTree, Qualtrics, Gorilla, jsPsych, PsychoPy, or similar tools
- Strong quantitative research skills, including experience analysing experimental, survey, or behavioural datasets using statistical software such as R, Python, Stata, or similar.
- Excellent academic writing skills, including evidence of the ability to produce publication-quality research outputs.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively within a research team.

Desirable Requirements

- Experience conducting research on climate policy, environmental behaviour, sustainability, energy, transport, or related policy areas, especially in relation to collective action problems/public goods games
- Experience designing and running online behavioural experiments
- Experience developing reproducible research workflows and working with version control tools
- Track record of academic publications

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Continuing Professional Development/Training:

Researchers at University of Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans. University of Galway provides continuing professional development supports for all researchers seeking to build their own career pathways either within or beyond academia. Researchers are encouraged to engage with our Researcher Development Centre (RDC) upon commencing employment - see [HERE](#) for further information.

FURTHER INFORMATION/LINKS

- **TO APPLY:** [Search Current University of Galway vacancies](#). Applications must be submitted online.



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

o [How to apply guide](#)

- For informal enquiries, please contact Dr Féidhlim McGowan, Discipline of Economics, at feidhlim.mcgowan@universityofgalway.ie
- [University's Strategic Plan](#)
- [Working in Research at University of Galway](#)
- [Moving to Ireland \(Euraxess\)](#)
- [Applicant Information](#)
- We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.
- University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.
- All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment.

