

Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA)

Call for applications Career Skills Training Brussels, 11-15 September 2017

In a nutshell:

What?

A 5-day professional skills training on communication and media-literacy for academic and think-tank research, taking place at the heart of EU politics in Brussels. The training includes visits to European institutions, lectures and hands-on activities with think-tankers, academics, journalists, EU officials and professional trainers. Please see the attached draft programme for more details.

By who?

The training is organised by the Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA), the first network of research organisations in the field of European affairs (visit www.tepsa.eu).

For who?

- EU and non-EU young professional researchers with an interest in EU affairs.
- EU and non-EU students at postgraduate level interested in EU affairs and research.

How to apply?

Send a CV and cover letter before 7 August 2017 to pont@tepsa.eu. The participation fee is €200 for applicants from TEPSA member organisations (current or former students/researchers) and €400 for other applicants. Travel and accommodation costs can be reimbursed up to €250.

In detail:

In the framework of the *Professional Training on EU Affairs – PONT* project, co-funded by the ERASMUS+/Jean Monnet Programme of the European Union, TEPSA is organising a 5-day intensive *Career Skills Training* at the heart of EU politics, in Brussels. It targets young researchers and students at postgraduate level with an interest in the EU sphere and pursuing an academic career.

The training aims at introducing the participants to the Brussels arena, and developing skills related to policy-oriented research, research communication, dissemination and media-literacy, which are not a part of most academic curricula, yet are vital for the employability of young professional researchers.



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The training maximizes personal feedback to participants and hands-on activities. It also offers participants an opportunity to establish useful contacts with academics, think-tankers and policymakers in Brussels.

In particular, the seminar participants will:

- Learn the methods of policy-oriented research and writing from professional think-tank researchers.
- Learn how to communicate one's research to relevant policymakers and maximize one's policy impact from both researchers and policymakers.
- Learn how to communicate one's research to the general public from professional journalists and media trainers.
- Be introduced to the fight against modern forms of disinformation.

This training is organised by TEPSA and led by Prof. Hanna Ojanen, Jean-Monnet Professor at the University of Tampere (Finland), who has ample experience in conducting professional skills trainings.

See the attached draft programme for more details. The full programme of the previous Career Skills Training is available on TEPSA's website [here](#). More information about the *PONT* project is available [here](#).

To apply:

Please send to pont@tepsa.eu: 1) your CV; 2) a motivation letter explaining your studies/research focus and interest in the seminar.

Non-EU citizens are also encouraged to apply. The deadline for applications is **7 August 2017**.

The participation fee for the total 5-day trainings is €200 for applicants currently or formerly enrolled/working in one of TEPSA's member institutes (the list of TEPSA member institutes can be found at www.tepsa.eu/members) and €400 for other applicants. This fee includes all training materials, access to all programme components and lunches during the training.

Participants can receive a reimbursement for their travel and accommodation costs for up to €250.

Participants will be asked to prepare a 2-page policy brief on a topic of their choice ahead of the training and full participation to all elements of the five-day programme is compulsory. Participants will receive a certificate of attendance after the completion of the training.

For any question related to this training, please write to pont@tepsa.eu.



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PONT Career Skills Training II
11-15 September 2017, Brussels

Programme

Monday 11 September 2017: Introduction

13:00 – 14:15 Welcome and introduction to the training
*by the **TEPSA team** and **Prof Dr Hanna Ojanen**, Seminar leader and Jean-Monnet Professor at the University of Tampere (Finland)*

14:30 – 16:00 Workplace communication: giving and receiving constructive feedback
*with **Katri Auvinen**, Professional Trainer at Innotiimi*

~ Coffee break ~

16:30 – 18:00 Presenting research in a parliamentary hearing: introduction
*with **Fernando Garces de los Fayos**, Senior Parliamentary Policy Analyst at the Directorate General for External Policies of the European Parliament*

Tuesday 12 September 2017: Reaching policymakers

09:00 – 10:30 How to write a policy brief
*with **Dr Sven Biscop**, Director of the Europe in the World programme at the Egmont Royal Institute for International Affairs*

