



Ollscoil Mhá Nuad Maynooth University

The Edward M Kennedy Institute (EMKI) and Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute (MUSSI) Research Assistant, Level II (Specified Purpose Contract)

The Role

Maynooth University is committed to a strategy in which the primary University goals of excellent research and scholarship and outstanding education are interlinked and equally valued.

We are seeking an energetic and enthusiastic research assistant to work on an EU EDF-funded project in the area of civil-military cooperation, cybersecurity and sociotechnical systems. The ACTING project delivers an organized and coordinated approach to proactively improve efficiency of cyber defence training and exercises in the European Union through effective and efficient multi-sector collaboration. The 28 Partners, from 13 MSs, supported by 6 MODs, will develop, model and demonstrate a network of advanced interconnected (federated) domain-oriented cyber ranges for training and exercises, incorporating sophisticated methods and techniques for simulation of users, analysis of the performance of the cyber operators, and scoring cyber security situational awareness, supported by leading-edge scenario development language. The ACTING project integrates research, design, prototyping, and testing activities in the domain of cyber security.

The role of the EMKI/MUSSI in the project involves 1) the development of a detailed and integrated activity-centred concept of operations for the ACTING sociotechnical system including human-factors analysis, b) the development of guidance and protocols for civil-military cooperation, c) development of key dissemination products for publication.

Principal Duties

Administrative and other duties:

This will include:

- Performing project-related tasks at the direction of the principal investigator and in support of tasks in collaboration with other team members;
- Conducting data collection activities and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data;
- Writing or contributing to the writing of key project deliverables;



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- Assisting in various administrative tasks related to the project;
- Liaising with the coordinator other members of the ACTING consortium;
- Representing the Institute at consortium and work package meetings and workshops at the direction of the principal investigator;
- Traveling to project meetings to present results and updates as well as any relevant conferences or workshops at the direction of the principal investigator;
- Actively assisting with and contributing to the writing of academic papers for publication;
- Assisting in the development and submission of new research proposals to EU and other funding agencies.

The ideal candidate will have:

Essential

- A NFQ level 8 or 9 qualification in psychology, computer-supported cooperative work (CSCW), human-computer interaction (HCI), or a cognate social scientific or design-related field;
- Good knowledge of cognitive psychology, social and organisational psychology, human factors, and/or design practice and theory;
- Familiarity with sociocultural analytic frameworks including cultural-historical activity theory or distributed cognition;
- Experience of having worked on at least one EU project such as FP-7, H2020, Horizon Europe, EDF, or similar framework;
- Excellent quantitative and qualitative research skills, including in-depth analysis of interview data;
- Willingness to undertake frequent travel in Europe, and be in possession of a valid passport;
- Experience of administrative and project management tasks;
- Excellent writing and presentation skills in English;
- Excellent time management and organisational skills.

Desirable

- Knowledge of and experience in EU grant proposal preparation;
- Process graphic modelling tools (e.g., Viseo or equivalent);
- Ability to produce professional-looking graphics for presentation and dissemination purposes;
- Experience using software for qualitative data gathering and data analysis, such as Qualtrics, MaxQDA or NVIVO;
- Knowledge of Cultural-Historical Activity Theory and concept of operations (CONOPS) frameworks.

Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute (MUSSI)

Established in 2015 as part of the University's ambitious Research Strategy (2012-2017), the Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute (MUSSI) brings together, consolidates and scales existing social scientific research expertise and research infrastructure across the campus as part of a single enterprise.

The purpose of MUSSI is to coordinate and direct a collaborative network which includes twelve Faculty of Social Sciences academic departments (Adult and Community Education; Anthropology; Applied Social Studies; Business; Design Innovation; Economics, Finance and Accounting; Froebel Department of Childhood and Primary Education, Education; Geography; International Development; Law; Sociology), and three existing Faculty of Social Science based research Institutes (National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis, National Centre for Geocomputation and the Edward M Kennedy



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Institute for Peace and Conflict Intervention). It will also house Maynooth's new and innovative Education Workspace.

