

## **PAN-EUROPEAN SEAL (PES) INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2026-2027**

**The internship program, jointly implemented by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and the European Patent Office (EPO) in 2026 is now officially launched. Application deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> of February 2026**

Initiated by the ELTE Center of Innovation, ELTE has also joined as strategic partner university in the EUIPO and EPO Pan-European Seal (PES) 1-year, paid internship program. The program looks forward to welcoming talented graduates who want to acquire professional knowledge (online and offline trainings) and relevant work experience under the mentorship of international experts in the multicultural environment of EPO and EUIPO.

The 1 year-long internship program will start in September 2026 at the seat of the chosen organization (EPO or EUIPO) with a monthly scholarship (expected to be gross 1.200-2.200 EUR/month depending on the organization). EUIPO and EPO also provide trainings and lectures for free of charge. The lectures are held by EUIPO and EPO staff, private sector representatives and invited experts. The organizations also encourage scientific research and publications related to their daily operations and functioning.

**All recent graduates of ELTE as well as students graduating in the summer of 2026 can apply for the program.**

Candidates must:

- in case of EUIPO: be a national of the Member States of the European Union and candidate countries (a limited number of nationals of candidate countries and third countries may be accepted)
- in case of EPO: be a national of one of EPO member states or EPO extension states
- be shortlisted by the sending university, ELTE
- hold a bachelor's/master's degree (or have completed university studies at an equivalent level) in any of the targeted academic areas, /or have obtained the degree / master diploma no more than two years prior to the date of application, /or graduate in June 2026.
- have a very good level of English - knowledge of French, German, Spanish, Italian is an advantage.

Additional factors to be considered:

- experience, interest or motivation in the field of intellectual property protection
- experience in preparation and implementation of social related projects, team works; previous participation in international programs (Erasmus, etc.), participation in a research program related to the chosen topic and/or area of interest
- appropriate communication, organizational and problem-solving skills
- analytical and solution-centric attitude, ability to work independently and also in a team, responsibility and reliability
- when already being employed at a company (not a must), it is important to duly explain the purpose of the traineeship in the motivation letter
- certificate of completion of the given online courses provided by organizations (independently by EPO and EUIPO) is not required for the first round of applying.

EPO looks for talented graduates to take up their mission with them in the following areas:

- Science & Engineering
  - digital technologies including computer science, electronics, telecommunications, IT security, artificial intelligence, and human-computer interaction
  - energy such as electrical engineering, renewable energy, power generation, and energy storage
  - materials science with a focus on batteries and electrochemistry including chemical engineering, inorganic and organic chemistry, and materials engineering)
  - health sector relevant fields include biomedical engineering, biotechnology, medical devices, pharmacology, and healthcare technologies
- Information Technology
- Business Administration
- Law (including Patent Law)
- International Relations & Communication
- Economics & Finance

EUIPO accepts an ELTE shortlist, within the following traineeship profiles:

- **DATA ANALYSIS**  
Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may involve tasks such as collecting, cleaning, and analyzing datasets, preparing dashboards, conducting statistical modeling, and supporting decision-making with data-driven insights. The preferred educational background for this profile is Data Science, Statistics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Engineering, Physics
- **COMMUNICATION, MARKETING AND AUDIOVISUALS**  
Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may include tasks such as creating and editing multimedia content, supporting communication campaigns, designing graphics and supporting internal and external communications. The preferred educational background for this profile includes Audiovisual Studies, Communication, Media Studies, Marketing, Graphic Design, Journalism, Advertising, Web Design/Multimedia Design.
- **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**  
Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may cover tasks such as IT support, software development, system administration, process automation, and the implementation of digital solutions to improve business processes. The preferred educational background for this profile is Computer Engineering/Science, Information and Communication Technology, Software Engineering, Information Systems, Electronics Engineering, Cybersecurity, Data Engineering.
- **LAW**  
Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may involve tasks such as legal research, drafting and reviewing legal documents, ensuring compliance with regulations, supporting intellectual property matters, data protection and security law. The preferred educational background for this profile includes Data Protection, Information Security Law, Intellectual Property Law, International Law, EU Law, Law.
- **FINANCE AND ECONOMICS**  
Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may include tasks such as financial analysis, budgeting, financial reporting, accounting and supporting procurement and grants management. The preferred

educational background for this profile is Accounting, Finance, Economics, Banking, Business Administration (with finance specialisation).

