



OTIF

**Intergovernmental Organisation for
International Carriage by Rail**

New! The Young Experts Programme at OTIF

The Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) has set up a programme for «young experts» to encourage highly qualified young professionals to discover the unique and exciting work of an international civil servant.

The internships being offered will take place within OTIF's international Secretariat in Berne for a period of 9 or 18 months. The «Young Expert» will have the opportunity to discover the Organisation's various activities, from the technical area to the legal area, and to participate in various international meetings.

To encourage cultural diversity within the Secretariat, OTIF is encouraging applications from young people around the world ([see general conditions](#)).



Three types of internship are planned, specialising in law, technology or communication.

The direction each young expert's internship takes will depend on the individual's experience and branch of study.

The final decision will be taken jointly with the intern.

For more information on the terms of reference of the various internships, please see below.

Law discipline

OTIF's regulations include three main branches:

- instruments governing contractual relationships for the carriage of freight and passengers;
- technical regulations ensuring the interoperability of rolling stock between the various Member States;
- regulations on the transport of dangerous goods in a broader context than that of OTIF alone, both in terms of geographical scope and mode of transport, as the regulations are part of a global system developed under the auspices of the UN.

Over the course of time, the legal definitions of the terminology used in these three branches have developed independently, so it will be necessary to carry out some substantive work on these definitions to move towards properly uniform law. It will also be necessary to carry out an analysis to determine whether these definitions are consistent with those used in the European Union's railway law.

In addition, OTIF's technical regulations ensure the interoperability of rolling stock between the various Member States that have ratified the corresponding Appendices.



Nevertheless, in contrast to the European Union, whose regulations are based on a uniform legal framework, the legal regimes in countries that are not members of the EU still differ.

- It is therefore necessary to obtain an overview of the application of the technical regulations in the various Member States, with the aim of strengthening the effectiveness of the regulations developed by the Organisation.
- The intern would also have to propose solutions to improve and strengthen the application of the technical regulations.

Communication discipline

- Participation in setting up and implementing the internal and external communication plan and a new strategy
- Revive the website (production and/or selection of content)
- Help to design the Organisation's publications
- Produce internal and external communication tools
- Implement a public relations programme

Technology discipline

- Prepare an overview of the information that has to be exchanged in international rail transport, particularly with regard to the legal obligations, e.g. in order to set up the registers prescribed in the regulations.
- In a second stage, propose a strategy for OTIF's future involvement in these areas which require the exchange of information concerning the limits and conditions of use of vehicles. The development of template contracts could be considered, together with the European Union (EU) and the European Railway Agency (ERA), and with the help of actors in the freight sector.
- Develop a model for and the contents of one or more guides on the application of OTIF's technical regulations (explanations, examples, means of compliance). These guides would have to be prepared in close cooperation with the EU. Part of the work will also consist of updating these guides.

For more information on how this programme works, please refer to [the General Conditions for the programme](#).

For further information, please contact:

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