About us

Founded in Brussels in 1983, CEPS (Centre for European Policy Studies) is a leading think tank and forum for debate on EU affairs, which has been consistently ranked among the top-10 best think tanks in the world. CEPS’ distinguishing features include its strong in-house research capacity and an extensive international network of partner institutes. CEPS’ funding comes from a variety of sources, mainly research grants, public procurement, but also from membership and conference fees.

The CEPS unit on Global Governance, Regulation, Innovation and the Digital economy (GRID) explores, among other issues, policy and regulatory challenges in the areas of better regulation, and carries out evaluation of public policies, industrial policy and competitiveness-related reforms. Over the years, researchers at GRID have carried out a number of assignments for both the European Commission (DG GROW, DG TAXUD, DG RTD, DG ENER, Secretariat General, etc.) and the European Parliament, but also the World Bank, the OECD; the Inter-American Bank and many national governments. Experience includes (i) studies on the cost of EU regulation, (ii) supporting studies for the preparation of impact assessments of new policies and legislative measures, (iii) ex post and interim evaluations of policy initiatives and expenditure programs. Increasingly, GRID makes use of data science tools, ranging from spreadsheets, statistical software, data visualisation and software for text and data mining.

“RESEARCH ASSISTANT – GLOBAL GOVERNANCE, REGULATION INNOVATION AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY UNIT”

The successful applicant will be engaged initially for 6/12 months. He/she will be working on a variety of issues in the area of regulatory policy, encompassing inter alia better regulation, analysis of public policies, research and innovation policy, industrial policy and SME policy, etc. Particular emphasis will be on research related to cost-benefit analysis and policy evaluation.

Main tasks

- Contribute to externally commissioned research projects on policy evaluation and analysis of EU policies; this work often entails a combination of both qualitative and quantitative research.
- Contribute to policy reports on issues related to regulatory policy and policy evaluation.
- Carry out academic research, most often as part of a team.
- Assist in the presentation of research proposals.
- Give presentations at project meetings.

Your background and qualifications

- Master’s degree in Economics, Governance, Statistics/Data Science or related, relevant disciplines.
- Familiarity with topics related to policy evaluation and cost-benefit analysis.
Fluency in English. Excellent knowledge of another EU official language would be an asset. Working knowledge of an additional EU official language would be desirable.

Strong analytical skills, including excellent command of Excel and statistical packages (Stata, R). A desirable additional skill would be command of software for text and data mining, as well as machine learning tools.

Very good drafting and oral presentation skills.

Your profile

- Able to work in a research team involving junior and senior colleagues. Can organise your own activities.
- Able to handle stress, respect deadlines and juggle with multiple tasks and changing priorities.
- Ability to engage in teamwork and openness to giving and receiving feedback.
- Willingness to develop insights into ongoing legislative and policy debates in the field.

What CEPS can offer

We initially offer full-time employment for 6-12 months. The contract is renewable. The salary will be in accordance with your previous experience as well as the CEPS salary scale. We also offer a benefits package (group & hospitalisation insurance, meal tickets, public transport reimbursement, 20 days legal holiday entitlement per year plus additional days when CEPS is closed during the Christmas-New Year period). We would like the preferred candidate to start her/his activities on 1 April 2019.

Career development prospects

This position will give the selected candidate the opportunity to progress on her/his career path and gain the valuable skills, training and experience that would potentially allow her/him to take on the role of Researcher or beyond within a relatively short timeframe (2-3 years). CEPS offers a Learning and Development Programme for all staff to develop the necessary skills for their position.

More information

Further information about the position can be obtained from Felice Simonelli, Head of Policy Evaluation, e-mail felice.simonelli@ceps.eu.

Application and deadline

Applications should include a one-page cover letter, indicating your salary expectations, and a detailed curriculum vitae which lists your publications and specifies your role in previous research projects and names of at least two referees. For the CV, please use the Europass template (https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/). Both documents should be drafted in English and e-mailed to applications@ceps.eu by 6 March 2019 with “Vacancy - GRID Research Assistant 2019” in the subject line. Shortlisted candidates may be asked to produce one or two letters of recommendation.