Abstract

Over recent decades, the academic profession in European countries has been subjected to relevant transformations. These have contributed to changing both the way academics develop their work and their working conditions. This chapter aims to analyse the main characteristics of academics’ working conditions in Portugal in an environment of change promoted by increasing financial constraints. The study is empirically supported by the analysis of a dataset referring to the entire Portuguese academic population. The analysis of two specific dimensions of academics’ work and employment — the duration of contract (tenured or non-tenured) and the time regime (full-time or part-time) — reveals that differences exist between higher education institutions (public/private, university/polytechnic) and also between junior and senior academic staff.

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