

Call for Platform Development & Research Officer

Erasmus Student Network (ESN) is the biggest student network in Europe, with over 500 local organisations (“sections”) active in Student Cities in 45 countries. ESN has been supporting student mobility since 1989 and has its international headquarters in Brussels.

ESN International is currently looking for a Platform Development & Research Officer

The Officer contributes to ESN's mission by coordinating the development, visibility and long-term sustainability of **ErasmusCareers.org**, Europe's leading platform supporting international traineeships and graduate employability. The successful candidate will act as the product owner for the platform, ensuring that developments are guided by user needs, research findings and policy priorities while coordinating with ESN's IT team, communication colleagues and external partners.

Beyond the platform itself, the Officer will help shape ESN's work on skills development, employability and the transition from international mobility to the labour market. They will monitor European policy developments, analyse research and platform data, identify emerging trends and translate evidence into new services, partnerships and project opportunities. Working across research, digital product development and stakeholder engagement, the Officer will contribute to strengthening ESN's role as a leading European organisation supporting students and graduates in developing their competences and connecting them with meaningful career opportunities.

For more information about ESN, see our [Annual Report](#) or look at our [vision and strategic priorities](#).

Job description

- Lead the strategic development of ErasmusCareers.org by translating organisational priorities and user needs into platform improvements;
- Act as product owner by coordinating feature development, defining priorities, monitoring implementation and evaluating new functionalities together with ESN's technical team;
- Coordinate research activities related to international traineeships, employability, mobility and skills recognition, including surveys, focus groups, literature reviews and policy monitoring;
- Analyse platform data, user behaviour and feedback to identify opportunities for improving user experience, accessibility and platform performance;
- Contribute to ESN's mission by designing, writing, and implementing externally funded grant projects towards the Erasmus+ Programme.
- Coordinate the development of reports, dashboards and evidence-based resources related to Erasmus+ traineeships and graduate employability;
- Translate research findings into recommendations for platform development, policy work and communication activities;
- Keep up to date with the latest developments in European policies related to higher education, Competence Development & Skills recognition, Youth Employment and Labour Market Policies; such as the Union of Skills, Pact for Skills, Skills Portability Initiative, Traineeship Directive
- Manage project timelines, deliverables, and budget lines;
- Work on projects related to Erasmus+ priorities such as Employability, Traineeships, digitalisation, and active citizenship;

- Support ESN's advocacy work – co-drafting of policy outputs and position papers, together with ESN's Board.;
- Represent ESN externally at conferences, stakeholder meetings and European events related to employability, digital services and international mobility;

Qualifications & Requirements

- Higher education background, preferably a Master's degree or equivalent work experience;
- 2-3 years of relevant experience in the sector, including with data analysis and research activities.
- Strong data analysis skills and experience working with data, research or user insights;
- Experience translating user needs into product improvements and coordinating with software developers;
- Experience in project coordination and grant management (in particular within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme);
- Experience with writing grant applications and reports, strategically conceptualising and designing project plans;
- Very good knowledge of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint...) and Google Suite/Workspace;
- Comfortable working in a multicultural environment;
- Comfortable with policy writing and knowledgeable on higher education policies;
- Very good knowledge of written and spoken English;
- Experience in collaborative online working environments;
- Evidence-based approach to topics, with basic research and analytical skills.

Highly valued

- Knowledge of the European-level education and youth policy (in particular the Erasmus+ Programme) and EU policy priorities (inclusion, environment, digitalisation, and democratic participation);
- Experience with website analytics, dashboards or data visualisation; knowledge of Power BI, Python or other tools.
- Understanding of SEO, accessibility standards and digital communication strategies;
- Experience conducting surveys, interviews or qualitative research;
- Knowledge of Erasmus+, European higher education and international student mobility;
- Knowledge of employability, traineeships and labour market policies;
- Knowledge of the European institutions and other stakeholders related to education;
- Knowledge of ESN or experience in youth work and working with networks and/or volunteers;
- Experience with non-formal education and learning development;
- Know-how to translate communication objectives into messages suitable for web and social media;
- Understanding the processes of the Erasmus+ student mobility in higher education.

Term and conditions

- Brussels (Belgium) based position: applicants need to have the right to work in Belgium before applying;
- Starting date: October 2026 or as soon as possible; the exact day to be discussed at the interview
- Full-time position (38 hours per week);
- One-year contract (extendable up to 24 months);

- Salary of 2,800 EUR gross per month, plus holiday pay and a 13th month at the end of the year;
- A contribution to cover Public transportation in Brussels;
- Beneficial health insurance included;
- Casual, friendly work environment;
- Access to further training (*congé éducation*) on working time;
- Flexibility with working hours and willingness to work occasionally on weekends;
- Occasional travel for project meetings and events abroad.

Please note: This is a Brussels-based position, and we expect the selected person to move to Brussels whenever possible. Also, note that applicants need to have the right to work in Belgium before applying.

How to apply?

To apply, please fill out the [application form](#) and upload your **CV** there.

Only complete applications will be considered.

Note: No motivation letter or reference letters are required. References may be requested at a later stage of selection.

The **application deadline is 20th of August, 2026, at 23:59 Brussels time, and interviews will take place on a rolling basis.**

Interviews are expected to take place between **August 31st and September 4th.**

For more information on our projects, please visit our website www.esn.org. For information about the position, please contact director@esn.org, treasurer@esn.org and wpa@esn.org.

Questions in the application form:

Next to some identification questions so we can reach you and know who you are, we ask the following three questions of all applicants.

Note: We also have ChatGPT, and although we are not against using the tool to enrich your answer, we are trying to get to know you as a person. Please be aware that we will check if your answer was generated with AI assistance.

Question 1 - Which aspects of the role interest/motivate you the most?

In this question, please illustrate what interests you in working for us?

Please use a maximum of 1000 characters

Question 2 - What relevant experience do you have for this position?

In this question, please showcase to us which past experiences you have had that can be relevant for the position. Both employment, education and volunteer work will be taken into account.

Please use max. 1000 characters.

Question 3 - Portfolio of Data Analysis or Data Visualisation

Please upload a sample of your previous work demonstrating your experience in data analysis, data reporting, or dashboards you have developed. This could include research reports, analytical papers, dashboards, visualisations, or other relevant outputs.

If the example was created as part of a team, please briefly indicate your specific role and contribution.

Question 4 - International Mobility and Employability

ESN aims to help students and graduates translate their international mobility experience into meaningful career opportunities.

In your opinion, what are the biggest challenges currently facing students as they transition from an international student experience to the labour market? How do you think ESN and its work (research, platforms, ...) could contribute to addressing these challenges?