



ECPS
EUROPEAN CENTER for
POPULISM STUDIES

Internship Positions at the European Center for Populism Studies (ECPS)

Duration: 6 months
Commitment: Part-time (10 hours per week)
Location: Remote internship

Description

The European Center for Populism Studies (ECPS) is looking for motivated interns to join our team. As an intern, you will have the opportunity to enhance your analytical thinking, academic writing, research skills, and organizational and networking abilities in a dynamic multicultural environment. The internship will begin at the end of February and will last for six months.

Main Tasks

- Conduct academic research (primarily desk research) and write essays, commentaries, and articles on topics covered by ECPS research programs, including authoritarianism, digital populism, economics, gender, migration, environment and climate, extremism and radicalization, foreign policy, human rights, global peace and order, and leadership.
- Prepare briefs and reports summarizing monthly and annual activities (such as panels, seminars, and conferences) for publication on the ECPS website.
- Assist ECPS experts in organizing various events (including book talks, seminars, panels, summer schools, and symposiums).
- Support the ECPS team with communication activities, such as preparing the online newsletter and managing social media accounts.
- Contribute to project applications (e.g., EU-funded projects).
- Help implement ongoing projects, including data collection, report writing, dissemination, communication activities, and event organization, depending on ECPS's role in the project.



Who We Are

The European Center for Populism Studies (ECPS) is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization based in Brussels dedicated to researching and analyzing the challenges posed by rising political populism. ECPS promotes an open society by adhering to the principles of liberal democracy, including the rule of law, human rights, pluralism, freedom of speech, gender equality, social and environmental justice, transparency, and accountability. We facilitate collaboration among networks of academics, practitioners, policymakers, media, and other stakeholders. We offer a platform for exploring policy solutions related to rising populism and provide insights for effective policymaking and critical analysis. To achieve this, ECPS produces research publications, policy reports, white papers, and commentaries, conducts interviews with experts, and organizes events, seminars, workshops, and conferences.

Qualifications and Experience

Essentials

- Possess at least a master's degree in social sciences (applications from master's students at the stage of dissertation writing will be accepted)
- Knowledge and/or interest in global politics and populism-related topics, particularly in, but not limited to, the European context
- Knowledge and experience in academic writing
- Knowledge of scientific methodology (qualitative or quantitative research methods)
- Fluency in the English language (both verbal and written)
- Excellent influencing, facilitation and communication skills (both orally and in writing)
- Being able to work, organize and prioritize autonomously
- Being competent in off-the-shelf software (MS Excel, Word, Outlook and PowerPoint)
- A collaborative team member
- Experience of work/study in a multicultural environment
- Possess a creative, proactive and open mindset with high respect for deadlines.

What We Offer

- Enlarge your network with academics, policymakers, project experts and other stakeholders across Europe



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- Learn about populism and gain a deeper insight into contemporary issues in European and global politics
- Publish your research product and related outputs through ECPS
- Take part in the EU events, academic conferences, seminars, workshops, project preparation and implementation activities in Brussels
- Improve your organizational, communication and networking skills through actively taking part in ECPS events
- Opportunity to be a permanent member of the ECPS Youth
- Gain invaluable experience in an international and multicultural environment

Internship Conditions

- The internship is unpaid, remote and part-time for 6 months starting at the end of September 2026.

How to Apply?

If you are interested in joining us and making ECPS your next professional experience, please send your CV and cover letter (a maximum of one page) to Seyma Celem at scelem@populismstudies.org by midnight CET on September 15, 2026, with the subject line “Internship at ECPS.”

Unfortunately, we cannot respond to every application; only short-listed candidates will be contacted. However, all applications will be kept in file, and candidates will be contacted if a suitable opportunity arises. The information provided in the applications is subject to EU legislation on the protection of personal data and confidentiality of information.

ECPS is committed to diversity and inclusion to ensure that everyone has equal opportunities for employment, advancement, and retention, regardless of their gender, age, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or belief, cultural background, sexual orientation, or disability.