

KEY FACTS

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| Application closing date: | 12 June 2022 |
| Start date: | As soon as possible |
| Reports to: | Chief Executive |
| Contract: | Permanent |
| Hours: | will consider between 60% and 100% hours (22.5 and 37.5 hours per week), working pattern to be agreed if part-time |
| Salary: | £41,174 - £47,509, range depending on skills and experience, plus 12% employer pension contribution, or equivalent based on contractual requirements and full time equivalent |
| Location: | Home-based (anywhere in the world, subject to contracting requirements) |

ORGANISATION

The Tax Justice Network (TJN) is an independent international network, launched in 2003. It is dedicated to high-level research, analysis and advocacy in the area of international tax and financial regulation, including the role of tax havens. We map, analyse and explain the harmful impacts of tax evasion, tax avoidance and tax competition; and support the engagement of citizens, civil society organisations and policymakers with the aim of a more just tax system. We pursue systemic changes that address the international inequality in the distribution of taxing rights between countries; the national inequalities – including gender inequalities – that arise from poor tax policies; and the national and international obstacles to progressive national tax policies and effective financial regulation.

The Tax Justice Network is supported by grants from Norad, the European Union, the Ford Foundation and others. We are a virtual organisation, with staff working from home across multiple countries and continents.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

The Research Fellow works with a range of Tax Justice Network projects (both internal and external, often in partnership with others and often involving novel public as well as confidential administrative datasets) and products that generate and analyse data, including the Financial Secrecy Index, Corporate Tax Haven Index, State of Tax Justice Report, as well as our work on the scale of tax injustice, human rights and the race to the bottom. Much of our work is data-intensive, and we need to be able to communicate technical data to a wider audience as part of our work to change narratives around the global tax and financial system. The Research Fellow helps us to do this by carrying out research, incl. state-of-the-art econometric analysis, implementing causal inference methodologies, drafting reports and papers, and presenting the results to the academic community and the wider audience.

The role focuses on “holding the pen” on various research projects that we carry out. The Research Fellow does this by leading or co-leading a team of researchers and being responsible for delivery of research outputs. The Research Fellow also helps other team members of TJN by connecting and curating new databases and data visualisations to support future reports, undertaking rapid analyses of data produced by partners or covered in the news, providing original research and data support to the four TJN workstreams, working with internal and external stakeholders to ensure data integrity and compatibility, and undertaking other original (and often peer-reviewed) research.

We are looking for an experienced and capable researcher with strong technical skills, who combines attention to detail and a commitment to excellence with the ability to produce results quickly and with minimal support. The right candidate will have strong interpersonal and team-working skills, as well as a can-do attitude and the willingness to work remotely and with limited supervision. We are flexible about where in the world the postholder is located (and in which time zone), subject to the need to find a contracting arrangement that meets all applicable compliance requirements.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Participating in and undertaking excellent original research of the highest standards and submitting the outputs to leading academic journals in economics (general interest as well as top field journals) and taking it through a process of peer review and publication.
- Maintaining and using baseline infrastructure for the Tax Justice Network's data use and dissemination while ensuring integrity, reproducibility, and usability (for example, to facilitate the use of our online data portal on the risk exposure of a range of countries to illicit financial flows, <https://iff.taxjustice.net/#/explorer>)
- Creating databases and related data visualisations to support new reports and outputs (for example, a 'state of the world' report on tax justice, with indices and estimates of revenue loss etc.)
- Undertaking reactive work based on reports and research published by other organisations (for example, running quick analyses and producing databases and visualisations using datasets or indices published by financial journalists or by other economic justice research and advocacy organisations)
- Represent the Tax Justice Network and contribute to cross-organisational projects in regard to our data

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Skills

- **Original research** / You will need to be comfortable in drafting scientific texts and carrying out research projects from start to finish.
- **Data** / You will need to be comfortable working with and manipulating large datasets, including creating data pipelines, carrying out statistical analysis, and developing data visualisations.
- **IT** / You will need to be very comfortable working with programming languages used for statistical analysis, including Python or Stata.
- **Communications** / You will need to be able to tell compelling and accessible stories using data, as well as communicating effectively and succinctly with colleagues and partners in person and in writing
- **Delivery** / You will need to be able to cope with a large, complicated and varied workload, working quickly and efficiently without sacrificing the quality of the results
- **Management** / You will need to be able to engage with a wide range of stakeholders and to manage projects with multiple team members, including more junior roles of research assistants and junior researchers

Experience

- Demonstrated track record of peer-reviewed publications in economics or related fields
- Working on empirical research, preferably in a multilingual and multinational environment (we are ideally looking for someone with at least 5 years' experience and of working on 2 large/complex projects within the last 3 years)

Attributes

- **Commitment** / To be focused on achieving high standards in pursuit of the Tax Justice Network' objectives
- **Adaptability** / To find ways of dealing with unexpected opportunities and challenges
- **Resourcefulness** / To achieve results with limited financial and human resources
- **Collaboration** / To work supportively and effectively as part of a team
- **Integrity** / To choose the right course of action when the alternative might be easier

HOW TO APPLY

Please upload a CV and answer a series of questions (addressing the skills listed in the person specification as well as your motivation) at <https://airtable.com/shryHfgF64iH8FgcF> by 12 June 2022 at 23.59 GMT. You do not need to address the attributes; these will be explored at interview. We anticipate that first round interviews will be held in week commencing 19th June by remote video link (Zoom).