

ESPI vacancy notice [f/m/x]

Research Fellow – Full time

The European Space Policy Institute is looking to employ several Research Fellow(s) at the premises of the Institute in Vienna, starting in 2022.

About the European Space Policy Institute

The European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) is an association ruled by Austrian Law, based in Vienna, founded at its inception (2003) by the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) and supported by members including national space agencies, the European Commission, and leading space industry companies.

The Institute provides decision-makers with an informed view on mid-to-long-term issues relevant to Europe's space activities. In this context, ESPI acts as an independent platform for developing positions and strategies.

ESPI fulfils its objectives through various multidisciplinary research activities giving way to the publication of insights, reports, articles, executive briefs, proceedings or position papers and to the organisation of conferences and events including the annual ESPI Autumn Conference. Located in the heart of Vienna, the Institute developed a privileged relation with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and with a network of researchers and experts in Europe and across the globe.

More information on ESPI is available on our website: www.espi.or.at

Fields of activities and duties

As a member of ESPI Research Team, the Research Fellow is expected to support and/or lead different projects of the Institute. This includes research studies, events organization, sector watch, presentations and any other job part of ESPI usual activity. Given the multidisciplinary scope of the Institute the Research Fellow may address various aspects of the space domain including but not limited to a) Policy & Strategy, b) Economy, Digital and Green, c) Security & Defence, d) Exploration & Human Space Flight.

In these domains, the main activity of ESPI Research Fellows is to conduct research projects and produce reports that offer an in-depth perspective and analysis on a specific topic, combining thorough independent analysis with vision in order to formulate policy advice and recommendations. Similarly, the Research Fellow will provide Executive Briefs to address decision makers and others and draw attention to particular issues and challenges. Furthermore, Research Fellows contribute to the Space Sector Watch of the institute which includes monthly ESPI Insights to offer a synthetic overview of major developments in the global space sector and the annual ESPI Yearbook, which provides an overview of major developments and trends in space policy, industry, programmes, economy and overall worldwide activity over the year. ESPI Space Sector Watch also entails the continuous update of proprietary databases such as the ESPI Investment Database or the ESPI Launch Database.

The Research Fellow will also support and/or lead an increasing number of external projects and activities performed on behalf of ESPI members and other stakeholders and third parties in the space domain. Anticipated growth areas of external projects, where ESPI seeks to reinforce its research team include but are not limited to Green Deal; Commercialization; Security, Space Safety and crisis response.

The Research Fellow is expected to also support or organise ESPI events as required, including report launch events and ad-hoc workshops or conferences on emerging issues as well as the main ESPI annual event, the ESPI Autumn Conference, bringing together eminent space professionals to discuss and reflect on a chosen theme.

Duties and responsibilities envisioned for the position(s) include:

- Conduct of research projects, involving:
 - Literature review, information and data collection and compilation, stakeholders' consultation through dedicated interviews or surveys;
 - Methodology and analysis tools preparation;
 - Comprehensive and thorough analysis of research topics;
 - Synthesis of results and recommendations in study reports
 - Project control and reporting to ESPI management, partners or customers;
- Participation to ESPI space sector watch activities, tools and reports (see ESPI Insights and ESPI Yearbook)
- Support to general activities of the Institute:
 - Conferences, workshops and other events organization
 - Working with other researchers and trainees of the institute on common projects
 - Participation to ESPI daily routine and meetings
- Contribution to the future vision of ESPI, its areas of impact and growth

Qualifications and competencies

For this position, ESPI is looking for applicants holding at least a 5 years degree with educational background in either Engineering, Science, Political science, Economy, Business Administration, International Relations or Law.

Candidates should demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of space institutions, of their programmes and strategy and of the main political, technical, industrial and economic trends affecting the global and European space sector and its wider impact on society and economy.

The following competencies and skills are required for the position:

- Excellent analytical and synthesis skills;
- Capacity to work both independently and as part of a team;
- Self-motivation and interest in continuous learning;
- Good organizational skills based on an objective-driven mindset;

Previous experiences in space programmes, space policy research, consulting or advisory would be an asset.

The working language of ESPI is English. **Excellent command of the English language, written and oral, is a prerequisite.** A track record of articles, papers, thesis or reports written in English would be appreciated.

Application process

For this position, ESPI offers a permanent contract under Austrian law. ESPI can only accept applications by EU citizens or non-EU citizens holding residence and employment permit in Austria.

To apply for this position, please send a copy of your CV, a cover letter and – if applicable – sample documentation supporting your qualifications (e.g. a previously published article, thesis extracts, etc.)

to office@espi.or.at with subject: "Research Fellow application" before 9/10/2022, 19:00 CET. Please do not submit educational records or certificates at this stage.

For this position we offer a minimum salary of € 3000,00 gross per month, 14 times a year (40h per week). The actual salary depends on your qualifications and experience.