



The EUI has an open vacancy for a

Research Assistant in the

Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies

Florence, 27 October 2023

Reference: VIRA/RSC/53/2023

Who we are

The **European University Institute (EUI)** at a glance:

- an international organisation set up in 1972;
- a research university focusing exclusively on postgraduate, doctoral and post-doctoral studies, and advanced research;
- located in the hills overlooking the city of Florence, Italy.

The Institute also hosts the Historical Archives of the European Union.

The EUI's **Robert Schuman Centre for Advances Studies (RSCAS)** carries out research on the major issues facing Europe, bridging the world of academia and practice through interdisciplinary and applied research.

The research assistant will be based at the [Centre for Judicial Cooperation](#) headed by Professor Deirdre Curtin since January 2016. Since its set up, in December 2011, the Centre has developed a wide network of judges, lawyers and scholars, for the purpose of establishing a space for collaboration and exchange of knowledge between legal practitioners and the academic community on topics related to judicial interaction across various areas of law. Through its activities and expertise, the Centre engages with both practitioners and academics on various activities ranging from workshops and conferences to pure research and policy endeavours. In order to disseminate the results of its work, the Centre publishes open access papers, such as handbooks, reports, and 'distinguished Lecture' papers addressing the judicial and academic communities.

Employment details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Contract type | Part-time 50% (15/30, 20 hours/week) |
| Length of contract | 12 months, start date January 2024 (negotiable start date) |
| Salary indication and grade | Grade: ASTAC1b step 1 The basic net monthly salary after taxes is approximately 1.410 Euro, plus allowances if applicable. More information about conditions of employment is available here . |
| Place of work | To be agreed with Project Director (salary simulation based on place of work Florence, Italy) |

About the project

Project Director(s)

Deirdre Curtin

Project details

POLINE - Principles Of Law In National and European VAT- aims at developing an AI-powered pilot tool for the retrieval and analysis of judicial principles of law in the CJEU and national case-law in Value Added Tax (VAT). The tool relies on AI techniques for extracting, clustering and linking judicial principles of law and is embedded in a modular platform, consisting of a Legal Database, Link Visualization and Customised Detection Module. It covers the case-law of the CJEU and the Italian, Swedish and Bulgarian Supreme Courts and will be accessible to judges, other legal practitioners, tax policymakers and taxpayers.

The development of the tool will be based on a multidisciplinary approach combining theory and practice of judicial decision-making for the study of the concept of “judicial principle of law” and the analysis of the caselaw; legal informatics methods for the creation of an ontology of judicial concepts in VAT and training datasets of manually annotated judicial principles of law; AI, machine learning, and NLP techniques for the automatic extraction of principles, the detection of textual and semantic similarity, and network analysis.

The tool will be trialed in 3 online national testing events and disseminated in 3 national demonstration events and 1 final international conference. The pilot tool provides a robust and trustworthy use case of AI technologies for justice. It will provide non-discriminatory and effective access to justice. Through its collection of principles of law and NLP-powered search engine, the tool will assist judges in accessing legal knowledge reducing their work overload. Moreover, through the Customised Detection Test Module, the tool will allow recipients of VAT measures to identify judicial principles of law applied in a specific case and assess whether VAT law is correctly applied. By developing open-access automated techniques of knowledge extraction, the methods developed can be easily reused and expanded to include other fields of law and other legal systems.

Job description

The research assistant will provide research assistance to Project Director(s) of the project. Main tasks include:

- carrying out a research on the Italian caselaw on tax law;
- undertaking research on the CJEU national cases on tax law;
- contributing to the draft of the deliverables of the project;
- supporting the selection of cases for the pilot tool;
- collaborating in the evaluation of the guidelines for annotation and automatic extraction of interpretative principles;
- supporting the organisation of EUI based events;
- participating in project events and meetings

Qualifications and experience

Qualifications and Experience

Essential:

- MA (or equivalent according to EHEA) in Law;
- proactivity and ability to work in an international project, proven by previous work experience or during studies.

Desirable:

- PhD or close to completing a PhD in Tax Law or related field;
- Proven research activity on tax law (articles and publications) or work experience in legal informatics

Languages

Excellent knowledge of English, both spoken and written ([CEFR](#) level: C1 or above). Knowledge of other languages constitutes an advantage.

How to apply

Deadline

The closing date for applications is **10 November 2023** at midnight (Florence time)

Contact details

For more information contact Elisabetta Airaghi, elisabetta.airaghi@eui.eu

How to apply

Fill in the [online application form](#) and upload documents as requested

Data Protection

The purpose of processing the data submitted by candidates is to manage their application in view of a possible pre-selection and recruitment by the EUI. The information candidates provide in their application form is collected for the purpose of the selection procedure. The EUI will ensure that candidates' personal data are processed as required by its Data Protection Policy ([President's Decision No. 10/2019 of 18 February 2019 regarding Data Protection at the EUI](#)).

Equal opportunities

The European University Institute applies a policy of equal opportunities, which, in accordance with Article 1d of its Staff Regulations, prohibits discrimination on any grounds such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation. Any reference in this notice to a person of the male sex must be deemed also to constitute a reference to a person of the female sex.