- **HR AND LEARNING&DEVELOPMENT**

Depending on the department where the selected candidate is assigned, this role may include tasks such as contributing to the development of learning initiatives, training programs and content, supporting upskilling and reskilling initiatives, assisting with selections and staff administration processes, as well as with the implementation of traineeship programmes. The preferred educational background for this profile includes Human Resources, Education and Pedagogy, Social Sciences (Psychology/Sociology, Pedagogy), Business Administration (with HRM or L&D specialisation), Labor/Employment Law, Adult Education/Training, Organizational Behavior.

- **EU & INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may include tasks such as supporting projects with EU and international partners, assisting in organising events, drafting cooperation agreements, and supporting policy alignment and stakeholder relations. The preferred educational background for this profile includes Political Sciences and International Relations, EU Studies, Public Administration, Law (with international/EU focus).

- **PROJECT SUPPORT**

Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may involve tasks such as assisting in project planning, supporting process improvement, helping with quality checks and reporting. Tasks may also involve administrative support such as internal and external correspondence, monitoring deadlines, formatting documents and organising meetings. The preferred educational background for this profile includes Business Administration, Project Management, Quality Assurance, Industrial Engineering.

- **FACILITY MANAGEMENT**

Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may include tasks such as supporting building maintenance activities, assisting with logistics arrangements, environmental compliance, and supporting sustainability initiatives. The preferred educational background for this profile includes Architecture/Civil/Mechanical Engineering, Environmental Studies, Facility Management, Hospitality/Tourism/Logistics, Occupational Health and Safety, Security.

- **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT & EVENTS MANAGEMENT**

Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may involve tasks such as assisting in event planning and organisation, supporting logistics and supplier coordination, and supporting promotional activities. Tasks may also involve administrative support such as internal and external correspondence, monitoring deadlines, formatting documents, organising meetings and supporting departmental processes to ensure smooth operations. The preferred educational background for this profile is Event Management, Public Relations, Communication, Hospitality Management, Marketing, Protocol, Business Administration, Public Administration, EU studies, Political studies.

- **TRANSLATION AND COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS**

Depending on the department where the selected candidate is allocated, this profile may include tasks such as translation, proofreading, terminology management, post-editing, and supporting language technology projects. The preferred educational

background for this profile includes Linguistics, Translation, Philology, Applied Linguistics, Computational Linguistics, Modern Languages, Language Technology

Only online applications of the shortlisted candidates will be considered. Kindly note that the same candidates cannot be included in the EUIPO and EPO shortlists.

Based on the first round of applications, the Eötvös Loránd University Innovation Center evaluates the received applications in its own competence, taking into account basic eligibility and professional aspects. The Center, on the basis of the application criteria, selects applicants to EPO and EUIPO shortlists. Students who are on the university shortlist are entitled to apply directly to the EPO and EUIPO as second-stage applicants.

The first round of the application process is organized by the ELTE Innovation Center, as follows:

Applicants interested in the program are requested to send the following documents in English to the **ELTE Innovation Center, via emailing your application package to [innovacio@innovacio.elte.hu](mailto:innovacio@innovacio.elte.hu) and [racz.laura@innovacio.elte.hu](mailto:racz.laura@innovacio.elte.hu) by 15 February 2026.**

**Documents to be attached:**

- an updated curriculum vitae (preferably Europass word format with photo, telephone number and e-mail address)
- motivation letter, clearly indicating the choice of traineeship location (EUIPO or EPO, both can not be chosen within one application) expressing your reasons for applying for traineeship and indication of preferences among the traineeship profiles
- evidence of formal qualifications (diploma) (indicating the final grade) or, where studies are still in progress, a certificate/provisional declaration
- information on language skills, certificate -- if available.

