

(BL96/2026-IST-ID)

Scientific Initiation Studentships

Applications are open for 1 Scientific Initiation Studentships, within the framework of project GEICKO, 1801P.01521 - gEICKo financed by European funds under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Automation, Control and Robotics

Admission Requirements: *To be enrolled at a professional higher technical course, at a bachelor degree, at an integrated master or master degree, or to have a bachelor degree and be enrolled at a course that does not award an academic degree and it is integrated in the educational project of a higher education institution, performed in association or cooperation with one or several R&D units;*

Workplan: The gEICKo project aims to develop a capture kit for Active Debris Removal missions, using micro-standardized dry adhesives (MDA) inspired by the mechanism found on gecko feet, allowing for strong and reversible attachment to surfaces such as solar panels, even if they are not designed for coupling.

One of the contributions of the Institute of Systems and Robotics (IST-ID) to this project focuses on an intelligent fault detection, identification, and recovery (FDIR) system. This system must be tolerant to the absence of an explicit model of the contact dynamics, that is, it must be based on data acquired in real time during a coupling maneuver.

This work aims to:

- develop two sensor modules integrable with the ISR *air-bearing table*, including data acquisition from an *inertial measurement unit (IMU)* and, possibly, image acquisition;
- perform exploratory tests to understand the impact of different types of collisions on the generated data.

Legislation and Regulations: Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, approved by Law nr. 40/2004, of August 18, as worded by Decree-Law nr. 123/2019, of August 28; IST-ID Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships, available on <https://ist-id.pt/recursos/documentos/recursos-humanos/bolseiros/#1690453819726-6707f7f2-ce04>

Workplace: The work will be developed at **Laboratório do Campus de Oeiras** from **Institute for Systems and Robotics**, under the scientific supervision of Doctor João Paulo Lopes Monteiro.

Duration: The research fellowship(s) will have the duration of 6 months It's expected to begin in July 2026, and may be eventually renewed up to the maximum of 12 months, including the duration of the initial contract.

Monthly maintenance allowance: According to the values for Research Fellowships awarded by FCT in Portugal (<https://www.fct.pt/fct-atualizou-o-valor-das-bolsas-para-2026>), the amount of the monthly maintenance allowance is € 701,12 being the payment method by Wire Transfer.

Selection methods: The selection methods will be the following: Curriculum evaluation, with a weighting of 100%.

Composition of the selection Jury: Dr. João Paulo Monteiro, Dr. Atabak Dehban, Prof. Rodrigo Ventura

Announcement/ notification of the results: The final evaluation results will be communicated to all applicants by email.

Deadlines and procedures of complaint and appeal. After notification of the provisional list of evaluation results, candidates have a period of 10 working days to, if they wish, make a statement at a preliminary hearing of interested parties, in accordance with Articles 121 et seq. of the Code of Administrative Procedure. The final decision will be made after analyzing the statements presented at the preliminary hearing of interested parties. The final decision may be appealed to the competition jury or to the President of IST-ID within 15 working days of notification

Application deadline and formalization: The call is open from June 11 until June 24, 2026.

It is mandatory to formalize applications with the submission of the following documents: i) B1 Form – Fellowship application (<https://ist-id.pt/recursos-humanos/bolseiros/#documentos-relacionados>); ii) *Curriculum Vitae*; iii) academic degree certificate, where applicable; iv) proof of enrollment at an academic degree course or at a course that does not award an academic degree; v) motivation letter;

Applications must be submitted to <https://isr.tecnico.ulisboa.pt/scholarships/>