

**Position Description**

**Senior Research Fellow – Institute for Economics and Peace**

The Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) is a non-profit research organisation dedicated to shifting the world’s focus to peace as a positive, achievable, and tangible measure of human well-being and progress.

Rated in 2014 as one of the world’s most impactful think tanks with a budget under $5 million and a think tank to watch by the University of Pennsylvania’s Global Go To Think Tank Index, the Institute is looking to expand its research team.

IEP achieves its goals by developing new conceptual frameworks to define peacefulness; providing metrics for measurement; uncovering the relationship between peace, business and prosperity, and by promoting a better understanding of the cultural, economic and political factors that drive peacefulness. The research outputs of the Institute have been featured in leading media internationally, from the Guardian, the Economist, Huffington Post, Washington Post, CNN, and BBC and are widely cited by intergovernmental organisations and in academia.

Current partners include numerous leading organisations internationally, such as; the United Nations Development Programme, Chatham House, Economist Intelligence Unit, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), the Earth Institute at Columbia University, the Club de Madrid, and the Commonwealth Secretariat. The Institute is a non-partisan and not-for-profit organisation with offices in Sydney and New York.

**Senior Research Fellow Role**

The Senior Research Fellow will be an experienced and senior expert with a track record of conducting quantitative research in the social sciences, development studies, statistics, economics, and peace and conflict studies. S/he will be able to lead new and ground-breaking thinking on conceptualising frameworks and measurements for creating more peaceful societies. S/he will have experience engaging with high level stakeholders in international organisations and understand current debates in development, peace and conflict studies, and in relevant international forums.

The Senior Research Fellow will conduct research on topics related to the Global Peace Index, peace economics, development studies, and peace and conflict studies. This includes writing, advanced statistical analysis, participation and leadership in the dissemination, communication, and presentation of IEP research findings. Ideal candidates will have a deep interest in peace and development issues, be open-minded to multidisciplinary approaches in the social sciences and be well-travelled.

**Selection criteria and previous experience required**

1. Master’s degree (PhD an advantage) in a combination of economics and/or statistics, international relations or other social sciences discipline.
2. Minimum of five to seven years professional experience conducting empirical research and quantitative data analysis specifically related to a combination of social sciences, development studies, economics, statistics and peace and conflict studies.
3. Experience working with governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on peace economics, peace and conflict studies, and international development issues.
4. Experience handling large datasets and knowledge of R, SPSS, STATA, and other related econometric packages is required. Ability to write code for R, SPSS or STATA and advanced Microsoft Excel skills.
5. Track record of demonstrable analytical and data visualisation skills.
6. Excellent verbal and written communication skills. Competence to undertake research assignments and project manage teams with minimal supervision.
7. Experience in writing grant applications to large donors and intergovernmental organisations highly desirable.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

* Contribute to conceptual research on how to measure and quantify the factors that create more peaceful societies and the economic benefits of peace.
* Analyse data to develop new conceptual frameworks to generate evidence that can influence policy.
* Collect, assemble, and maintain datasets for quantitative peace and conflict research within R and Microsoft Excel. Update and maintain data for the Global Peace Index, and other IEP indices measuring peace.
* Project management of research projects with a variety of internal and external stakeholders.
* Write a diversity of IEP research reports, briefing memos, summaries of journal articles, books, blogs and news articles.
* Organise large datasets; write code in R or STATA; present results of empirical analysis in interesting and easy to understand table and graphical formats to complement published IEP material. Visualise data in interesting and efficient ways.
* Collect and analyse information from a wide variety of sources; monitor relevant material from conferences and seminars, government and intergovernmental documents, academic journals, institutional databases, relevant civil society organisations and NGOs.
* Write grant applications; work with external clients and consultants.
* Attend international conferences and seminars as required.
* Report to the IEP research manager.
* Specific research projects may be on a diverse range of topics, not limited to; Understanding the macroeconomic consequences of conflict and peace; identifying causal factors of peace; case study generation on positive business practices to facilitate peace; investigating principles of index design; generating new methods of measuring direct violence; using systems approach to understanding peace, investigating measures of social cohesion and how they relate to violence; and conducting rank robustness tests for the Global Peace Index.

**Desired personal qualities**

* Excellent attention to detail and fast learner.
* Ability to meet multiple deadlines in a fast-paced work environment.
* Ability to work well under pressure with discretion and judgment.
* Deeply committed and interested in peace research.

**Location:** The IEP headquarters is based in Sydney Australia.
**Hours:** This is a full time position.

**Remuneration:** The research fellow remuneration package will be commensurate with experience.

**Applications to:**  CV and cover letter addressing the selection criteria and desired personal qualities to Lucie Paleckova on info@economicsandpeace.org

**Deadline for applications:** 2 May 2014

**Website:** [www.economicsandpeace.org](http://www.economicsandpeace.org), [www.visionofhumanity.org](http://www.visionofhumanity.org)