Terms of Reference for EASA precarity researcher

Background

In 2020, the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) published a report on the career trajectories of anthropologists in Europe (Fotta et al 2020) This report, a collaboration between EASA and the PrecAnthro Collective, sought to raise awareness about the challenges of developing a career in anthropology, the exploitation of junior researchers and growing casualisation within academia more generally. A further important initiative related to this was the drafting of ethical authorship guidelines (Tilche & Astuti 2020), which EASA is keen to promote. This new research aims to build on the findings and recommendations of these documents by examining how other disciplines are engaging with the issues and challenges of precarity and casualisation.

Duration: 3 months (commencing September 2021).

Remuneration: €6,000 (240 hours @ 25/hour)

Deliverables: 1: interim report/desk review
              2: Final Report

General responsibilities

You will be responsible for collecting information on the initiatives, policies and actions of other disciplines and professional associations in Europe to address problems of casualisation and precarity in their respective areas. This might include

- Documenting the policies and practices that different associations or institutions have adopted to mitigate casualisation
- Providing illustration and examples of best practice
- Case studies that highlight significant or interesting initiatives

Specific tasks and outputs

You will:

- Carry out desk research on existing bodies\(^1\), initiatives\(^2\), and actors\(^3\) engaged in anti-precarity actions in European academic institutions. Map relevant legal frameworks and anti-precarity policies in the social sciences and humanities in all European countries as well as initiatives in anthropology beyond Europe through WCAA member organisations.

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\(^1\) Bodies = collectives, pressure or lobby groups, unions, academic organisations, funding bodies, ministries, etc.
\(^2\) Advocacy campaigns, petitions, social media campaigns, research reports, etc.
\(^3\) Persons with a visible public profile, among the bodies mentioned above or policy-making and governmental representatives.
Elaborate a data collection instrument (semi-structured interview guide / questionnaire) to be used for gathering data from relevant bodies.

Collect data from national anthropological associations on anti-precarity initiatives.

Elaborate a database of relevant professional bodies across Europe that tackle academic precarity, containing information on their activities, contact persons, outputs, initiatives, relevant links and social media accounts.

Summarise good practices and pitfalls of anti-precarity initiatives as identified by the research participants.

Prepare a database to the EASA exec with a summary list of anti-precarity policies, initiatives, and relevant professional organizations to cooperate with.

Help organise a seminar for the non-member launch of the Anthropological Profession in Europe survey report and Ethical Authorship guidelines, where the

You will work in collaboration with, and report to, EASA’s anti-precarity representatives.

**How to Apply**: Please send a cover letter and short CV (3 pages max) to Cris Shore C.Shore@gold.ac.uk. Deadline: 30th October.