Fellows Program at the Datasphere Initiative

The application for our 2021-2022 Fellowship Program is now open!

Application deadline: September 6, 2021
Fellowship: October 4, 2021 to August 31st, 2022
Stipend: USD 2 500, non-exclusive dedication
Fellowships: 6 Fellows will be chosen from applications received on a rolling basis.

Apply here!

The Datasphere Initiative offers opportunities for graduate students and young professionals to work on **novel research and dialogue related to data governance.** We encourage applications from individuals committed to understanding and advancing an inclusive and sustainable development of societies.

Data increasingly underpins and reflects most human activities. The volume of data, be it personal or non-personal, collected and produced, stored, utilized, and in transit, grows at an accelerated pace. **Data opens up opportunities for unprecedented social and economic value creation in a broad diversity of sectors, potentially ushering a new era of well-being for all. At the same time, legitimate concerns have emerged regarding security threats, economic imbalances, and human rights abuses that can impact a society increasingly dependent upon data.**

The recent Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network (I&JPN) report "We Need to Talk About Data: Framing the Debate around Free Flow of Data and Data Sovereignty", based on a global multistakeholder consultation, addresses this tension and sent a strong message: **it calls for a global, multistakeholder, and cross-sectoral debate that is more nuanced, and takes into account the complex interdependence of data. Additionally, the report also highlighted the critical need for innovation regarding the tools, the frameworks, and, most importantly, the concepts we rely on to develop concrete solutions.**

Thus, as a Datasphere Initiative fellow you will tackle some of these issues and be invited to bring your own knowledge and research agenda to the table. You will also have access to our network of policymakers, company leaders and academics focused on the discussions above. You will also have access to our content distribution channels to publish your own research when related to the issues above and align with the Initiative's vision and mission. On an opportunity basis, you will be able to join DI's leadership in global events or receive our support in organizing your own event.

What we're looking for in our Fellows:

- At least four years of relevant work or research experience.
- Tech savvy, with experience working in or studying the technology sector.
- Great interpersonal and communications skills.
- Ability to explain technology to those that aren't as familiar with technology tools or concepts.
- Track record of success taking initiative and working with others.
- Ability to work with a global team and flexibility to work remotely.
- Fluent in English, with a second language preferred.
- Committed to our mission.

This fellowship is open to candidates globally.

Minimum expected outputs:
- A short paper (5 to 10 pages) on the topic you propose among the relevant ones for the Initiative
- Two blog posts on the topic you propose among the relevant ones for the Initiative
- A series of events or interviews
- Other to be discussed individually and based on your application

As a Datasphere Initiative Fellow you will:

- Researching relevant policymaking topics covered by the Datasphere Initiative including, but not exclusively, best practices and frameworks for data governance, free flow of data , data governance to support the sustainable development goals within issues such as climate change, health and poverty, data governance for innovation in sectors such as health and agriculture, and many others.
- Work on case studies of countries or initiatives relevant to your own research focus or origin, furthering and translating the Datasphere Initiative Program's in support of local awareness raising, capacity building and policy making.
- Support the Datasphere Initiative by writing about and presenting on your experience periodically, and by representing the Datasphere Initiative as appropriate and in agreement with our leadership at meetings or events.

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