

LOOKING FOR AN EFA INTERN (XIX)

13/03/2019

About EFA

The European Free Alliance (EFA), European Political Party (EUPP) was founded in 2004 and its core principle is the right for all peoples to decide, or the right to self-determination, which is a fundamental freedom recognised by international law [Chapter 1 of the Charter of the United Nations is just one example]. EFA defends language equality, national minorities, stateless nations and peoples, the right to more autonomy for regions and nations – and the right of the people to have their own country should they decide to do so.

The European Free Alliance is a centrist party composed of forty-five [46] member parties from across the political spectrum, representing minorities, peoples and nations in EU States and EU candidates. Each minority, nation or people has its own specificity – some want the recognition of their language and/or culture, some are officially recognised, but want more autonomy or even independence, some are being actively ignored and oppressed by the State. Hence, there is great diversity within the party, with many different needs and aspirations, but one common goal: a Europe of the peoples. All EFA staff including interns ultimately work in defence of, and towards, this aim.

EFA is represented by 11 elected Members at the European Parliament. On another level, EFA is present in many regional governments, such as in the Flemish Government with its member Nieuw-Vlaamse Allantie [NVA], in the Catalan Parliament, with its member Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya [ERC], in the Valencian Government, with its member Bloc Nacionalista Valencià [BLOC] in the Corsican government, with PNC and FEMU, and in the Scottish Government, with the Scottish National Party [SNP].

EFA works in close collaboration with the EFA family – the EFA/Greens Group in the European Parliament, EFA Youth (EFAY) and Coppieters Foundation [the EFA political foundation].

Websites of interest: www.e-f-a.org | www.ideasforeurope.eu | www.efay.eu

About the internship

EFA first started its internship scheme in 2005. Since then, EFA has had interns every year. The European Institutions, European bodies and MEP offices regularly offer internships, and EFA wishes to join them in this good practice.

The aim of the EFA internship scheme is to offer young people from the EFA family – and therefore from a national minority, minority language group, stateless nation, or people – an insight on those issues at a European level. The opportunity is open to any young candidate [preferably between 18 and 27 years old] recommended by an EFA party with an interest in European and international affairs.

The internship is a unique opportunity for young people wishing to develop a European career or willing to learn more about the functioning of our party.

We want this internship experience to be enriching for both EFA and the intern, but also for the member parties that compose EFA. The intern will learn things that could easily be applicable in the daily work of a party, most likely in the European and international relations office. However, the experience gained by the intern should also be useful in their personal life and career.

The selected intern will be awarded a contract of a duration of five [5] months, with the possibility of extending it for five [5] more months¹.

Previous interns have gone on to become Editor-in-chief for a magazine, government adviser on EU affairs, project manager, teacher, etc. For more information about previous interns, see [HERE](#)

Summary

EFA is seeking to hire an intern for its office in Brussels. The person will assist EFA staff with everyday issues in accordance with his/her abilities and skills.

The EFA intern will be mentored by EFA staff, who will guide him/her in the daily tasks. There will also be structural contacts with the Coppieters Foundation and EFAY, the European Political Foundation and youth branch, respectively, as they are linked to EFA.

Primary Responsibilities

Management:

- Punctual help in the day-to-day management of the EFA office (writing reports, doing political research, participation in meetings, e-mails, etc.)
- Help in the organisation of the EFA General Assembly and Bureau meetings
- Assist in the organisation of a project: design, management, implementation and/or evaluation. The project will be decided according to the trainee's skills, the period of the year and the current projects and activities within EFA
- At the end of the internship, the intern will write a brief report on the work done during this period. This report will be sent to the EFA party bureau and to the party that recommended the intern

Communication:

- Daily communication with the EFA and Coppieters Foundation staff is essential. If possible, a regular communication with other EFA branches (EFAY, EFA honorary members, etc.) should be kept.
- Regular contact with the EFA group in the European Parliament
- Contact with EFA members
- Contact with key partners in the European and International arena

Skills

The selected candidate should:

- Possess a political strategic thinking and a creative mind

¹ This internship is (and has always been) in line with the EFAY motion voted in 2012 requesting internships to be paid positions on the principle of a fair wage for a fair day's work.

- Have good interpersonal and management skills (the ability to effectively communicate is fundamental)
- Be interested in EU issues and willing to work in an international atmosphere
- Office management, organisational and computer skills.
- Good interpersonal, oral and written communication skills in at least English or French (other European languages will be an asset).

Experience

The selected candidate should:

- Have experience in party politics and political party dynamics
- Have experience in the co-ordination of activities and events
- Be familiar with EFA members and EFA core issues (stateless nations, linguistic rights, regions, nations, minorities, decentralization, sub-state entities, peace and conflict resolution, collective rights, democracy, self-determination right, independence movements, etc.)
- Have experience working/collaborating either with a youth organisation or a political party affiliated to EFA
- Have experience in organising projects or activities at a local, regional or national level will be an asset

Qualifications

The following qualifications are necessary:

- University or college degree
- General knowledge of the European Union's structure
- Recommendation letter by an EFA or EFAY member party or Coppieters Foundation member

Offer

The position is offered for a period of five [5] months. The period can be extended upon agreement between parties for an additional five [5] months.

Period of the internship: 2 September 2019 – 31th January 2020 (and 30 June 2020 if the contract is extended).

The selected person will be offered a Belgian fixed-term work contract for a full-time position (38 hours per week) with a gross salary of €1622.48 per month.

The place of work is the EFA office in Brussels, in Boomkwekerijstraat/Rue de la Pépinière 1 – 1000.

The internship will be shaped as much as possible around the specific skills of the candidate.

Application instructions

Interested applicants can apply by sending following documents to the EFA Secretariat:

1. A motivation letter
2. A c.v.

3. A recommendation letter from an EFA party.

Candidates that fail to send us the above mentioned three [3] documents will be disregarded.

Applications should be sent by email to info@e-f-a.org, or by post to:

Günther Dauwen
European Free Alliance – EFA – EUPP
Boomkwekerijstraat 1/4.
1000 – Brussels, Belgium.
[REF: Internship 19]

Note: Former EFA interns can't apply for a new internship.

Please make sure that the application is received by either using a "read receipt" option or requesting a reply if sent by email; or sending it by certified post if sent by ordinary post.

Deadline for reception of candidacies: 31st May 2019, 11.30 am.

For any question related to the internship or the application procedure please write an email to info@e-f-a.org with the title "Question on internship 2019".

Selection procedure

- 7th June: a short list of maximum 5 candidates will be established. Short-listed candidates will be informed and a date and time for a phone interview will be fixed
- 13th June: phone interviews will be made (Please note that the interview should take place via land line and not via mobile phone in order to avoid connection problems)
- 17th June: a decision on the person granted with the internship will be taken. The staff will immediately communicate the decision to the selected candidate

Unsuccessful candidates will also be informed. They may re-apply for the EFA internship scheme in the future.

EFA will employ its intern without any discrimination as an equal opportunity employer. EFA will favour young people not having had any professional experience in the European or international arena.

EFA staff may help with the practical and administrative procedures related to the successful candidates' settling in Brussels for the period of their internship.

This internship counts with the financial support of the European Parliament.