

PhD in Civil Law at the University of Girona

We are looking for future researchers to join the MAPA Project on personal autonomy, disability, and advance decision-making planning.

Call for Expressions of Interest: Predoctoral Research Contracts

Individuals interested in pursuing doctoral studies at the University of Girona may apply for different predoctoral funding schemes offered by the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, the Government of Catalonia, or the University of Girona itself.

Applications to these programmes require the support of a research group.

In this context, the Civil Law department of the University of Girona, within the framework of the **MAPA Project (Advance Planning and Support Measures in Decision-Making)**, invites highly motivated candidates wishing to undertake doctoral research in its fields of expertise to submit an application for research group endorsement.

The MAPA Project focuses on the transformation of civil law in response to the recognition of the rights of persons with disabilities, older persons, and individuals in situations of vulnerability, with particular attention to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), support measures in the exercise of legal capacity, advance planning mechanisms, and the protection of personal autonomy.

Preference will be given to research proposals related to the following topics:

- Support measures in the exercise of legal capacity and decision-making.
- Advance planning and anticipatory decision-making in situations of disability, ageing, dependency, vulnerability, or loss of capacity.
- Preventive powers of attorney, advance directives, living wills, and other self-determination instruments.
- Personal autonomy, care relationships, and civil-law protection of vulnerable adults.
- Comparative studies on supported decision-making and legal capacity in European and international jurisdictions.

- The implementation and impact of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in private law systems.
- Family solidarity, caregiving, and legal responses to demographic ageing.
- Interdisciplinary approaches combining law with bioethics, social sciences, health care, economics, or public policy.

Applicants should submit:

1. A complete curriculum vitae, including academic transcripts, grade point averages, and the completion dates of all degrees obtained.
2. A research proposal of no more than 5,000 words.

To be eligible for the predoctoral contracts, applicants must have completed and passed at least 60 ECTS credits of an official Master's degree (or an equivalent qualification for international applicants), or hold a degree comprising more than 300 ECTS credits that grants access to doctoral studies in the country where it was obtained.

Please note that successful applicants will join the research team through a full-time employment contract, requiring exclusive dedication to research activities and regular presence at the workplace throughout the duration of the contract.

Application deadline: **18 October 2026**

Interested candidates should send their CV and research proposal to secretaria.iecpl.dret@udg.edu, indicating in the subject line: "Predoctoral Research Contracts – MAPA Project".