



Research Assistant (ENTIRE VIEW Project)

Reference number: 012793

Grade: Grade 6 (£25,728 - £31,604)

Position Type: This is a 20 month fixed term appointment.

Location: Durham

Reports to: Durham University Business School

Starting Date: 01 July 2018

Closing Date: 21 May 2018, 12 noon

JOB DESCRIPTION

Applications are invited for a Research Assistant to work on an EU-Commission funded project (*European, National and Transnational Industrial Relations: Visible and Invisible Hands in European and National Wage Setting – ENTIRE VIEW*). This international project is carried out in collaboration with project partners in the Netherlands, Poland, and Spain.

The project aims to analyse the reasons for different developments of wages, i.e. wage dynamics, in the European Union (EU) member states. As regards the reasons for different developments it focuses on the role of industrial relations, i.e. collective bargaining, structures and mechanisms for wage determination. The project considers both 'visible', e.g. formal and institutionalized, and 'invisible', e.g. informal and norm-based as well as intentional and unintentional, industrial relations structures and mechanisms of wage determination. In order to analyse the functioning and efficacy of visible and invisible structures and mechanisms the project examines different criteria of wage determination actors are using. Furthermore, the project also aims to analyse which industrial relations structures and mechanisms are (better) 'suited' to serve as policy instruments to govern wage developments in the EU. More specifically, the project aims to analyse which national industrial relations structures and mechanisms are able to meet the demands of European and national policy makers to implement diverse and different policy strategies (such as in particular defined in the country specific recommendations of the European Semester) as well as is able to synchronise wage strategies with other policy fields (e.g. fiscal and monetary policies)

This is an opportunity for an excellent researcher to join an international team to pursue research in comparative industrial relations. The successful applicant will be required to gather, analyse and interpret data relevant to the research project, and to disseminate the findings of the project among academics and policy makers at European level.

The successful candidate will hold a Master degree in Industrial Relations, Business and Management, Economics, Sociology, Political Studies or related disciplines with focus on EU policy and Labour Market Studies or a relevant area.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. To undertake the collection of quantitative and qualitative data (i.e. work on an expert and online questionnaire survey).
2. Gathering documentation and data on industrial relations and collective bargaining in the member states of the EU.
3. To undertake the analysis and interpretation of collected data (including the preparation of a data base and code book).
4. To contribute to the development of research reports and research papers (i.e. preparing case studies, national reports and briefing papers).
5. To undertake research in accordance with the project's objectives in collaboration with colleagues and independently.

6. To work on administrative tasks.
7. To complete assigned tasks within agreed work schedules to ensure that outcomes are delivered in a timely manner in accordance with the project's objectives and deadlines.

PERSONAL SPECIFICATION

Essential

1. A Masters in Industrial Relations, Business and Management, Economics, Sociology, Political Studies or related disciplines.
2. Demonstrable knowledge and experience of advanced statistical analysis techniques.
3. Demonstrable understanding and experience of research methods and processes.
4. A good knowledge of the industrial relations systems of EU member states.
5. Ability to work effectively and efficiently as at team member.
6. Excellent written and oral communication skills.

Desirable

1. Demonstrable knowledge and experience in qualitative research.
2. Demonstrable knowledge and experience in (micro/agent based) simulation techniques.
3. Experience in the area of international comparative research.
4. Demonstrable experience in inter-disciplinary research.
5. Experience in contributing to collaborative research projects.
6. Excellent academic achievements evidenced by high-quality publications.

We prefer to receive applications online via the Durham University Vacancies Site. <https://www.dur.ac.uk/jobs/>

Informal enquiries can be made to Dr Bernd Brandl (bernd.brandl@durham.ac.uk), Durham University Business School.