

Academically Advanced Socially Progressive

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International Governance Support Specialist

Directorate	Research And Knowledge Exchange Services (www.strath.ac.uk/rkes/)		
Staff Category	Administrative and Professional	Reference No	786742
Reports To	International Governance Support Team Lead	Grade	8
Salary Range	£47,389 - £58,225	Contract Type	Open Contract
FTE	1 (35 hours/week)	Closing Date	16 February 2026
Working Arrangements	Hybrid. The standard requirement across the University is that at least three days per week (based on 1FTE) will be spent working on-site (with flexibility as appropriate).		
Work Location	Based within the Research and Knowledge Exchange Services Directorate offices (Graham Hills Building, 50 George Street, Glasgow, G1 1QE).		

Job Advert

Who We Are

The University of Strathclyde is a leading international technological university, driven by our founding mission to be a “*place of useful learning*.” We are recognised for our socially progressive values, world-class research, and strong partnerships with industry, government, and global institutions to address pressing societal challenges.

Our central research office, Research and Knowledge Exchange Services (RKES), plays a pivotal role in supporting the University’s research and innovation ecosystem. RKES provides expert services across the full research and knowledge exchange lifecycle, including research funding, contractual agreements, international partnerships, impact and public engagement, and network development. We are a diverse, collaborative, and welcoming team, working closely with academic and professional colleagues across the institution and beyond.

In 2023, RKES established the International Governance Support function to strengthen the University's approach to Trusted Research & Innovation (TR&I). This team leads on embedding TR&I principles across the institution, providing expert policy guidance, training, and operational support. It also acts as a central triage point for TR&I-related enquiries and manages export control licence applications on behalf of the University. The team maintains key external relationships across the sector and with government bodies to ensure compliance and best practice.

RKES is based in the Graham Hills Building on the John Anderson Campus, located in the heart of Glasgow.

The Opportunity

We are seeking a highly motivated and knowledgeable individual to join our dynamic International Governance Support team as an International Governance Support Specialist. This is an exciting opportunity to play a central role in shaping and advancing the University's TR&I strategy.

The successful candidate will enhance our institutional capability in this critical area, ensuring that all research-related activities are considered through a TR&I lens and conducted in line with relevant legislation, funder requirements, and University governance procedures.

TR&I is an increasingly vital area for all UK Higher Education Institutions, and particularly for Strathclyde as a globally engaged, research-intensive university with extensive international and cross-sector collaborations. The TR&I agenda encompasses a range of complex and evolving issues, including:

- Legal compliance (e.g. Export Control, Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS), National Security & Investment Act, Foreign Influence Registration Scheme)
- Funder and contractual obligations (e.g. due diligence and trusted research requirements embedded in UKRI terms and conditions)
- Best practice in research security (e.g. cyber security, data protection, and reputational risk management)

Strathclyde's approach to TR&I is a cornerstone of our commitment to internationally leading research and underpins our Strathclyde 2030 strategic vision. It ensures that we protect our people, our research, and our institutional reputation while continuing to collaborate globally with confidence and integrity.

This role offers a rare opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the International Governance Support team, RKES, and the wider University community while navigating and shaping responses to a dynamic and increasingly critical regulatory landscape.

Job Description

Brief Outline of Job:

The International Governance Support Specialist will play a pivotal role in advancing the delivery of the University's Trusted Research & Innovation (TR&I) agenda by providing expert advice and operational leadership across areas such as risk mitigation, framework implementation, training, and process improvement. The role is central to strengthening the University's research security infrastructure and ensuring compliance with relevant legislation and best practices. Working within the International Governance Support team, the post holder will enable secure research collaborations and foster a culture of TR&I across the academic community.

Main Activities/Responsibilities:

1. Undertake analysis of complex TR&I enquiries and provide expert, tailored advice to academic and professional services staff on a range of TR&I matters, including export control and licensing, the National Security & Investment Act (NSIA) and any other relevant TR&I policy or legislation.
 2. Determine and implement appropriate TR&I mitigations such as preparing export control licence applications and coordinating submissions to UK Government under the National Security & Investment Act.
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3. Lead and oversee the University's formal submissions to UK Government under export control regulations and NSIA, ensuring accuracy, compliance, and timely delivery.

 4. Support the ongoing operational implementation of the NPSA and NCSC Trusted Research Evaluation Framework, working with a range of academic and professional services colleagues across the University to embed TR&I practices within diverse functional areas.

