

The European Stability Initiative (ESI) announces its

Call for Applications

Two-day seminar "How to conduct policy-relevant research"

July 7 – 8

The seminar will be held in a hotel within easy reach of Yerevan.

The main aim of the two-day capacity building seminar is to introduce the participants to basic policy research skills and policy advocacy skills. The content of the seminar, designed for 15 participants, will be based on the research methodology ESI has developed in the past eight years in its work in South Eastern Europe and Turkey: The seminar will draw on examples of applied social science research from a broad range of areas and disciplines, and offer concrete examples of best practice in the field.

ESI is today one of Europe's leading think tanks on issues of enlargement and developments in South Eastern Europe, with analysts based in London, Berlin, Brussels, Vienna, Pristina and Istanbul. Its research is regularly and widely quoted in the international press and referred to by policy makers in Europe and the US.

The training courses are part of a larger project aiming at fostering capacities for independent policy research in the Caucasus. An additional aim is to inspire participants to apply a similar set of questions and techniques to understanding economic and social trends in their own society.

The main beneficiaries will be dynamic researchers who show an interest in better understanding and addressing the unique development challenge facing their country and who are eager to achieve policy impact on the basis of empirical field-based research.

Candidates should be under 35, should be able to speak English fluently, and should have a university degree and relevant professional experience. Please send us a letter of motivation, a CV and two different letters of recommendation. The organizers will cover meals and accommodation during the seminars as well as group transport from Yerevan to the seminar venue.

Successful participants in the seminars have the opportunity to apply for a further intense one week seminar in Istanbul in the autumn and to cooperate with ESI research in the future.

The deadline for submitting applications is June 3, 2007.

Applications should be submitted in English by e-mail to ESI at the following address: **capacitybuilding@esiweb.org**. All applicants will be notified of their status by June 11, 2007.

We are looking forward to receiving your applications. Please have a look at our online picture story for an overview of what we do and where we come from. More detailed information about ESI can be found at www.esiweb.org.