

Call for applications : Chair of Junior Professor CPJ 2026

Lead institution/organization: French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)

Name of head of establishment/organization: Antoine PETIT

Sites concerned:

Museum National d'histoire naturelle

Université de Nantes

Université de Rennes

Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès

Academic Regions:

Île-de-France

Nantes

Rennes

Toulouse

Planned partner institutions/organizations:

Museum National d'histoire naturelle

Université de Nantes

Université de Rennes

Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès

Project name (en français): Comportements alimentaires et santé publique

Project name (in english): Eating Behaviors and Public Health

Acronym: COMPAS

Keywords: Behavior, Food, Health, Public Policy, inequalities

Target duration: 5 years

Scientific theme:

Humanities and social sciences

Institutional strategy: *Please describe how this recruitment is in line with institutional strategy. If applicable, please also summarize any CPJs obtained in previous years and give an assessment of the initial results of the host laboratory's activity (2000 characters maximum including spaces)*

Humanities and social sciences have long been interested in food, a multidisciplinary topic that sheds light on social life, from individual practices to public policy. In line with CNRS SHS 2026 prospective, which calls for making food a priority area, this CPJ aims to give new impetus to this field of research in CNRS. Precisely, the proposed CPJ seeks to better understand dietary behaviors by drawing on all disciplines within humanities and social sciences, while relying on interdisciplinary and innovative research to evaluate, inform, and guide public policy. This initiative is part of an effort to reduce social inequalities in health by identifying the most effective strategies for action.

Strategy of the host laboratory: *Please describe how this recruitment is in line with the host laboratory's strategy (1000 characters maximum including spaces):*

The four potential host laboratories - CREM, DCS, PALOC and UTOPI - span various disciplinary fields: law, political science, sociology, anthropology, economics and management. They have been selected based on: a) their key role in research on eating behaviors and/or public health; b) their multidisciplinary nature, which provides an ecosystem conducive to the implementation of the proposed scientific project; and c) their integration into an academic environment that is particularly promising in these fields.

RNSR references of the host laboratory(ies):

200412258L UMR6211 Centre de recherche en économie & management (CREM)
201220410M UMR6297 Droit et changement social (DCS)
202424489U UMR8087 Patrimoines locaux, environnement et globalisation (PALOC)
202624780B UMR5311 Transitions Organisations Politiques Inégalités (UTOPI)

Strategy in terms of international attractiveness: *Please describe how this recruitment is in line with the establishment's international strategy (on hosting foreign students, partnerships with foreign institutions, joint diploma project, taking part in a European project, etc.) (1000 characters maximum including spaces).*

The Chair holder will be expected to implement actions and set up partnerships in the given thematic field and particularly to commit to submitting a project in the framework of European calls for proposals like ERC, Horizon Europe Consortium, etc. during the 5 years of his/her contract.

Summary of scientific project: *1000 characters maximum including spaces*

Food behaviours play a decisive role in public health, at both individual and collective levels. In many countries around the world, a growing proportion of healthy life years lost is due to factors related to diet: obesity, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, eating disorders, and so on. These issues are not limited to individual choices but are embedded in complex social, economic, and cultural dynamics, often marked by inequalities in access to healthy and sustainable food. The CPJ aims to better understand the determinants of dietary behaviors, particularly those leading to pathologies (obesity, addictions, malnutrition), which can be examined through case studies, from a comparative perspective, or over the long term. It will enable the exploration of the interactions between dietary behaviors and public health.

Summary of teaching project: *1000 characters maximum including spaces*

Teaching will be discussed according to the site which the successful candidate is assigned to. He/She will be involved in teaching on existing courses at each site.

Financial summary: Please use the attached financial form to describe the financial requirements involved and how they are broken down to carry out the scientific project (PhD student, post-doctoral fellow, IT, equipment, etc.)

How the ANR package will be used	200.000 €
PhD Student	
Post-doctoral fellow	
Engineer	
Equipment	
Operations (missions, conferences,...)	
Co-financing of the € package	€
Specify the nature of the planned expenditure	

Co-financing of the € package	
Co-financing of the CPJ's remuneration	
Total funding for the CPJ (including the ANR package) in €	€

Dissemination of scientific results:

The results will be disseminated via world-class scientific productions like publications, software, patents, and so forth. The project will also communicate with a wide range of target audiences including the scientific community, the media, decision-makers, the general public, schools, etc. applying an appropriate schedule. Specific tools may be developed like websites, newsletters, meetings, international conferences, summer schools and other conferences.

Open Science :

The CNRS has adopted a strong policy in favor of open science. Open science consists in making research results "as accessible as possible and as closed as necessary". To achieve this, the CNRS objective is for 100% of the texts of publications resulting from the work of its units to be in open access, particularly through researchers submitting them to HAL. The data produced should also be made available and reusable unless specific restrictions apply. In addition, the guidelines on the individual evaluation of researchers have been revised to conform with the DORA declaration, to be more qualitative and to take all facets of a researcher's work into account.

Science and society:

The relationship between science and society is now recognized as a full dimension of scientific activity in its own right. The project will develop this dimension in synergy with all partners involved. The resulting research will help inform the public decision-making process. Participatory science initiatives may be organized with stakeholders from the project's socioeconomic and cultural ecosystem.

Indicators:

In particular, the CPJ's activities will be assessed on the basis of scientific output (publications, software, patents, etc.) institutional and private partnership with formal contracts, international influence, the promotion and dissemination of work to multi-disciplinary scientific communities, innovation and its transfer to society and scientific dissemination to non-specialist audiences.