



## **MAKE A DIFFERENCE – JOIN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

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](https://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 Auditor

## Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission

**Selection reference: AGRI/COM/2023/2887**

**Domain\*:** Audit, Inspection and Control

**Where:** Unit H.4 - (AGRI.H.4 Assurance and financial audit), Brussels

**Staff category and Function Group:** Administrator - Principal Administrator

**Grade:** AD5-AD7

**Publication deadline:** 29/01/2024

### WE ARE

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The Financial Audit Unit of the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, which has the following key responsibilities:

- The annual financial clearance of accounts exercise. This activity aims to provide the Commission with reasonable assurance that the expenditure declared by the Member States and Candidate Countries' paying agencies as set out in their annual accounts is true, complete, and accurate and that their management and control systems have worked adequately. This activity covers agricultural expenditure of almost €55 billion per year.
- The continuing assessment of Member States' and Candidate Countries' Paying Agencies' internal control systems by carrying out audits to obtain assurance that the management and control systems are in place and work properly and in particular to verify their effectiveness and conformity with the Regulations and the Guidelines on clearance of accounts.
- The ongoing provision of such assistance and advice to contribute to improving the management and control systems by proposing modifications of EU legislation and addressing recommendations and guidelines to the Member States and Candidate Countries.

The Unit currently has 26 staff and boasts a positive working atmosphere and a strong "esprit de corps". Most Member States are represented.

### WE PROPOSE

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A job in a friendly and motivating environment. We believe in good and open communication, trust and confidence at all levels.

The Accreditation & Irregularities team of unit H4 follows up the compliance with the accreditation criteria and the Debtors management of some 76 Paying Agencies in Member States implementing the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) budget, thus contributing to providing the Commission with reasonable assurance that the internal control systems of the Member States' Paying Agencies

(Selection reference AGRI/COM/2023/2887)



have worked adequately and that the expenditure set in their annual accounts is true, complete and accurate.

The main responsibilities cover the analysis of the annual accounts of the Paying Agencies and reports of the Certification Bodies, the follow-up of these audit reports and the assessment of the effectiveness of the control systems in Member States in managing the use of EU resources in the field of agricultural and rural development expenditure and preventing fraud.

## **WE LOOK FOR**

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A dynamic, willing and well organised accountant or auditor. He/she should be able to work independently as well as in a team as the function requires team spirit, flexibility and reliability. Knowledge of the standard Commission IT tools would be an asset. Good oral and written command of the English language is required as well as a working knowledge of French. The candidate should be prepared to undertake 2-3 missions per year, including with departure on Sundays.



## **HOW TO EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST?**

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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 **[agri-financial-audit@ec.europa.eu](mailto:agri-financial-audit@ec.europa.eu)** indicating the selection reference AGRI/COM/2023/2887 in the subject.

**No applications will be accepted after the publication deadline.**



## 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 EU<sup>1</sup>
- 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.

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<sup>1</sup> 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 applicants<sup>2</sup>.

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 and possibly in a second official language.

## **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.**

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



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.

The duration of the **1<sup>st</sup> 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.