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Do you want to help shape the future of the European Union? Make the planet greener, promote a fairer society, or support businesses and innovation across the EU? Then come and work for the European Commission where you can really make a difference!

Commission staff are a diverse group of people, who are motivated to help make Europe – and the world – a better place. They come from the 27 Member States of the European Union. Different nationalities, languages and cultures make the Commission a vibrant and inclusive working place.

WE OFFER ATTRACTIVE WORKING CONDITIONS AND MUCH MORE:

- Interesting and challenging positions with plenty of opportunities for training and acquiring new skills and competencies over your whole career;
- Opportunities to try several areas of work throughout your career;
- Flexible working conditions and the possibility of teleworking – we care about your work-life balance;
- A competitive financial package, including comprehensive sickness, accident and pension schemes;
- Multilingual schools for your kids;
- We are also proud to be an equal opportunity employer and promote diversity and inclusion.

We recruit from a wide range of backgrounds:

We are not only recruiting political scientists and lawyers but also looking for all kinds of profiles, including natural scientists, linguists and economists, as well as drivers and engineers.

For more information ec.europa.eu/work-with-us.



STAFF RECRUITED ON CONTRACTS

In addition to permanent officials, the European Commission often recruits non-permanent staff. There are two categories of non-permanent staff:

- [temporary agents](#) are recruited to fill vacant positions for a set amount of time or to perform highly specialised tasks.
- [contract agents](#) may provide additional capacity in specialised fields where an insufficient number of officials is available or carry out a number of administrative or manual tasks. They are generally recruited for fixed-term contracts (maximum 6 years in any EU Institution), but in some cases they can be offered contracts for an indefinite duration (in offices, agencies, delegations or representations).

For more information on different [staff categories](#).



External Relations officer - Eastern Partnership, Russia, Central Asia and Enlargement

DG TAXUD of the European Commission

Selection reference: TAXUD/COM/2024/77

Domain: External Relations

Where: TAXUD.A.5 Unit - International Coordination and EU Enlargement, Brussels

Staff category and Function Group: Temporary agent 2b - Administrator

Grade: grade range AD5-AD7

Publication deadline: 24.01.2024 - 12.00 (Brussels time)

WE ARE

The Directorate General Customs and Taxation (DG TAXUD) mission is to promote fair and sustainable policies that generate revenue for the EU and its Member States and ensure that EU citizens and businesses benefit from global trade and a safe and secure Single Market protected at its borders.

Within DG TAXUD, Directorate A (Customs) is in charge of the EU Customs Union and customs policy, including among others, managing EU international relations, primarily in customs, supporting the enlargement process, and developing customs policies and legislation for the rules of origin for goods and customs valuation.

Unit A5 contributes to its policy in the area of EU bilateral relations with third countries and of the EU enlargement. One of the main tasks is to define and coordinate the EU international customs policies as the external dimension of the EU customs union, promoting the vision of the EU on customs matters in the world, in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Union Customs Code reform. The Unit negotiates the customs related provisions in EU bilateral agreements with partner countries, ensuring the protection and security of the EU internal market while promoting the facilitation of trade. It also ensures the correct implementation of these provisions, the progressive alignment of EU candidates to the customs and taxation files and the respect of key EU legislation such as sanctions. The Unit monitors the application by third countries of the relevant provisions, updates them when necessary, and keeps close cooperation with third countries, chairing the relevant international bodies with EU partner countries in coordination with EU Member States.



WE PROPOSE

TAXUD Unit A5 is seeking to hire a Temporary agent of an International Relations Officer in a high-profile unit, coordinating the international relationships on customs and taxation with the Eastern partnership and Central Asian countries. The main tasks will be the implementation of the customs and taxation provisions of the existing agreements between the EU and the these countries, working on measures to facilitate the exports from Ukraine through the neighbouring Member States (EU-Ukraine Platform and Solidarity Lanes), and the application by customs of the EU restrictive measures on the import and export of goods related to the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine in relation to the same countries. The officer will also contribute to the process of accession of Eastern partnership countries to the EU. The officer will be expected to provide advice on customs and customs-related areas (including as appropriate indirect taxation), and will liaise with other concerned services within DG TAXUD as well as in other DGs.

WE LOOK FOR

We look for a highly motivated colleague with a high sense of responsibility, who can take initiatives and who has the necessary communication skills to work effectively with the colleagues in the sector, unit and directorate as well as externally, and willing to rise up to the challenges posed by the relationship between the EU and the Eastern Partnership and Central Asian countries. The main specific requirement are:

- Knowledge and at least 10 years' experience in customs and customs-related matters including controls, as well as regarding international relations and negotiations. Solidity and reliability on the substance, commitment and ability to deliver, and sound judgement will be particularly appreciated. Understanding of taxation and statistics would be a plus.
- Knowledge and solid experience in the EU enlargement process.
- Knowledge and solid experience in the application by customs of restrictive measures on the import and export of goods.
- Very good analytical capacity, to deal with complex and sensitive files and to think creatively to find solutions, and ability to take initiatives and to work autonomously to develop and implement policies.
- Experience in/knowledge of the countries concerned, as well as sufficient working knowledge of Russian and a basic knowledge of Ukrainian, would be highly appreciated.
- Ability to draft/review international legal texts.
- Diplomatic skills to manage relations with third countries and other outside counterparts.

