

ESPI vacancy notice

Research Intern – Space for Security

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 from June 2022, to support a research activity on the topic of Space for Security.

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

Research project

With an evolving landscape of space technologies, services and applications, there is a growing range of opportunities to use space-based capacities in support of security-related missions, both in civilian and military domains. In particular, space technologies, data and services have become a crucial tool to crisis response and relief activities, supporting rescue teams on the field, especially when existing terrestrial infrastructure is unavailable.

This project is a follow-up of a continuing series of studies led by the Institute on the topic of "Space in support of security missions" (see [ESPI Report 80](#)). It will focus on:

- In-depth investigation of space as a tool for crisis management,
- The respective roles of European organisations in fostering an effective uptake of space technologies for security missions,
- The prospects for interaction between public and private space actors in the field of security.

The research intern is expected to work as part of the team responsible for the conduct of this project.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities envisioned for this 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;
 - Synthesis of results and identification of recommendations;
 - Report writing and editing

- Support general activities of the Institute:
 - Participation to conferences, workshops and other events organisation
 - Work with other researchers and interns of the institute on common projects
 - Involvement in ESPI daily routine and meetings

The Internship may also involve a participation to other ESPI projects not listed above, according to the Institute needs.

Qualifications and competences

For this internship, ESPI welcomes applications from candidates with an educational background (at least 3 years degree), preferably in political science, security studies, international relations etc. who can justify acquaintance with the global and European space sector.

The following competences would be considered an asset:

- Previous experience in policy research, consulting or advisory;
- General knowledge and understanding of the European and international security environment (major security threats, actors and responsibilities...)

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 a prerequisite.** A track record of articles, papers, theses or reports written in English would be appreciated.

Application process

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

The internship is **paid**. Please note that remote work is not envisaged for this internship.

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 subject: “ESPI internship application – Space for Security” before **01 May 2022, 19:00 CET**. Please do not submit educational records or certificates at this stage.