



Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow
School/Department:	Law
Reference:	23/111485
Closing Date:	Wednesday 10 January 2024
Salary:	£37,841 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 25 January 2024
Duration:	Fixed Term 18 months

JOB PURPOSE:

This is an exciting opportunity for a political scientist or legal scholar to join a new multi-million-pound ESRC-funded Research Centre for Inclusive Trade Policy (CITP). The Centre spans universities across the four UK administrations as well as international partners and brings together interdisciplinary research in trade, economics, politics, political economy and law.

This post is one of three posts to be open at Queen's University Belfast and Cardiff University to support the delivery of collaborative projects as part of the Negotiating a Turbulent World Research CITP theme considering the governance of UK trade policy. These projects include 1) Governance and Inclusivity in the UK which examines the interactions between trade agreements and devolution, 2) Mapping stakeholder participation to formal and informal trade bodies which examines who, how, to what extent stakeholders are involved in the formulation of trade policy, 3) Transversal policy coherence which evaluates whether there is policy coherence – in terms of inputs and outcomes – across sectors which results in better policy formulation and development to achieve multi-dimensional objectives. Following on from our work on Trade Citizen Juries in 2023, deliberative exercises on trade will also form a crucial part of the research undertaken.

The post is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for Inclusive Trade Policy at Queen's University Belfast. The post-holder will be expected to contribute to the work of the research team, and also to develop their research skills with support from more experienced members of staff. In particular, the post-holder will be expected to take a lead, together with project lead Prof Billy Melo Araujo, in the Governance and Inclusivity in the UK project as well as to collaborate with the broader Cardiff-QUB team of PDRAs and co-investigators (Dr Viviane Gravey, QUB, Dr Ludivine Petetin, Cardiff and Prof Dan Wincott, Cardiff) to support the development and delivery of our other CITP joint projects wherever possible (through co-authoring, collaborating on field work, sharing methodological or subject-based expertise).

This post is full time (37 hours per week), fixed term for 18 months and is available from February 2024.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To conduct literature reviews in the areas of international trade law and policy, devolution, inter-governmental frameworks, democratic legitimacy, sustainability and inclusivity.
2. Under the guidance of the Principal Investigator, to connect key themes of the project with current debates in trade policy and law.
3. To coordinate research logistics, including arranging participant recruitment, travel expense claims to research sites, and the secure management of research data.
4. To transcribe qualitative interviews and securely archive them.
5. To promote the dissemination of findings and public engagement activities.
6. To assist in the write up of findings for peer-reviewed academic publications.
7. To help organise events (workshops, seminars, conferences) related to the project including arranging invitations to participants, travel expenses, bookings, etc.
8. To attend regular team meetings and project-related events, including where relevant, training.

9. To undertake all research in a manner that observes the ethical codes of social science research.
10. To engage effectively with central and devolved governments, public sector organisations, civil society organisations and wider stakeholders, professional institutions, other academic institutions etc., regionally and nationally to raise awareness of the School's profile, to cultivate strategically valuable alliances, and to pursue opportunities for collaboration across a range of activities. These activities are expected to contribute to the School and the enhancement of its regional and national profile.
11. To undergo personal and professional development that is appropriate to and which will enhance performance.
12. To participate in School administration and activities to promote the School and its work to the wider University and the outside world.
13. Any other duties not included above, but consistent with the role.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Postgraduate degree at PhD level (or nearing completion / submission) in social sciences or related to international trade policy/law or relevant industrial experience.
2. Demonstrable research ability as evidenced by, for example, publications, national/international conference papers, research awards, future scholarly output (working papers, research proposals, ability to outline a research project).
3. An understanding of the operational requirements for a successful research project.
4. Demonstrated organisational ability.
5. An established expertise and current knowledge, evidenced through a proven portfolio of research, and/or relevant industrial experience within some of the following research fields: international trade law and policy, devolution, inter-governmental frameworks, democratic legitimacy, sustainability and inclusivity.
6. Proven ability to publish in national journals / national conferences and/or other research outputs.
7. Proven qualitative research skills and experience in conducting academic literature reviews in the social sciences.
8. Familiarity with critical perspectives in law and politics.
9. Knowledge of secure and ethical data management, including fieldwork logistics.
10. Proven ability with interview transcription and coding.
11. Excellent communication skills (oral, written, presentation).
12. Ability to communicate complex information clearly and succinctly.
13. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
14. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
15. Ability to assess and organise resources.
16. Ability to work well as part of a team.
17. Proven ability to demonstrate creativity, innovation and team-working within work.
18. Proven ability to work without close supervision.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience of qualitative data analysis.
2. Quantitative research skills (survey design, analysis of survey results).
3. Experience in planning and organising academic events.
4. Proven ability to adapt to the changing requirements of the Higher Education community.
5. Evidence of ability to participate in and develop both internal and external networks and utilise them to enhance the research activities of the School.
6. Experience with online research dissemination.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Research Associates will be part of the CITP's Early Career Researcher cohort, for which the Centre will organise various professional development activities. Collaboration and team working are central to CITP in general and its QUB/Cardiff hub in particular. Being able to work closely with colleagues in a fast-moving and exciting area is important. This is an exciting time to join a dynamic and rapidly growing unit undertaking advanced research on international trade and trade policy.

Inclusiveness is a central precept for CITP, which encompasses inclusion in policy formulation and outcomes. CITP addresses four dimensions of inclusiveness: geography, political domains, society and generations. The Centre itself is inclusive with researchers in all four UK administrations, in five disciplines and at all stages of their careers, and with a commitment to hear the voices of all parts of UK society.