



## **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](#).



# Laboratory Technician - Scientific and technical support officer DG JRC of the European Commission

**Selection reference:** JRC/COM/2024/605

**Domain:** Science and Research

**Where:** Unit JRC F.4 – Food Integrity, Geel (Belgium)

**Staff category and Function Group:** Temporary agent 2d – Laboratory Technician - Scientific and technical support officer

**Grade:** AST 1-3

**Publication deadline:** 27/03/2024 - 12.00 (Brussels time)

## WE ARE

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The Joint Research Centre provides independent, evidence-based knowledge and science, supporting EU policies to positively impact society.

We provide anticipatory capacity, solid expertise and ability to propose and implement interdisciplinary research. The activities are carried out in collaboration with relevant Commission Services, national and international organizations and stakeholders.

The JRC is located in 5 Member States (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain).

More details can be found at: <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en>

The current vacancy is in the Directorate for Health and Food - its mission is to protect health and promote wellbeing by ensuring that EU policies and regulations make the best use of scientific knowledge, evidence and standards. The Directorate work programme is built around three multifaceted thematic pillars, namely Non-Communicable Diseases, One Health, and Sustainable Food Systems. The directorate employs novel community-bridging practices to foster a multidimensional, interdisciplinary and anticipatory understanding of innovation and future regulatory and policy needs. A key aim is to unlock the full potential of the bio-revolution driving disruptive change in life and health science sectors, focusing on safety, security and enhancement of the European way of life.

Specifically the vacancy is in the Unit “Food Integrity”. Its mission is to produce, collect and validate the evidence base necessary for detecting and preventing fraud in the food chain and contributing to the fight against illicit consumer products.

The Unit is located in Geel, Belgium with some staff based in also in Ispra, Italy and is composed of about 24 staff members: 7 ADs, 3 AST and 14 Contractual Agents.



## **WE PROPOSE**

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We propose a technical laboratory position contributing to scientific and laboratory activities in the chemical analysis domain. In particular, the activity focuses on method development for the identification of fraud in food and consumer products such as tobacco, based on their elemental composition. Support is also provided to the activity on chemical identification of synthetic or natural substances such as drugs anabolic substances, etc. The work is performed using advanced state of the art spectroscopic analytical techniques and cheminformatics methods for data management and processing.

The tasks concern the handling of samples, preparing libraries, operating analytical instruments such as X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF), Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR), Liquid Chromatography High Resolution Mass Spectrometer (LC-HRMS), thermogravimetric Analyses (TGA) and RAMAN spectroscopy and ensuring the sound data management of analytical data through informatic tools.

The job holder will perform routine instrument maintenance, calibration, and quality control procedures to ensure the accuracy and reliability of analytical data. S/he will handle the data management of the raw and processed analytical data obtained from the analyses on the instruments. S/he will produce, organise and archive data files, maintain proper documentation, and assist the data processing analysis and storage.

S/he will collaborate with the scientific cheminformatic processing and for further use in reference analytical libraries and/or databases.

Familiarity with methods of data management and processing as applied in metabolomics would be an advantage.

## **WE LOOK FOR**

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The candidate should adhere to rigorous scientific judgement and approaches all along the workflow of measurement and processing as required for ensuring traceability and integrity of data. S/he should follow and establish quality control measures, maintain a clean and safe laboratory environment as well as an excellent organisation for traceability and storage of data.

We look for a dynamic, skilled and highly motivated laboratory technician with an education in Biosciences or Chemical sciences and at least 3 years of experience in techniques used for chemical analysis.

The jobholder should have very good command of English and of another EU official language. S/he should be able to work in a multicultural environment.



## **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 [HR-JRC-GEE-SELECTION-RECRUITMENT@ec.europa.eu](mailto:HR-JRC-GEE-SELECTION-RECRUITMENT@ec.europa.eu) indicating the selection reference COM/2024/605 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 either a level of post-secondary education attested by a diploma, or a level of secondary education attested by a diploma giving access to post-secondary education, and appropriate professional experience of at least three years.

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 **Geel**.

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

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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.