

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), to support research activities on the topics of European space governance, space policy developments, space budgets, regulatory frameworks for space activities. The position is located at the premises of the Institute in Vienna, starting from 1 June 2023.

### **The European Space Policy Institute**

The European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) was founded in 2003 at the initiative of the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) and it is supported by members including national space agencies, the European Commission, and leading European industry.

ESPI's mission is to provide decision-makers with proposals, recommendations and policy options, supported by informed views on mid-to-long-term issues relevant to Europe's space activities. ESPI fulfils its objectives through multidisciplinary research activities giving way to a variety of publications, while also organizing conferences, workshops and public events including the annual ESPI Autumn Conference. The Institute has privileged relations with key stakeholders in the European space sector, while also engaging with the local policymaking, industrial and diplomatic community in Vienna 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](http://www.espi.or.at)

### **Fields of activities and duties**

The Research Intern will support Researchers in multiple projects dealing with space governance, space policy development, space budgets, regulatory frameworks for space activities. The European space governance triangle continuously evolves 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.

In addition, the large number of developments in the space sector have created the need for European countries to react and adapt not only at a European level, especially through ESA and the EU, but also at a national level. To this end, several ESA Member States have updated or developed national space policies and strategies, reflecting the increased relevance and impact of space across all policy domains..

Duties and responsibilities envisioned for the position include:

- Support ESPI Research Team in the frame of this research project:
  - Background research: Literature review, information and data collection and compilation; Data analysis and creative exploitation;
  - Stakeholders consultation through dedicated interviews or surveys;
  - Development & Maintenance of databases and its exploitation;
  - 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;
  - Participation in ESPI daily routine and meetings.

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.

## Qualifications and competencies

For this internship, ESPI is looking for applicants with an educational background (at least a 3-year degree) in legal studies, political science, international relations or engineering. Previous experience in policy research, consulting or advisory is an asset.

Knowledge on and Prior Exposure to the following topics is considered an asset:

- International, European and National space governance, notably inter- and intra-institutional cooperation and collaboration;
- European and National Space institutions, their programmes, strategies, budgets, funding mechanisms, and regulations;
- Setup, Management and Exploitation of Databases;
- Main trends affecting the global and European space sector.

Additionally, the following competencies will be a determining factor in our selection:

- Excellent analytical and synthesis skills;
- Curiosity, interest in continuous learning, and willingness to go the extra mile;
- A Self-starter mindset;
- Capacity to recognise and build direct and indirect connections between topics;
- Versatility and Adaptability;
- Good Interpersonal skills;
- Capacity to work both independently and as part of a team.

Proficiency in MS Office (in particular, Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, and Microsoft Excel) is required. Skills in Data Science and Database Exploitation are considered an asset.

The working language of ESPI is English. **Excellent command of English**, written and oral, is mandatory. A track record of articles, papers, thesis or reports written in English can be annexed to your application.

## 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:

- 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 [vacancies@espi.or.at](mailto:vacancies@espi.or.at) with the subject: "ESPI Internship application – Space Governance & Regulatory" **before 21 April 2023, 23:59 CEST**. Please do not submit educational records or certificates at this stage.

The position is planned to be full-time (40 hours/week). The advertised salary for this internship is € 1400 gross per month on a full-time basis.