



## 1.1 R&I catalyst at **AI & Robotics Estonia AIRE**.

Your leap from research to innovation

 **Unicorn Hub:** [Akadeemia tee 15b, Tallinn, Estonia](#)

### Eligible sending organisations •

AUTH, ULUS, JSI

### Role title •

AI Innovation and Technology Transfer Specialist

### Environment •

During your secondment **at AI & Robotics Estonia (AIRE)** and **the Technology Transfer Office of TalTech**, you will actively shape innovation rather than simply observe it. You will join a hands-on ecosystem where academia, industry, and public sector partners collaborate daily to turn research results into real-world solutions with measurable impact.

Working alongside AIRE and TalTech's technology transfer and innovation experts, you will contribute directly to live R&I activities across flagship projects, supporting everything from concept validation and prototyping to piloting, industry engagement, and deployment. Instead of theoretical exercises, you will work with real use cases, stakeholders, and adoption challenges.

You will also gain immediate access to AIRE's vibrant community of ambitious SMEs and deep-tech scaleups — many of them future unicorns in the making. This secondment offers a rare



combination of applied research, technology transfer, and entrepreneurial exposure — enabling you to expand your network across Estonia and Europe, experiment with new approaches, and see your work implemented in practice, not years later, but in real time.

**AIRE** has supported 300+ SMEs, transforming AI ideas into pilots, deployments, and scalable services. Operating within Estonia's fast-moving innovation landscape, AIRE has helped mobilise €65M+ in AI project investments and funding, and in 2025 was recognised with the Estonian Industry Accelerator Award.

### What you will work on ●

At **AIRE** and **TalTech**, you will not be left on the sidelines. From day one, you will be embedded in a small, experienced innovation and technology transfer team, working side-by-side with colleagues, researchers, and companies on real projects with clear outcomes:

- You will help **coordinate day-to-day innovation and AI innovation project workflows:** planning activities, tracking progress, and keeping collaboration smooth across partners. You will support events, trainings, and stakeholder outreach, helping to grow an active community around AI and deep-tech solutions.
- Together with the team, you will **map and engage ecosystem actors:** SMEs, startups, universities, and clusters and work directly with selected companies to understand their needs and match them with research capabilities. You will also contribute to knowledge valorisation, identifying promising results, preparing short briefs, and connecting the right people to move ideas toward pilots or market uptake.
- Where relevant, **you will take part in technology experimentation and investment readiness assessments,** including ROI analyses and go/no-go decisions for real innovation cases.

Throughout the secondment, you will have continuous mentoring and practical support from **AIRE** and **TalTech** experts giving you both responsibility and guidance as you turn research into impact.

### What you will gain ●

This secondment is your **fast track from research to real-world impact**, a chance to experience how AI is translated from lab work into practical solutions, products, and markets.



**Hands-on AI & Robotics experience:** Work directly with real deployments of computer vision, predictive analytics, and autonomous systems in industrial value chains — not simulations or theory, but live pilots with SMEs and scaleups.

**Technology transfer know-how:** Learn how innovation reaches the market. You will gain practical understanding of TRL progression, IP protection and licensing, open science principles, and how to turn research results into adoptable solutions.

**From idea to venture:** Develop a clear view of the full innovation journey — shaping value propositions, validating use cases with companies, assessing ROI, and supporting go/no-go decisions for technology investments.

**Ecosystem access and visibility:** Build a strong professional network across Estonia and Europe through close collaboration with AIRE's 300+ companies, researchers, and innovation leaders. You will participate in **AIRE Club events, ecosystem seminars, and major AI and deep-tech gatherings**, including **Latitude59, TalTech's Innovation Festival, Industry 5.0 events**, and other leading community forums.

**Mentorship and real responsibility:** Work side-by-side with experienced innovation and technology transfer specialists, shadowing senior colleagues while taking ownership of meaningful tasks — gaining confidence, skills, and practical insight that would typically take years to acquire.

By the end of the secondment, you will not only understand innovation systems — you will have actively contributed to them.

### Desired profile •

- **General interest in innovation or R&I activities**, including supporting projects in a variety of ways (e.g., coordination, administration, communication, or technical assistance).
- **Comfort collaborating with different people and teams**, helping keep things organised, following up on actions, and supporting smooth coordination with stakeholders.
- **Willingness to learn and grow in a cross-sector environment**, with curiosity about new topics and ways of working.
- **Any exposure to or curiosity about AI, robotics, or engineering is an advantage**, but not required.



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(101216484)



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### Duration & Flexibility •

#### **Duration 1,5 months between May and October 2026**

Possibility to split into **up to 4 shorter stays** (short modular visits within the 1 to 2-month total), subject to agreement.

**July is the typical vacation period in Estonia.**