

ESPI vacancy notice

Research Intern – Space Economy and Commerce

The European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) is looking to employ a Research Intern for a duration of 6 months at the premises of the Institute in Vienna, starting in April 2022, to support several projects related to space economy and commerce.

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 books, 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

Field of activities and duties

The Intern will work as part of the team responsible for space commerce and economy projects. The aim of the key project is to review major forces impacting the development of space economy and commerce and to analyse challenges for Europe.

Duties and responsibilities envisioned for the internship are mostly study related and include:

- desk research, information and data collection and compilation,
- stakeholder consultation through interviews and/or surveys,
- synthesis of information in impactful reports, including graphs and visuals.

The internship will also entail activities related to the organisation of events. Moreover, the Intern will take part in general activities of the Institute such as internal meetings. The internship may also include participation in other ESPI projects not listed above, according to the Institute needs and candidate's profile.

Qualifications and competencies

For the internship, ESPI is looking for candidates with an educational background in economics or business but also welcomes applications for candidates with a background in political science, international relations or engineering. Candidates should justify acquaintance with the space sector.

Requirements:

- Excellent command of spoken and written English,
- Working knowledge of MS Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint),
- Understanding of fundamental economic and business mechanisms and processes,
- Good interpersonal skills and the capacity to work both independently and as part of a team.

The following would be considered an asset:

- General knowledge and understanding of space institutions, of their programmes and strategy and of the main political, technical and economic trends affecting the global and European space sector.
- Previous experience in policy research, consulting or advisory.
- Experience in writing articles, papers and/or reports in English.
- Activity in student societies and organisations.

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

Application process

ESPI can only accept applications from EU citizens or non-EU citizens holding a residence and employment permit 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, report, thesis extracts, etc.), with the subject: “ESPI internship application – Space economy and commerce” before 27.02.2022, 19:00 CET. Please do not submit educational records or certificates at this stage.

Please note that the place of work is at ESPI premises in Vienna. Remote work is not envisaged for this internship.