

PhD Position in Blockchain Security and Privacy

Deadline for receipt of applications: October 31st, 2024 23:59 AoE.

The recently established Decentralized Security (DeSec) Group at Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), University of Lisbon is inviting applications for a PhD position under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Christof FERREIRA TORRES in the area of blockchain security and privacy. The research ranges from automated security analysis of smart contracts to measuring fraud on blockchains. This position offers a unique opportunity to work on the latest topics in decentralized finance (DeFi) with a focus on the security analysis of existing DeFi protocols as well as the design of new DeFi protocols. Since its creation in 1911, IST is the largest and most reputed school of Engineering, Science and Technology and Architecture in Portugal.

The specific research topic will be determined based on the common interests of the candidate and the supervisor. Possible research directions include but are not limited to:

- Developing approaches for assessing the economic security of smart contracts
- New techniques to detect and analyze scams and phishing on blockchains
- Measuring the impact of transaction order manipulation across blockchains

The position offers:

- fully funded PhD position including funding to attend academic conferences
- a vibrant, collaborative, international and English-speaking environment
- the opportunity to work on projects with immediate, real-world impact
- access to state-of-the-art research infrastructure and the chance to contribute to top-tier scientific publications

The position requires:

- a degree in Computer Science or related field
- fluency in written and spoken English
- a keen interest in the design, analysis, and measurement of distributed systems (prior work in blockchain/cryptocurrencies is a plus)
- good programming skills or strong theoretical background

Inquiries on the position can be directed via mail to the supervisor, Prof. Dr. Christof FERREIRA TORRES (christof.torres@tecnico.ulisboa.pt).

Candidates should submit by the call deadline a CV, a motivation letter, and two reference letters via email to christof.torres@tecnico.ulisboa.pt.