 5. Support the design and delivery of a comprehensive TR&I training programme, developing a suite of training materials and bespoke sessions tailored to the needs of Faculties and Departments, based on current legislation and expert insight.

 6. Foster a university-wide TR&I community of practice by working with a network of Departmental champions to promote knowledge exchange, engagement, and alignment with institutional processes.

 7. Monitor and respond to changes in the external regulatory landscape, advising on implications for institutional policy and practice.

 8. Plan and undertake proactive risk assessments of research collaborations and publication data to inform and tailor TR&I strategies at Faculty and Department levels.

 9. Develop, manage, and continuously improve TR&I processes to ensure institutional compliance with evolving legislation, research funder requirements, and national security policies.

 10. Plan, lead and facilitate internal TR&I audits, ensuring clear ownership of findings and resolution through the application of structured problem-solving tools and techniques.

 11. This job description is not exhaustive, and the post holder may be required to undertake other relevant duties commensurate with the grading of the post.
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Person Specification

Educational and/or Professional Qualifications

(E=Essential, i.e. a candidate must meet all essential criteria to be considered for selection, D=Desirable)

E1 Educated to degree level (or equivalent qualification) with substantial experience of working within a science/technology or research-intensive environment.

D1 Degree within a Science or Technology related subject area.

Experience

E2 Demonstrable project management skills, gained from working in or with higher education, science/technology or research-intensive environments, in roles related to Research Management, Trusted Research & Innovation (TR&I), research security, national security, or export control.

E3 Experience interpreting and applying complex legislation or regulatory frameworks in operational settings, with a proven ability to apply specialist knowledge with a high degree of independent responsibility, discretion, and professional judgment.

E4 Practiced in resolving problems and providing specialist guidance, considering various (and sometimes conflicting) sources of data/information whilst utilising innovative thought to determine the most appropriate solutions.

E5 Experience in the analysis, interpretation, and presentation of complex information to varied audiences, with a high level of attention to detail.

E6 Evidence of influencing and enhancing institutional processes at an organisational level, in line with changing requirements.

D2 Practical experience applying for export control licences using the UK Government's SPIRE and LITE systems.

D3 Understanding of the UK Government's Trusted Research agenda, including familiarity with the NPSA and NCSC Trusted Research Evaluation Framework.

D4 Understanding of international research funding landscapes and associated compliance requirements.

Job Related Skills and Achievements

E7 Successful management of complex and often novel projects, demonstrating the ability to quickly acquire and apply specialist knowledge in emerging areas.

E8 Proven track record in designing and delivering effective training, communication strategies, or governance plans tailored to diverse staff groups across all levels of an organisation.

E9 Demonstrated success in driving organisational change, including the introduction and embedding of new systems, processes, or frameworks.

D5 Working knowledge of UK Export Control legislation and the National Security & Investment Act, with practical application in research or institutional contexts.

D6 Experienced in applying risk assessment tools and frameworks to support informed decision-making.

Personal Attributes

E10 Excellent verbal and written communication skills, with a proven ability to engage a wide range of stakeholders and convey complex legal or technical information clearly to non-specialist audiences.

E11 Ability to build credible, collaborative relationships across all levels of the University and with external partners.

E12 Applies critical thinking and an investigative approach to resolve complex problems, navigating ambiguity and interpreting guidance, legislation, and potential outcomes.

E12 Excellent organisational and time management skills, with the ability to work autonomously to manage multiple priorities, perform under pressure, and adapt to shifting demands.

E13 Ability to apply specialist knowledge to inform, negotiate, and influence decisions and approaches across diverse stakeholder groups.

E14 Maintains a high level of attention to detail and demonstrates a commitment to continuous improvement in all aspects of work.

E15 Self-motivated and proactive, with the ability to work both independently and as part of a team to achieve shared goals.

Other Relevant Factors

E16 Ability to gain UK security clearance at Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS), Security Check (SC) or Developed Vetting (DV) level as relevant to the role

Application Procedure

Applicants are required to complete an application form including the name of three referees who will be contacted before interview without further permission, unless you indicate that you would prefer otherwise. Applicants should also submit a Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter detailing the knowledge, skills and experience you think make you the right candidate for the job. Applicants should also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

Interviews

The University is a Disability Confident Employer and operates a guaranteed interview scheme for disabled candidates who meet all the essential criteria for the post that they are applying for.

