

The European Space Policy Institute (ESPI), the leading European think-tank on space, is looking to employ a **Research Fellow** at the premises of the Institute in Vienna (on-site), starting in **Q3 2025**.

About the role

As an ESPI Research Fellow, you will be joining a **fast-paced growth environment** in a culturally diverse team with varied backgrounds. We are characterised by a strong appreciation of new initiatives & impact-driven objectives, paired with a commitment to rigour, continuous learning, and team-wide exchange where the best ideas prevail. Space is undergoing a transformative change in market dynamics, technology developments, and policy implications. As an ESPI Research Fellow, you are responsible for developing insights and maintaining the **Institute's position at the cutting edge** of analysing these advancements and evolution across the following domains defined in **ESPI2040**:



Green & Sustainable
Societies



Security &
Defence



Exploration &
Science



Space as an
Asset



Industry, Innovation,
Finance, Workforce

Can you read beyond the job description? Are you driven by purpose and thrive in a pool of bright young minds? Do you cherish independence and can you stand up in open debate and advocate for impact? Can you build bridges in complex spheres of influence and power? Are you inspired by space? For this position profiles covering any of our research domains are welcome. Depending on your experience, you will be tasked to both work as part of project teams as well as to lead and develop projects with teams of 1-4 additional Research Fellows or Interns, notably:

- delivery of high-quality expert advice regarding space policy, the space industry, space operations, market assessments, budget evolutions, and non-space policies impacting the space sector;
- concepts, studies and continuous content output in support of program implementers and policy-makers;
- strategic direction and organisation of high-level events, workshops, and educational courses;
- managing projects including contract, budget, and deliverable management;
- quality assurance and compliance with project terms.

As part of our Research Team, you also contribute to the strategic orientation and further development of the Institute, our Engagement activities and Key Partner Management efforts.

Qualifications

- a Master's degree that relates to the Institute's work and mission (e.g. Law, Economics, Political Science, International Relations, Business, Engineering, Physics, Banking & Finance, Technology & Innovation);
- at least 3 years of relevant full-time work experience (Consultancy, Think Tank, Industry, Public Sector, NGO). Applications with **less experience** would be considered for a **Junior Research Fellow** role.
- excellent analytical or writing skills, ability to work in teams, and intercultural competence;
- demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the space sector and the space policy landscape;
- flexibility, impact-oriented thinking and excellent organisational skills.
- excellent command of English, written and oral.

Application Process

We accept applications by **EU/EEA citizens as well as non-EU citizens**. To apply for this position, please send:

- a copy of your CV in .pdf format,
- a motivation letter in .pdf format

to vacancies@espi.or.at with the subject: "ESPI Research Fellow General" **before 25 May 2025, 23:59 CEST**. Please do not submit educational records or certificates at this stage.

The position is full-time (40 hours/week) with flexible working conditions. The advertised salary is in the range of **€ 50,000 – € 55,000 gross per year** (paid 14 times a year). In expectation of ESPI acquiring the status of a *Quasi-International Organisation* (QIO) later in 2025, under the provisions of QIO the salary of ESPI employees will be exempt from tax. An additional bonus payment is subject to the Management's decision and the Institute's overall performance. Junior Research Fellows qualify for a lower salary tier set at **€ 45,000 gross per year**.

Why work with us? Read more about **benefits** of working at ESPI [here](#).