



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITA DI BOLOGNA  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS



Position announcement

### **Post-doctoral researcher in ‘Macroeconomic modelling of low-carbon transitions’**

The Department of Economics of the University of Bologna is currently inviting applications for one post-doctoral researcher position to work on ‘Macroeconomic modelling of low-carbon transitions’.

#### **Job description**

The postholder will develop high-quality academic research on the macroeconomic implications of climate change and the low-carbon transition, using analytical and numerical dynamic modelling tools. Special areas of interest include: (i) the inclusion of behavioural dimensions and heterogeneity into transition models; (ii) the role of climate-related beliefs, expectations and narratives in shaping investment decision-making and transition dynamics; (iii) policy uncertainty and credibility; (iv) asset stranding and other transition-related costs; (v) policies and institutions to achieve a rapid and orderly low-carbon transition.

The position will last two years, with confirmation after one year and possibility of further extension. The position will need to be filled by July 2024. Earlier starting dates can be discussed. The gross annual salary is 35,000€. The salary is exempt of taxation but subject to pension contributions. No teaching is required. We expect the postholder to be based in Bologna. The knowledge of the Italian language is welcome but not a prerequisite.

#### **Job qualifications and requirements**

The features of the ideal candidate include:

- A Master and/or Ph.D. in Economics, Behavioural sciences, Environmental sciences, Engineering, Physics or any other field relevant to the project and its methods (or being close to their completion).
- Experience in developing analytical and numerical dynamic models, using any methodological approach; ideally including heterogeneity and/or behavioural dimensions.
- Knowledge and experience in conducting research in climate/transition economics, behavioural economics and macro/financial economics; preferably at the intersection among them.
- Good knowledge of statistical and empirical methods, including statistical distributions.
- Experience in programming (e.g. Matlab, R, Python, Stata and similar software).
- Experience with working as part of a project team.
- International work and study experience.
- Excellent ability in writing and speaking in English.

## **SMOOTH project**

The postholder will participate to the activities of the SMOOTH research project (ERC Starting Grant 853050). The aim of SMOOTH is to study the dynamic links between macro-financial systems and the transition to a low-carbon society, and to contribute to the design of policies directed at achieving a rapid and smooth decarbonisation. The project is composed of three main areas of work: i) the study of how expectations, sentiments and cognitive biases affect the carbon intensity of physical and financial investments; ii) the analysis of drivers, transmission channels and macro-financial impacts of transition risks, with a focus on physical and financial stranding risks; iii) the study of the governance and political economy implications of a low-carbon transition, with a focus on the role of central banks and financial regulators. SMOOTH started in September 2020 and will last five years. It is conducted by an international interdisciplinary research team at the Department of Economics of the University of Bologna, in collaboration with the Milano-based RFF-CMCC European Institute on Economics and the Environment. For more information on the project, please visit: <https://site.unibo.it/smooth/en>.

## **University of Bologna**

The [University of Bologna](#) (UniBo) is the oldest university in the world and regularly features among the top international academic institutions. With 33 departments and a population of 85,000 students from Italy and abroad, it is among the largest universities in Europe. Its main campus is based in Bologna, a vibrant city with a high quality of life and world-class social services. Bologna has a large airport and is connected to the high-speed railway network. The [Department of Economics](#) (DSE) of UniBo is a leading academic institution in several fields of economic research, with a large and expanding environmental economics cluster. The DSE is also a founding member of the Research Institute on Global Challenges and Climate Change (Alma Climate). Both UniBo's [International Desk](#) and Emilia-Romagna region service [it-ER](#) offer information and support to incoming international students and staff.

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