Its mission is to lead the development of two of Maynooth University's six research priority areas: People, Place and Environment and Social and Economic Transformations.

The Edward M. Kennedy Institute for Peace and Conflict Intervention

Established in 2011, the Institute honours the late Senator Edward M Kennedy for his lifelong commitment to justice, equality, human rights, education for all and environmental protection and in particular for his contribution to the Northern Ireland peace process.

The Institute also honours what one could argue is his most remarkable achievement of all – his ability to articulate a future where the causes of conflict, however ingrained, can be transcended; a future where society, economics, education, and politics are organised in ways that support individuals, groups, communities and nations to work together for the benefit of all.

While the Institute is university based at Maynooth University, it has a high level of engagement with the wider community including key practitioners and organisations active in the practice of conflict intervention

To generate new knowledge, the Institute will actively create and facilitate opportunities for high quality research in the field of conflict intervention. We will design and utilise, in collaboration with others, fresh and novel approaches to research, drawing on the knowledge, expertise and individual experiences of those who are or have been involved in conflict interventions. We will openly disseminate this research to a wider audience for use by practitioners, academics and others through teaching and learning, publications and engagement with the wider community. To interrogate existing theoretical perspectives on conflict, we will utilise the research to access and integrate knowledge from a variety of standpoints and sectors. As the Institute evolves, we will also act as a repository for research and primary data pertaining to conflict intervention nationally and internationally.

The University

Maynooth University is a very distinctive university, a collegial institution focused on science and engineering, humanities, and social sciences, and equally committed to research, teaching and community engagement. Located in Ireland's only university town, its distinctive features and character owe much to its unique history and heritage. It provides a high-quality educational experience to over 15,000 students on a campus with 18th century roots and 21st century dynamism.

The strategic trajectory and accomplishments of Maynooth University, in the 25 years since its establishment as an autonomous public university, are exceptional, and a source of great pride to the university community, staff, students and alumni. Maynooth University in 2024 ranked in the top 90 global Times Higher Education (THE) Young University rankings, placing 86th in the world. Maynooth University's growing global reputation is based on the originality, quality, importance and impact of its research and scholarship, commitment to teaching and learning, the quality of academic programmes, and its leadership in widening participation in higher education. The sources of success are the dedication of its staff and the energy and engagement of its students.

Maynooth University is a place of lively contrasts – a modern institution, dynamic, rapidly-growing, research-led and engaged, yet grounded in historic academic strengths and scholarly traditions. With over 15,000 students Maynooth offers a range of programmes at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level in the humanities, science and engineering and social sciences, including business, law and education. The University also offers a range of international programmes and partnerships.



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Maynooth's unique collegial culture fosters an interdisciplinary approach to research, which its world-class academics bring to bear in tackling some of the most fundamental challenges facing society today. The University's research institutes and centres consolidate and deliver this impact as vibrant communities of learning, discovery and creation. Research at Maynooth also is very much central to its teaching and the University prides itself on placing equal value on its research and teaching missions.

Maynooth University's Values

Our values define who we are, what we believe in and how we act as a community. They underpin our future success and guide our expectations of ourselves and each other. Our values apply to everyone in the University community:

- Integrity
- Collegiality
- Responsibility
- Freedom of expression
- Ambition

Maynooth University Strategic Plan 2023 – 2028

The University's Strategic Plan 2023 - 2028 builds on our rich academic history and strong foundations to set out an ambitious and forward-looking path for the future of our University. This roadmap underscores our commitment to adapt to a changing world while staying true to our values.

Our vision is to be a university of excellence, opportunity and impact, having a significant stake in all three.