Other Information

Further information on the application process and working at Strathclyde can be found on our website (<http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr/workforus>).

Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment relating to the Administrative and Professional staff category can be found at: [Conditions of Employment](#).

Rewards and Benefits

Our comprehensive benefits package, including generous annual leave, family-friendly benefits, flexible work options, and a commitment to continuous learning, reflects our appreciation for the valuable contributions of our colleagues.

We understand that each staff member has unique priorities and lifestyles, so our diverse benefits ensure there is something for everyone, details of which can be found on our [Rewards and Benefits webpage](#).

- **Financial Rewards:** We provide attractive financial packages, including competitive salaries, relocation support for employees and a generous pension scheme, with university contributions of 14.5%.
- **Work-Life Balance:** We are dedicated to enhancing healthy work-life balance for our employees. We offer generous annual leave, an additional annual leave purchase option, flexible and agile work arrangements.
 - Annual Leave: Generous entitlement of 31 days, in addition to 11 public holidays and University closure days.
 - Additional annual leave purchase: Option to request purchase of 2 weeks' additional annual leave per year.
 - Flexible and agile working: The University provides flexible work arrangements. You can request arrangements that fit you and your role, such as hybrid, part-time, compressed hours, term-time, adjusted shifts, staggered hours. These requests can be made from the first day of your employment.
- **Family Friendly Benefits:** We offer a variety of enhanced family-friendly benefits to support our employees in balancing work and family responsibilities. These include Maternity Leave, Paternity/Maternity Support, Adoption Leave, Shared Parental Leave, Parental Leave, Carers Leave and support, Family Friendly Research & Scholarship Leave, and access to our on-campus nursery.
- **Career Development:** Our commitment to personal development is reflected in initiatives such as professional courses, subsidised educational programs, coaching and mentoring, leadership development, secondment opportunities, and access to our library.
- **Health & Wellbeing:** We place high importance on the safety, wellbeing, and health of all our staff and offer discounted Strathclyde Sport membership, an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP), Occupational Health Service, and Cycle to Work scheme.
- **Recognition Awards:** At Strathclyde, we place a strong emphasis on acknowledging and rewarding our staff's commitment and exceptional contributions. This is demonstrated through our Long-Service Awards and our Values-based Strathclyde Medals.

Pre-Placement Health Screening

If you are offered a job with us, you'll be encouraged to let us know about any disability, medical condition, or neurodivergence you have by completing a confidential pre-placement health questionnaire. Completing the questionnaire is entirely voluntary but by doing so we can put in place the right support and make any reasonable adjustments before you start.

Probation

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 12 month probationary period.

Pension

The successful applicant will be eligible to join Universities' Superannuation Scheme. Further information regarding this scheme is available from [Payroll and Pensions](#).

Relocation

Where applicable, the University offers a relocation package to support new employees who meet the eligibility criteria. The relocation package is offered as a contribution towards costs incurred, and is designed to be flexible, allowing staff to use the financial support available in the way that will be most helpful to them. Further details are outlined in the [Relocation Policy](#).

Equality and Diversity

The University of Strathclyde is a socially progressive institution that strives to ensure equality of opportunity and celebrates the diversity of its student and staff community. Strathclyde is people-oriented and collaborative, offering a supportive and flexible working culture with a deep commitment to our [equality, diversity and inclusion charters, initiatives, groups and networks](#).

We strongly encourage applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnicity, women, LGBT+, disabled candidates and candidates from lower socio-economic groups and care-experienced backgrounds.

The University currently holds an Athena Swan **Silver award**, recognising our commitment to advancing women's careers in science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine (STEMM) employment in academia.

University Values

The University's Values capture what we're all about: who we are, what we believe in and what we stand for. [Our Values](#) have been derived from how we act and how we expect to be treated as part of Strathclyde.

In delivering **our People Strategy**, we will contribute, act, and make decisions guided by these values.

- **People-oriented:** committed to our staff and students, providing opportunities, and investing in their development.
- **Bold:** confident and challenging in what we do, and supportive of embracing appropriate and managed risk in our decision-making.
- **Innovative:** focused on discovering and applying knowledge with impact and encouraging creative thinking and new ideas.
- **Collaborative:** working together, with our colleagues and external partners, with integrity and in an open, respectful way.

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- **Ambitious:** for our institution, staff and students as well as supporting the ambitions of our partners.

