

CAREER CENTER NEWSLETTER

In this newsletter, the **Career Center Telegrafenberg** would like to provide an overview on think tanks. Here, we aim to summarize what a think tank is, its purposes, and scope. Additionally, we offer insights on how to embark on this career path, detailing the requisite skills and outlining the pros and cons of pursuing this direction.

What is a think tank



A think tank is an organization dedicated to conducting practical research aimed at formulating policies with a meaningful impact on society.

It is a think tank a suitable environment for a researcher?



In this field, don't settle for being just "in-between." Embrace dual roles as an academic and a politician by becoming a **boundary worker**. Adhere to discipline and profession rules, and operate in multiple communities simultaneously.

Pros and cons of working for a think tank



PROS

- Stay connected to research in a more practical way.
- Connect with politicians to influence policy.
- Advocate for overlooked issues.

CONS

- Struggling to locate think tanks aligned with your values.
- Limited impact of research.
- Slow shift from political talks to policy.

Skills for being a boundary worker



1. Research skills
2. Effective communication with diverse audiences.
3. Data Analysis to find real-world impact solutions.
4. Connect with communities to address societal needs.

If you want to work for a think tank



Attend think tank events, **network** on platforms like LinkedIn, start a **skills showcase** blog or podcast, **explore** directories, fellowships and jobs. Some European think tanks can be found here. Additionally, **learn** from someone in this field, and **connect** with the Career Center for personalized CV and skills advice.