HOW TO EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST?

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

1. your CV 2. motivation letter 3. duly filled in application form.

Please send these documents by the publication deadline to TAXUD-UNIT-A5@ec.europa.eu indicating the selection reference TAXUD/COM/2024/77 in the subject.

No applications will be accepted after the publication deadline.

(Reference: Selection reference TAXUD/COM/2024/77)



ANNEX

1. Selection

➤ Am I eligible to apply?

You must meet the following eligibility criteria when you validate your application:

Our rules provide that you can only be recruited as a temporary agent at the European Commission if you:

General criteria:

- Are a citizen of a Member State of the EU and enjoy full rights as a citizen;
- Have fulfilled any obligations imposed by applicable laws concerning military service;
- Are physically fit to perform the duties linked to the post;
- Produce the appropriate character references as to suitability for the performance of the duties.

Qualifications:

In order to be recruited in this position, you must have at least a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies of at least 3 years attested by a diploma.

Only qualifications issued or recognised as equivalent by EU Member State authorities (e.g. by the Ministry of Education) will be accepted. Furthermore, before recruitment, you will be required to provide the documents that corroborate the eligibility criteria (diplomas, certificates and other supporting documents).

Languages:

- have a thorough knowledge (minimum level C1) of one of the 24 official languages of the EU¹
- AND a satisfactory knowledge (minimum level B2) of a second official language of the EU, to the extent necessary for the performance of the duties.

¹ The official languages of the European Union are: BG (Bulgarian), CS (Czech), DA (Danish), DE (German), EL (Greek), EN (English), ES (Spanish), ET (Estonian), FI (Finnish), FR (French), GA (Irish), HR (Croatian), HU (Hungarian), IT (Italian), LT (Lithuanian), LV (Latvian), MT (Maltese), NL (Dutch), PL (Polish), PT (Portuguese), RO (Romanian), SK (Slovak), SL (Slovenian), SV (Swedish).



➤ **What about the selection steps?**

The post was published internally within the Commission, inter-institutionally, and brought to the attention of competition laureates.

In accordance with Article 29 of the Staff Regulations, applications from Commission officials, officials from other Institutions, and laureates of competitions have priority. Only in the case that no suitable candidate can be found from the afore-mentioned categories this vacancy notice is published and is open to other applicants².

The selection panel will choose a limited number of candidates for interview, based on the CV and motivation letter that they submitted. Due to the large volume of applications, we may receive, **only candidates selected for the next step of the selection phase will be notified.**

For operational reasons and in order to complete the selection procedure as quickly as possible in the interest of the candidates and of the institution, the selection procedure will be carried out in English.

2. Recruitment

The candidate selected for recruitment will be requested to supply documentary evidence in support of the statements made in their application.

The successful candidate will be required to undergo a mandatory pre-recruitment medical check-up, carried out by the Commission.

➤ **Type of contract and working conditions**

The place of employment will be in **Brussels**.

In case the successful candidate is an external candidate, s/he will be engaged as a **temporary agent under Article 2(b)/2(d) of the [Conditions of Employment of Other Servants](#), in function group AD.**

The recruitment grade, as well as the step in that grade, will be defined on the basis of the duration of the candidates' previous appropriate professional experience, in accordance with [Commission Decision C\(2013\)8970](#) laying down the criteria applicable to classification in step on engagement.

² Officials from the Commission or other Institutions are invited to use the standard channels (Sysper or inter-institutional vacancy portal).



The duration of the **1st contract will be of 1 to 3 years**. The contract might then be extended only once for a maximum of 2 years and in the interest of service. The duration of the extension will be defined according to the General Implementation Rules in force at that moment, in accordance with [Commission Decision C\(2013\)9049](#) on policies for the engagement and use of temporary agents.

All new staff have to successfully complete a 9-month probationary period.

The pay of staff members consists of a basic salary supplemented with specific allowances, including, where applicable, expatriation and family allowances. The provisions guiding the calculation of these allowances can be consulted in the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants. As a member of staff of the European institutions, your pay is subject to a tax raised by those institutions.

The European Commission applies a policy of equal opportunities and non-discrimination in accordance with Article 1d of the Staff Regulations.

Should you need further information on working conditions, please refer to [Working conditions and benefits of EU Careers](#).

For information related to Data Protection, please see the [Specific Privacy Statement](#) under “7. Information to data subjects on their rights”, to find your rights and how to exercise them in addition to the privacy statement, which summarises the processing of your data.