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 world’s best think tanks. 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.

Research on labour markets, social policy and education is performed by the Jobs & Skills Unit. The Unit’s researchers have diverse cultural and academic backgrounds combining knowledge in economics, law and political sciences. In the last years, the Jobs & Skills Unit has been particularly active in merging consultancy work for EU institutions with forward-looking research on labour and education-related issues. The Unit has coordinated and participated in several European research projects and networks on topics as diverse as societal transition, social innovation, inclusive growth, youth unemployment, mobility, digitalisation, or migration.

CEPS is looking for an expert on labour economics and welfare policies to work on research projects and provide independent advice on EU policy issues.

“Researcher: Labour economics and welfare”

Main tasks

- You will become a member of CEPS’ staff and work in the Jobs & Skills and Economic Policy team
- You will conduct research and advisory activities in the field of labour economics, labour migration and welfare policies, involving quantitative and qualitative methods of analysis
- You will be part of an international team that carries out projects for EU institutions and other funding organisations
- You will participate in the acquisition of new research and advisory projects
- You will give presentations on the above-mentioned topics at project meetings and external events
- You will participate in the writing of research papers, policy reports and commentaries

Your background and qualifications

- You hold a Ph.D. in labour economics or a related subject
- Professional or research experience beyond the PhD is a plus
- You have a strong quantitative background, with experience in managing and working with large datasets as well as conducting econometric analysis in Stata. Knowledge of Python is a plus
- You have knowledge of and experience in studying labour skills
- You have a good knowledge of EU employment and social policies
- You have a proven record of writing and presentation skills and are able to critically read and comment on academic publications in the field
You have an excellent command of English, both orally and in writing; knowledge of other EU official languages is a plus

Experience in conducting qualitative analysis, throughout surveys and interviews is a plus

Experience in writing funding proposals and in carrying out externally funded projects is a plus

Your profile

You are eager to invest in building and maintaining a growing research network

You are able to work in a research team involving junior and senior colleagues and can organise your own activities

You are able to handle stress, respect deadlines and are able to juggle multiple tasks and changing priorities

You enjoy teamwork and are open to giving and receiving feedback

You have, or are willing to develop insights into ongoing legislative and policy debates

You are an EU national or hold a valid residence and work permit for Belgium

Qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

What CEPS can offer

We offer a full-time employment contract for 1 year. 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-day 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 in October 2020.

Career development prospects

This position will give you the opportunity to progress on your career path and gain the valuable skills, training and experience. 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 Cinzia Alcidi, Head of Job&Skills and Economic Policy Units, cinzia.alcidi@ceps.eu.

Application and deadline

Applications should include a one-page letter of motivation, indicating your salary expectations and the place where you read our advert, and a curriculum vitae listing your publications and specifying your role in previous research projects, both in English. CVs must follow the Europass format.
(https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/). They can be e-mailed to applications@ceps.eu by 10 September 2020 with “Researcher: labour economics and welfare” in the subject line.