The organizer will notify every applicant of the receipt of the application by e-mail, after which the application materials (applications) will be evaluated according to the basic eligibility and professional evaluation criteria. In the framework of the pre-selection, the Innovation Center decides on the shortlisted candidates only on the basis of the uniformly prescribed documents (application) received via e-mail, before the given deadline. Additional information provided to the Center by other means (e.g. personal inquiries, by phone, etc.) will not be taken into consideration during the evaluation.

Please note, that the same student cannot be nominated both on the EPO and EUIPO shortlists. Applicants can submit their application for organizations, but the Eötvös Loránd University Innovation Center can only nominate a candidate on one of the shortlists. **Shortlisted candidates will be entitled to submit a direct, second round application to the selected organizations**, through the following websites:

- [EPO PES Website](#)
- [EUIPO PES Website](#)

**Courses to be completed by shortlisted students:**

**EUIPO** requires the completion of at least one of the following courses as part of the 2nd round application:

- “[EUTM in a Nutshell](#)” and/or “[EUD in a Nutshell](#)” (4h approximately each)

To complete the above courses, applicants must create a [Pan-European Seal account](#) and then [log in](#) to the EUIPO Academy Learning Portal.

After the candidate has applied and has been selected in the 2nd round by **EPO**, she/he has to complete the following e-learning courses for EPO application, before the start of the traineeship in September 2026:

- [Introduction to the European patent system](#)
- [Using CPC](#)
- [The EPO as PCT authority](#)

EPO and EUIPO may offer the applicant the opportunity to participate in the program in a field other than the one indicated by the applicant.

### **Deadlines for the 2026/2027 Programme – EUIPO**

- 15 January – 15 February 2026: Submission of application documents to the ELTE Innovation Centre
- 15 February – 27 February 2026: Evaluation of submitted applications, possible requests for missing documents and corrections
- By 27 February 2026: Applicants are notified of the results of the first round, and the shortlists are forwarded to the EUIPO
- 1 March – 31 March 2026: Second-round applications to the EUIPO by shortlisted candidates, submitted via the institution's independent online platform
- April 2026: Preliminary selection process conducted by the EUIPO (the EUIPO contacts selected applicants, conducts telephone/Skype interviews, and carries out related administrative tasks)
- May – end of July 2026: Candidate interviews and final selection by the EUIPO; communication of the selection results to applicants
- 16 September 2026: Start of the internship programmes at both organisations
- September – 31 December 2026: Applicants not admitted to the programme are placed on a reserve list; depending on the availability of remaining places, the EUIPO may invite additional candidates from this list

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### **Deadlines for the 2026/2027 Programme – EPO**

- 15 January – 10 February 2026: Submission of application documents to the ELTE Innovation Centre
- 10 February – 15 February 2026: Evaluation of submitted applications, possible requests for missing documents and corrections, feedback to applicants
- 16 February 2026: Vacancies open on the EPO application platform
- 9 March 2026: Deadline for submission of student applications on the EPO platform
- 16 March 2026: After compiling and pre-screening the applications, universities receive the list of applicants from their institution for review and confirmation
- 23 March 2026: Deadline for universities to review and approve applicants. If no feedback is received by the deadline, the applications will continue in the process
- June 2026: Communication of results to applicants
- September 2026: Communication of results to universities
- 15 September 2026: Start of the programme at the European Patent Office (EPO)

EPO and EUIPO reserves the right to select candidates from the university shortlists according to their profile and the Offices's actual business needs. **Shortlisted candidates must bear in mind that withdrawals have a serious impact on the selection procedure as well as on the smooth running of the Programme itself. Furthermore, having been selected implies that other candidates have not been able to participate in the Programme due to the limited**

**number of vacancies. It is therefore expected that all candidates give considerate thought to their application and the necessary commitment until the final selection has taken place.** More information related to applications, supporting materials are available as follows – **all to be read carefully:**

**EPO:**

- A presentation on the PES Traineeship programme and the EPO
- A General Instructions Guide (GIG) outlining the timeline of the programme at the EPO, the application and shortlisting process as well as the vacancies available this year

**EUIPO:**

- A presentation on the PES Traineeship programme and the EUIPO
- A General Instructions Guide (GIG) outlining the timeline of the programme at the EUIPO, the application and shortlisting process this year.

