

ESPI vacancy notice

Research Intern – European Space Governance

The European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) is looking to employ a Research Intern for a minimum of 6 months (with the possibility of an additional 6-month extension) at the premises of the Institute in Vienna, starting from mid/late October 2022, to support a research activity on the topic of European governance, with particular focus on the governance of space activities.

The European Space Policy Institute

The European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) is an association ruled by Austrian Law, based in Vienna, funded at its inception (2003) by the Austrian Space Agency and ESA, and now supported by 17 members which include European national space agencies, the European Commission, and main European space services companies and manufacturers.

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 books, reports, papers, 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 relationship 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

Field of Activities

The European space governance triangle historically evolved due to varying competencies, policy drivers and strategic priorities of national, inter-governmental and supranational actors. Today, the increased need for convergence on space-related policy domains, and the growing politicization of space, compel these actors (alongside a host of private initiatives) to increasingly work together and find synergies, despite political challenges.

The project will seek and ideate potential governance solutions for a unique European approach to developing integrated policy domains through dedicated space Accelerators, namely:

- Space for a Green future;
- Rapid and resilient crisis response;
- Protection of space assets.

The research intern is expected to actively work as part of the team responsible for the conduct of several activity lines related to this topic.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities envisioned for the internship include:

- Support ESPI Research Team in the frame of this research project:
 - Background research: Literature review, information and data collection and compilation, stakeholders consultation through dedicated interviews or surveys;
 - Methodology and analysis tools preparation;
 - Synthesis of results and recommendations;

- Report writing and editing
- Support general activities of the Institute:
 - Conferences, workshops and other events organisation
 - Working with other researchers and interns of the institute on common projects
 - Project control and reporting to ESPI management, partners or customers
 - Participation in ESPI daily routine and meetings

Qualifications and competencies

For this internship, ESPI is looking for applicants with an educational background (at least a 3-year degree) in legal or political science, international relations, or engineering.

The following competencies would be considered an asset:

- **Acquaintance with different governance options, models and frameworks, beyond space, especially in the European context;**
- Previous experience in policy research, consulting or advisory;
- Drive for autonomous research, and skill development paired with a self-starter mindset.

Applicants to the internship should demonstrate good interpersonal skills and the capacity to work both independently and as part of a team. Good knowledge of MS Office is required.

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

Application process

ESPI can only accept applications by EU citizens or non-EU citizens holding residence and employment permits in Austria.

To apply for this internship, please send to office@espi.or.at 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.), with the subject: **“ESPI internship application – Governance”** before 23/09/2022, 19:00 CET. Please do not submit educational records or certificates at this stage.