



## PHD POSITION IN GRAVITATIONAL WAVE INSTRUMENTATION (M/F/X)

### AREA: AEROSPACE & MECHANICAL ENGINEERING – PRECISION MECHATRONICS / GRAVITATIONAL WAVES

**START DATE: 01/09/2026 (IDEALLY)**

**DEADLINE: 30/05/2026**

Located in the French-speaking part of Belgium, the University of Liège welcomes nearly 27,000 students of 123 different nationalities in a dynamic, multicultural city less than an hour away from Brussels and Cologne, two hours from Paris and three hours from London and Amsterdam. ULiège is spread across 4 campuses and boasts over 5,700 staff members, including 3,600 teachers and researchers active in all areas of the humanities and social sciences, science and technology, and health sciences.

As a key player in social change and environmental awareness, ULiège promotes ethical, transdisciplinary and open science. It contributes to the socio-economic development of its region through numerous partnerships with several institutions, including the university hospital (CHU). Given its international orientation, the University participates [in the European University of Post-Industrial Cities \(UNIC\)](#) initiative and has one of the most extensive collaborative networks in the world.

ULiège offers attractive career prospects [in a high-quality working environment](#) where well-being, diversity and equality of opportunity are promoted. Since 2011, ULiège has been proud to display the European [Human resources strategy for researchers \(HRS4R\)](#) label, which reflects its commitment to open, transparent and merit-based procedures. In addition, it upholds quality and diversity in line with the recommendations of the [Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment \(CoARA\)](#). ULiège encourages its academic staff to travel internationally and welcomes international researchers through its EURAXESS center.

### JOB DESCRIPTION

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The selected candidate will conduct doctoral research in gravitational wave instrumentation, contributing to the development, implementation and validation of advanced measurement systems within the ET-CRISTAL infrastructure under the supervision of Prof. Christophe Collette.

### SPECIFIC DUTIES AND ACTIVITIES

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- ▶ Design and develop an interferometric gradiometer for Newtonian noise measurement
- ▶ Contribute to experimental activities within the ET-CRISTAL facility



- ▶ Analyze and interpret experimental data
- ▶ Collaborate with international partners, including EPFL
- ▶ Participate in scientific dissemination (publications, conferences)

## PROFILE

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- **REQUIRED SKILLS :**
  - ▶ Master's degree in engineering, physics or equivalent
  - ▶ Strong background in experimental physics, instrumentation or related fields
  - ▶ Analytical and problem-solving skills
- **DESIRABLE SKILLS :**
  - ▶ Knowledge in one or more of the following areas:
    - interferometry
    - vibration isolation
    - cryogenics
    - noise modeling
- **HUMAN SKILLS :**
  - ▶ Ability to work both independently and within a team
  - ▶ Strong motivation for research and innovation
  - ▶ Good communication skills
- **LANGUAGES :**
  - ▶ Good command of English (written and oral)
  - ▶ Knowledge of French is an asset

## TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT

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- ▶ **TYPE OF CONTRACT: FIXED-TERM (PHD)**
- ▶ **WORK SCHEDULE : FULL-TIME**
- ▶ **CONTRACT DURATION : 4 YEARS (FULLY FUNDED)**
- ▶ **EXPECTED START DATE : 1 SEPTEMBER 2026 (IDEALLY)**

## OUR OFFER

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You will join a dynamic and stimulating research environment within an internationally recognized laboratory active in major international collaborations. The position offers the opportunity to work on a cutting-edge Big Science project, in close interaction with leading institutions, within a multicultural and collaborative setting that supports scientific excellence and professional development.

Employment benefits such as reimbursement of public transportation fees and access to a [variety of training](#) opportunities are also included.



## HOW TO APPLY?

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Please send your application as a single PDF file to [christophe.collette@uliege.be](mailto:christophe.collette@uliege.be) by 30 May 2026. The email subject must include the reference **ETCRISTAL-PHD-2026-01**; applications without this reference will not be considered. The application file should include a detailed curriculum vitae, a motivation letter, and the names of three referees.

## SELECTION PROCEDURE

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- ▶ Applications will be **screened upon receipt** against the eligibility and selection criteria outlined in this vacancy
- ▶ A **shortlist of candidates** will be established based on a comparative evaluation of academic background, skills and motivation
- ▶ Shortlisted candidates may be **invited for an interview**, which may include an assessment of relevant competencies
- ▶ The final selection will be made following a **transparent and merit-based evaluation process**.

**Our corporate policy is based on diversity and equal opportunity. We select candidates on the basis of their skills and do not discriminate on grounds of age, sexual orientation, origin, beliefs, disability or nationality.**

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Informal inquiries are welcome. Please contact:

**Prof. Christophe Collette**, [christophe.collette@uliege.be](mailto:christophe.collette@uliege.be)

Additional information:

- ET-CRISTAL: <https://www.etest-emr.eu>
- Precision Mechatronics Laboratory: <https://www.pml.uliege.be>
- Liège Space Center: <https://www.csl.uliege.be>
- University of Liège: <https://www.uliege.be>

Release date: 30/04/26



## Privacy policy

Personal data collected following your application will be processed by Christophe Collette of the University of Liege for the sole purpose of recruitment.

The data will be processed within the framework of pre-contractual measures (art. 6-1, b. of the General Data Protection Regulation) and kept for up to 9 months after the publication of the vacancy. Your personal data will not be passed on to any third parties.

In accordance with the provisions of the GDPR (EU 2016/679), you may exercise your data protection rights (right of access, rectification, erasure, restriction, and portability) by contacting ULiège Data Protection Officer (dpo@uliege.be - Mr. Data Protection Officer, Bât. B9 Cellule "GDPR", Quartier Village 3, Boulevard de Colonster 2, 4000 Liège, Belgium). You may also lodge a complaint with the Data Protection Authority (<https://www.autoriteprotectiondonnees.be> , contact@apd-gba.be).