For more information about Maynooth University's future direction, please visit:
<https://strategy.maynoothuniversity.ie/>

Plean Straitéiseach Ollscoil Mhá Nuad 2023 - 2028

Tógann Plean Straitéiseach na hOllscoile 2023 - 2028 ar ár stair acadúil shaibhir agus ar ár mbunchlocha láidre chun conair uailmhianach agus cheannródaíoch a leagadh amach do thodhchaí ár nOllscoile. Soiléiríonn an treochlár seo ár dtiomantas do dhul i dtaithí ar dhomhan atá ag síorathrú agus ár ngníomhaíochtaí a chur in oiriúint dó, agus san am céanna a bheith dílis dár luachanna Ollscoile. Is í an fhís atá againn a bheith mar ollscoil feabhais, deiseanna agus tionchair, agus lámh láidir a bheith againn i ngach ceann de na trí ghné seo.

Léigh anseo le haghaidh breis eolais faoi thodhchaí Ollscoil Mhá Nuad:
<https://strategy.maynoothuniversity.ie/?lang=ga>

Selection and Appointment

- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for interview;
- Appointments will be approved by the President based on the report of the selection board;
- It is anticipated that interviews will be held during the month of May 2025;
- The appointment is expected to be effective from as soon as possible



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Equality and Diversity

Maynooth University actively works to ensure equality, celebrate the diversity of our community, and promote inclusion. To learn more about our commitment to Equality and Diversity, please read the Maynooth University [Equality and Diversity Policy](#) / [Polasaí Comhionannais agus Éagsúlachta](#), our policy on the [Employment of People with Disabilities](#), and our [Gender Equality Action Plan 2023-2026](#). We aim to reflect the diversity of the community we serve and welcome applications from all individuals across our society.

Terms and Conditions

Tenure	This a full time, temporary post for a specified purpose, anticipated to be 12 months duration.
Location	The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
Salary	Research Assistant, Level II (2025): €37,796 – €38,420 p.a. (2 points) Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.
Hours of work	A 37-hour working week is in operation in respect of full-time positions (pro-rated for part-time positions). This can be reviewed or adjusted from time to time through national agreements.
Annual Leave	Annual leave and public holidays are provided for in the University policy: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies/annual-leave-policy Annual leave will be allocated on a pro-rata basis for part-time and temporary positions.
University policies and schemes	Employees of the University will be subject to the terms of the University policies and schemes, available on the University website at: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies
Pension	This is a pensionable post. Employees of the University will enter into a public sector pension scheme, and as such, applicants must ensure they are eligible to become a member of a public sector pension scheme for the duration of the appointment. Details of the public sector pension schemes are available at: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information
Eligibility	Applicants should note that eligibility is determined by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Further information regarding eligibility is available at:



	<p>https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/</p> <p>Non-EEA applicants are responsible for ensuring they can secure a visa to travel to Ireland. Any offer of employment is conditional on applicants securing the appropriate employment permissions.</p> <p>Former Irish Public Service employees - Certain Restrictions on Eligibility</p> <p>Eligibility of applicants formerly employed by an Irish Public Sector body, and who availed of an Irish Public Service Redundancy or Incentivised Retirement Scheme under the Schemes below, may be affected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants • Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER) • Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010) • Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013) <p>Applicants should ensure that they are eligible to be re-engaged in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Applicants should address queries with their former Irish Public Sector employer.</p>
Garda vetting	Garda vetting or clearance may be required by the University.
Medical	The University may require a medical examination as a condition of employment.

Data Protection Law

Applications to the University will be treated in accordance with the University Data Protection Policies. For information on the University's Data Protection Policies and Privacy Notice, please see our website: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/data-protection>

Application Procedure

Closing Date:

23:30hrs (local Irish time) on **4th May 2025**.

Please note all applications must be made via our **Online Recruitment Portal** at the following link:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/vacancies>

Applications must be submitted by the closing date and time specified above. Any applications which are still in progress at the closing time on the specified closing date will be cancelled automatically by the system.

Late applications will not be accepted.

Maynooth University is an equal opportunities employer

The position is subject to the Statutes of the University



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