

Phd position: Ethics by design of virtual twins

> **Research unit : Centre de Recherches en Histoire des Idées (CRHI)**

- **Type of recruitment: Contrat Doctoral**
- **Category : doctorate**
- **Working hours: Full-time**
- **Host institute: UniCa (Université Côte d'Azur, Nice France)**
- **Location : Campus Carlone, 98 Bd Edouard Herriot, BP 3209, 06204 Nice Cedex 3**

The Challenge ahead

We are looking for our future PhD student!

The position is part of the Doctoral Network: ENDOTRAIN (Digital Endocrinology Training Network to Combat Adrenal Diseases) financed by Horizon Europe – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Doctoral Networks <https://www4.uib.no/en/research/research-projects/endotrain-doctoral-training-network>

Research field: Bioethics, ethics of AI

Supervisor: Prof. Vanessa Nurock

Starting date : September 1st 2026

Description :

The PhD project is embedded in Work Package 4 of the ENDOTRAIN network “Legal and ethical aspects of AI tools”. It aims at analysing the ethical issues of algorithmic health in general (and more particularly digital twins in a biomedical environment) and at developing a philosophical ethics by design approach.

Missions :

As a PhD candidate you must carry out an independent research project which will result in a scientific dissertation in philosophy. You will have to complete a training component and courses as well as secondments with partners of the project. You will also have to participate to various parts of the Endotrain project.

Qualifications/skills :

- The candidate must hold a master in philosophy and more particularly in moral and political philosophy.
- The candidate must be able to read, speak and write in English.
- A good level in French language is an asset.
- Expertise in bioethics and/or ethics of AI is an asset.
- An interest in interdisciplinary and international collaborative work and motivation to pursue an academic career.
- Applicants must be able to work independently and in a structured manner and to collaborate with others.
- Applicants must include a certified translation to English or French if the original diplomas, transcripts, and additional documentation are not in one of these languages.

Mobility rules :

For MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN), the core mobility rule requires that a researcher has not resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the **recruiting beneficiary** (the host institution) for more **than 12 months in the 36 months immediately preceding their recruitment date**. This transnational mobility is a mandatory condition for eligibility. Researchers who are refugees are an exception to these rules if they meet other eligibility criteria.

Key Aspects of the MSCA DN Mobility Rule

- **Transnational Mobility:** The principle of physical mobility is central to the MSCA, ensuring researchers move to a new country for their project.
- **Residency/Main Activity:** The 12-month limit applies to time spent in the host country **for work, studies, or any other main activity**. (Non-official residential activity like holidays, visiting families, etc are not included in the calculation)
- **Timeframe:** The 36-month period is the 3 years immediately **before the researcher's recruitment date**.
- **Recruitment Date:** This date is considered **the first day of the researcher's employment** for the action.
- **Full-Time Employment:** Researchers are expected to be enrolled in a doctoral programme and work full-time on the project.
- **Secondments:** In standard Doctoral Networks, researchers can be seconded to other beneficiaries or associated partners for up to one-third of their total recruitment period.
- **Exceptions:**
 - **Refugees:** Researchers who are refugees under the Geneva Convention in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country are exempt from the mobility rule.
 - **Virtual Mobility:** While encouraged, virtual mobility does not count towards the physical mobility requirements or secondment limits.

This role is perfect for you if

You hold a Master's degree in philosophy with an expertise in ethics

You are interested in interdisciplinary and international collaboration and willing to discover a large international project, and its various (scientific as well as administrative) aspects.

Remuneration and benefits

- • Remuneration for PhD students on fixed-term contracts: minimum 3380€ gross per month
- • Holiday entitlement: 25 days' annual leave
- • Remote working: possible for some tasks
- • Partial reimbursement of commuting costs
- • Partial reimbursement of private health insurance costs
- • Access to CROUS restaurants and cafeterias at a preferential rate
- • Leisure and event tickets at preferential rates

The working environment

The successful PhD candidate will be supervised by Vanessa Nurock, who is affiliated with the CRHI (UPR 4318) at the Université Côte d'Azur.

To apply

Interested in this vacancy? Don't hesitate! Please apply by email to the following address: Vanessa.NUROCK@univ-cotedazur.fr

The ideal application should include (1) a CV, (2) a cover letter, (3) certificates of completion and transcripts for any qualifications obtained, (4) a letter of recommendation from your master supervisor and two references.

Recruitment calendar :

You must apply before ...07/31/2026 (July 31, 2026)

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dérogatoires

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environ 2276 intervenants en formation et
les collègues chercheurs
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> Les valeurs



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