11:00 – 12:30 Visit to the European Policy Centre (EPC): an introduction to the Brussels think tank world
*with **Paul Ivan**, Senior Policy Analyst at the European Policy Centre*

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch discussion
*with **Aura Salla**, Adviser for Communication and Outreach at the European Political Strategy Centre (EPSC), European Commission*

15:00 – 18:00 Presenting research in a parliamentary hearing: mock-presentation at the European Parliament
with - **Pekka Hakala**, Head of Unit at the Policy Department for External relations, European Parliament
- **Dr Marika Lerch**, Parliamentary Research Administrator at the Policy Department for External Relations, European Parliament



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19:00 Dinner with think-tankers: the research-policymaking nexus in the setting of the EU's agenda
with - **Dr Roland Freudenstein**, Policy Director at the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies
- **Dr Leonhard den Hertog**, Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) (tbc)
- **Vassilis Ntousas**, International Relations Policy Advisor at the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS)
- **Dr Sven Biscop**, Director of the Europe in the World programme at the Egmont Royal Institute for International Affairs

Wednesday 13 September 2017: Reaching the public

09:00 – 10:00 Mastering media interviews: introduction
with **Luc Hanegreefs**, former journalist, TV reporter and presenter

10:00 – 12:00 Individual TV interviews at the European Parliament's VoxBox
with **Luc Hanegreefs**, former journalist, TV reporter and presenter

13:30 – 15:00 Writing a newspaper column
with **Luc Hanegreefs**, former journalist, TV reporter and presenter

~ Coffee break ~

15:30 – 18:00 Feedback on the TV interviews (with recorded footage)
with **Luc Hanegreefs**, former journalist, TV reporter and presenter

Thursday 14 September 2017: Fighting disinformation and dealing with bias in the fake news era

09:00 – 11:00 The EU in the fight against disinformation
at the East Stratcom Task Force of the European External Action Service

11:45 – 13:15 New challenges for researchers in the fake news era
with **Neil Campbell**, Deputy Director of the Open Society European Policy Institute (tbc)

14:30 – 17:00 Blogging and social media: what's there for a researcher?
with **Dr Heidi Maurer**, Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Maastricht



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18:00 Drinks with EU civil servants
with - **Valérie Ramet**, Policy Analyst at the Policy Department for External Relations, European Parliament
- **Gonzalo Urbina Treviño**, Policy Department for External Relations, European Parliament
- **Dr Gaby Umbach**, Policy Analyst for Research Methodologies and Strategic Liaison with Academia and Think Tanks at the Strategy and Coordination Unit of the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS)
- **Soledad Rodríguez Sánchez-Tabernero**, Analyst at the European Political Strategy Centre (EPSC), European Commission

Friday 15 September 2017: Conclusion

09:30 – 11:30 Feedback on your policy brief
with **Dr Sven Biscop**, Director of the Europe in the World programme at the Egmont Royal Institute for International Affairs

11:30 – 12:30 Discussion on the seminar's takeaways

About TEPSA

The Trans European Policy Studies Association - TEPSA - was established in 1974 as the first trans-national research network in the field of EU affairs. It comprises leading research institutes throughout Europe, with an office in Brussels. Its aim is to provide high quality research on European integration in order to stimulate discussion on policies and political options for Europe. TEPSA is active on a wide range of research topics. Its main focus is on the issues of 'deepening' integration, with a special emphasis on the institutional architecture, and the 'widening' of the EU, particularly the past and future enlargement rounds and the European Neighbourhood Policy.

More information on our activities can be found at www.tepsa.eu

About the PONT project

PONT (Professional Training on EU Affairs) is a project that aims to build a bridge connecting postgraduate students and young academics with EU practitioners, in order to improve their employability. The project takes place over three years.

PONT enhances teaching and training activities in selected policy fields, with the objective to give postgraduate students and young academics the opportunity to develop their professional skills and prepare them for taking up a job in public administration, the EU institutions, NGOs, academic institutions or think tanks across Europe. The two main branches of the project are the Working Europe seminars for students and the Career Skills Trainings for young professionals.

More information can be found at <http://www.tepsa.eu/projects/pont/>



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