**General information on the PES Programme:**

- A link to the EPO and EUIPO PES Programme video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4yGmL-T\\_mw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4yGmL-T_mw)
- EPO official website: [https://jobs.epo.org/content/PanEuropeanSeal/?locale=en\\_GB](https://jobs.epo.org/content/PanEuropeanSeal/?locale=en_GB)
- EUIPO official website: <https://euipo.europa.eu/knowledge/course/view.php?id=1851>

For any further queries, please contact: [innovacio@innovacio.elte.hu](mailto:innovacio@innovacio.elte.hu) or [racz.laura@innovacio.elte.hu](mailto:racz.laura@innovacio.elte.hu)

TOPIC	EPO	EUIPO
<b>The most important info</b>	The application to the programme has 2 steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University nomination through MS Forms until 15.02.</li> <li>• Students/graduates/alumni to apply through the online tool of the respective institution (you will receive email with links once the vacancies are published)</li> </ul>	
<b>Most important contact</b>	<a href="mailto:paneuropeanseal@epo.org">paneuropeanseal@epo.org</a>	<a href="mailto:Pan_European_Seal@euipo.europa.eu">Pan_European_Seal@euipo.europa.eu</a>
<b>Nationality requirement</b>	<a href="#">EPO member states</a>	EU countries + 10 % outside EU (from all around the world)
<b>Degree requirement</b>	At least <b>bachelor’s degree</b> latest upon the programme start  Alumni may be shortlisted as well (independently of when they graduated)	At least <b>bachelor’s degree</b> latest upon the programme start.  Alumni may also be shortlisted, but only those who have graduated <b>in the last 2 calendar years.</b>
<b>Language requirement</b>	Excellent level of one of the EPO official languages (English, German, French)  Candidates can self-asses their language level in the application, if the candidates have a language certificate,	- At least B2 in English. - Proficiency in another EU language (depending on the profile).

	they shall attach it to their application for completeness but if they are not having one, no need to obtain it. The language will be tested latest in the interview.	
<b>How maximum old can the degree be to be eligible to apply for the programme?</b>	No time constraint. Requirement is to have obtained the degree before the programme start (15.09.2026) regardless of when the degree was obtained before.	Candidates should have obtained their degree by the start of the programme (mid-September 2026) but not before January 2024.
<b>Sites</b>	Munich, The Hague, Berlin, Vienna, Brussels	Alicante Brussels and Luxembourg (2 posts)
<b>Duration</b>	1 + 2 years extension upon selection	1 year
<b>Compensation</b>	Ca 2200 EUR net in year 1 Ca 3300 EUR net in year 2 and year 3 Severance grant upon the programme end	1 200 EUR net
<b>Status &amp; Insurance</b>	Status of internal employee, private international insurance	Status of trainee, insurance needs to be covered by each trainee (public or private, with EU health insurance card)
<b>Accommodation support</b>	Mainly through the mentoring group of current young professionals at the EPO (200+) – the newcomers young professionals are put in touch with the current ones (they share info when they leave their flat/share they pass to the newcomers ones etc.)  Two info sessions on admin matter in summer with tips and tricks on accommodation search.	Mainly through social media groups created by former PES trainees where practical information about accommodation and other relevant aspects of moving to Alicante are shared.
<b>Can candidates that were shortlisted in the past be nominated in the current session?</b>	Yes, this is possible as long as the candidate still fulfils all the criteria (nominated by the university, degree, language). The candidate will participate to new selection competition in the current edition.	Yes, this is possible as long as the candidate still fulfils all the criteria (nominated by the university, degree, language). The candidate will participate to new selection competition in the current edition.

<b>How many students/graduates/alumni can be shortlisted per university ?</b>	No ceiling. We are happy to receive all talented potentials on the shortlist.	No ceiling. We are happy to receive all talented potentials on the shortlist.
<b>Participants hired as employees after the programme (as of July 2022)</b>	14	n/a