



VACANCY NOTICE - CONTRACT AGENT

Job title	Policy officer – Medical Counter Measures innovation and funding
Reference	EC-2026-HERA-528339
Application deadline	23.10.2026 - 12.00 (Brussels time)
Directorate-General (full name)	Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority
Unit	Unit HERA.4, Intelligence Gathering, Innovation and funding, Brussels
Place of assignment	Brussels
Domain	Health
Contract type and Function Group	Contract Agent 3b FG IV

About us

We are the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (DG HERA). DG HERA 's mission is to improve preparedness and response for serious cross-border threats to health by ensuring access to medical countermeasures (MCM). It includes:

- strengthening health security coordination involving all relevant actors during preparedness and crisis response times and bringing together the EU Member States, industry and relevant stakeholders in a common effort;
- addressing vulnerabilities and strategic dependencies related to the development, production, procurement, stockpiling and distribution of MCM;
- contributing to reinforcing the global health emergency response.

DG HERA is responsible for the following tasks exercised in close cooperation with the Member States:

- assessment of health threats and intelligence gathering relevant to MCM;
- promoting advanced research and development of MCM and related technologies;
- addressing market challenges and boosting the Union's open strategic autonomy in MCM development and production;
- swift procurement and distribution of MCM;
- increasing stockpiling capacity of MCM;
- strengthening knowledge and skills in preparedness and response related to MCM.



HERA.04 is the Unit for Threats and MCM Intelligence, Innovation and Funding. The unit lays the foundations for structured and targeted pandemic preparedness and response planning in area of medical countermeasures (MCM) by developing and strengthening intelligence gathering systems and activities, including identifying, assessing and addressing serious cross-border health threats. To this end, this unit aims to promote research, innovation and development of medical countermeasures able to prevent, detect, and rapidly respond to health emergencies.

About the role

The post aims at to support research, innovation, and market access for medical countermeasures (MCM) across a large range of categories including vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, and personal protective equipment. This includes identifying MCMs addressing priority threats which are in R&D pipeline and contributing to the design of innovative funding mechanisms to enhance their accessibility and availability. This work will draw on a broad range of EU funding instruments, spanning from horizontal R&D as well as more thematic or sector specific support programmes.

These duties will involve actively collecting and assessing information derived from market and desk research, stakeholder engagement, and analysis of the funding landscape, including in HERA-like organisations within the EU and at global level. The post will also contribute to the launching, implementation and monitoring of support actions targeting both platform and threat-specific MCMs.

In addition, the successful candidate will be expected to support broader health and innovation policy activities, as required.

Qualifications, experience and skills

We are looking for a highly motivated and skilled colleague to join our team. The successful candidate should have a strong understanding of funding programmes, rules, and instruments under both direct and indirect management, as well as the management and implementation of health projects. Familiarity with policy development in the EU institutions is also essential, particularly in relation to funding programmes. A sound understanding of the technological specificities of medical countermeasures, combined with familiarity with their use would be expected.

As a Policy Officer you will play a critical role in designing innovation and market access actions, as well as in implementing innovative funding schemes and tools. You will translate the scientific needs and market realities of MCMs into EU initiatives, helping to ensure their availability and accessibility.

The successful candidate should demonstrate flexibility, adaptability and resilience, given DG HERA's role in supporting responses to health emergencies.



Atypical working hours including evenings and weekends may occasionally be required, particularly during emergencies

The position ideally requires a combination of scientific and policy background and experience. In addition, as the job holder will be expected to engage with a wide variety of stakeholders including academia, industry, EU agencies among other in diverse settings, and to represent the Commission in internal and external meetings, excellent oral and written communication skills in English are essential.

The candidate should also demonstrate the following knowledge, skills and experience:

- Scientific background would be highly desirable.
- Excellent organisational and time management skills, with the ability to manage multiple tasks and priorities.
- Strong problem-solving skills, results-oriented approach, attention to detail and initiative.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

How to express your interest?

You should send your documents in a single pdf in the following order:

1. Your CV
2. Completed application form

Please send these documents by the publication deadline to Ms. BURGOS GUTIERREZ Ana (Ana.BURGOS-GUTIERREZ@ec.europa.eu) indicating the selection reference **EC-2026-HERA-528339** and your CAST number

Eligibility

For eligibility, please consult [this page](#) with all the information needed.