INFORMATION CENTRE OF THE EU

Traineeship program The Information Centre of the European Union was launched by the Delegation of the European Commission to Bulgaria on 13 September 2001.

Objectives:

- To promote information and knowledge about the EU
- To encourage the public debate on European integration
- To explain the impact and opportunities of accession to the EU and its significance for the Bulgarian citizens: the benefits it will bring and the challenges it poses.

Principles:

The activities of the Information Centre are guided by the principles of transparency and free access, objectivity and partnership.

Information services:

To help the citizens to learn more about the European integration, the Information Centre of the EU offers a variety of possibilities:

- Free publications on various issues of the European integration can be obtained at the Centre.
- Personalized information and consultation on the EU history, its institutions, policies and instruments for cooperation can be obtained by sending questions to infocentre@evropa.bg
- The computer workstations at the Information Centre provide free access to websites dedicated to the European Union.

Group visits

The Centre organizes information sessions for groups.

These consist of video/multimedia presentation and guided tour of the information materials and the Internet corner of the Centre. A group visit usually last around 40 minutes. Requests should be addressed by fax to the Director, e-mail infocentre@evropa.bg and

should provide the following information:

- Number of participants (minimum 6 people; maximum 20 people)
- Age of participants (minimum age 10);
- Specific interests of the group and level of knowledge of the European Union;
- Information about your organisation (name, address, telephone No, etc.).
- Two dates should be proposed, the final choice of date being made by the Director of the Information Centre according to EUIC schedule of events.

Information materials

The Information Centre offers free-of-charge information materials: general and specialized publications of the European Commission and other EU institutions.

Information Centre on the Web

The pages of the Information Centre of the EU are part of the Internet site of the Representation of the European Commission in Bulgaria http://ec.europa.eu/bulgaria/home_bg. On the site of the Information Centre you can trace its calendar of events and submit a request for a group visit.

Typical responsibilities given to interns:

- Preparation of draft responses to citizens' complaints;
- Undertaking legal research and for this purpose:
 - o identify and use relevant documents on EUR-lex database
 - o identify and use relevant print and media sources
 - identify and use any additional materials by relevant individuals, organisations or institutions;
- Other research work;
- Participate in relevant internal and external meetings;
- Assistance with work in hand. Responsibilities may include, but are not limited to:
 - General administrative support: file, organize, mail outgoing orders, maintain inventory, order and stock of publications;
 - Handling citizen's interactions on the spot, via telephone and email, follow up, and correspondence process;
 - Supporting event coordination for the realization of events hosted by House of Europe;

Conditions

Trainees are not remunerated. The intern will receive an Internship Certificate.