

# Researcher: International labour standards

## Background

Ergon is a leading consultancy in the field of business and human rights. Based in London and with a new office in New York, we work with major international companies, agencies and multi-stakeholder platforms to deliver innovative client-focused consulting and research projects.

We are looking for highly motivated Researchers to join our team to work on a major, multi-strand international research assignment related to working conditions and employment rights across multiple countries and regions. This is an ideal position to develop a research or consulting career involving the labour, gender and human rights dimensions of business, trade, finance and development. You will have first-rate research ability, excellent communication skills, and a keen interest in our field. Knowledge of employment rights – particularly in the Americas, Europe or Asia – and international trade relations would be an advantage.

While the post is centred on a single project for a European institution, there will also be opportunities to work on our varied programme of research and consulting assignments for both public sector and private sector clients such as the application of labour standards in developing and transition economies, analysing international policy, trade and legal developments, advising companies on risks in particular value chains, researching living wage levels or developing guidance notes and good practice case studies. Occasional international travel is likely.

The post is for a fixed 12 months term and is based in our Central London or New York office. We offer a friendly working environment, the opportunity to develop practical transferable skills and experience, and good terms and conditions. Starting salary: £26,500 pa (or equivalent); 25 days holiday plus public holidays; discretionary bonus and other benefits.

## How to apply

Applicants should provide both a covering letter setting out why you are suitable for this post and a CV. These should be in the same PDF file. Please send to [eva.mian@ergonassociates.net](mailto:eva.mian@ergonassociates.net) by 12.00pm GMT on Friday 5 January 2018, and indicate in which country or countries you have the right to work (applicants must have the right to live and work in either the UK or the United States for the period of the contract).

Candidates must be available to undertake a written exercise remotely in the week beginning 15 January, with interviews in the week beginning 22 January. The selected candidate(s) will be expected to start work as soon as possible thereafter.

## Key tasks

- Undertaking in-depth qualitative research about working conditions and the application of labour standards in countries across the Americas, Europe and Asia
- Drafting sections of research reports, risk analyses and country profiles
- Analysing and drafting summaries of complex legal and policy documents
- Constructing research databases and undertaking quantitative analysis

- Contributing to research methodologies and frameworks
- Interviewing stakeholders by phone and undertaking field research as necessary
- Providing administrative support on projects
- Accompanying directors and consultants at meetings and contributing to presentations

### **Essential attributes**

- Strong academic record with relevant graduate / postgraduate qualification – e.g. in employment law, human rights, industrial relations, international development
- Outstanding applied research skills
- Exceptional conceptual and analytical skills, including the ability to analyse large amounts of complex information quickly, accurately and clearly, including quantitative information
- Outstanding written and oral English communications skills, including the ability to draft clear, accurate, concise summaries as well as lengthier research papers
- Understanding of and commitment to the labour standards, human rights and gender equality agendas, as well as international development and CSR
- High level of organisational and administrative skills, including multi-tasking and ability to work independently, in a small team, and to strict deadlines
- Fluent written and spoken English and fluency in at least one other relevant language – particularly Spanish or Russian
- Commitment to customer service relevant for a client-focused consultancy business
- Excellent grasp of research and standard office applications, including social media experience and skills

Ergon Associates Ltd, Unit 1, 9A Dallington St, London EC1V 0BQ, United Kingdom  
+44 20 7713 0386

[www.ergonassociates.net](http://www.ergonassociates.net)

Company no. 5401100 – VAT no. 858287081