



The EUI has an open vacancy for a

## Research Assistant in the

# Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies

Florence, 11 November 2024

Reference: V/RA/RSC/96/2024

### 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

<b>Contract type</b>	Part-time 33% (10/30, 13 hours and 20 minutes/week)
<b>Length of contract</b>	6 months, start date 1 February 2025 (or soon after)
<b>Salary indication and grade</b>	Grade: ASTAC1b step 1 The basic net monthly salary after taxes is approximately 950 Euro, plus allowances if applicable. More information about conditions of employment is available <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>Place of work</b>	To be agreed with Project Director (salary simulation based on place of work Florence, Italy)

## About the project

### Project Directors

Prof. Deirdre Curtin, Prof. Erik Jones

### Project details

[POLINE](#) 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 the Directors of the project.

Main tasks shall include:

- Collaborating in drafting the deliverables of the project;
- Collaborating in the selection of cases for the pilot tool;
- Collaborating in the preparation of the testing materials;
- Collaboration in the preparation of the dissemination materials;
- Collaborating in the organisation of EUI based events;
- Participating in project events and meetings.

## Qualifications and experience

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#### Essential:

- Master of Arts in Law
- Previous demonstrated research activity on AI in judicial systems;
- Proven work experience in legal informatics and in international projects;

**Desirable:**

- PhD in topics related to legal aspects of technology (in particular Artificial intelligence).

**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 **25 November 2024** at midnight (Florence time)

**Contact details**

For more information contact Elisabetta Airaghi ([elisabetta.airaghi@eui.eu](mailto: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.