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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](#).



Case Handler Officer

DG COMP of the European Commission

Selection reference: COMP/COM/2024/2419

Domain: Law

Where: Unit COMP.E.4 - Mergers, Brussels

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

Grade: AD 5-8

Publication deadline: 03/12/2024 - 12.00 (Brussels time)

WE ARE

We are unit COMP/E4, responsible for merger control in Directorate E (Basic Industries, Manufacturing and Agriculture) in DG Competition (DG COMP). The core task of our unit is the assessment of mergers in sectors covering everything from mining, basic industries (e.g., steel), manufacturing, aerospace and defense industries, agriculture and food processing to consumer goods and retail. Representative matters handled by the unit in recent years have included the Bunge/Viterra merger (agricultural products), the Norsk Hydro/Alumetal and KPS Capital Partners/Real Alloy mergers (aluminium recycling), the Cargotec/Konecranes merger (port equipment), the Arubis/Metallo merger (refining of copper scrap), the Tata Steel/ThyssenKrupp merger (steel), the Bayer/ Monsanto and Dow/DuPont mergers (crop protection), the Essilor/Luxottica merger (eyewear) as well as the Boeing/Embraer merger (aerospace). We are a relatively young and dynamic team composed of 24 case handlers responsible for investigating cases and drafting decisions, 4 case assistants responsible for secretarial and organizational support, usually 2 trainees and 2 case managers coordinating the case work. We are one of the largest merger units in DG COMP, with the mission to enforce merger control rules at EU level across the whole economy.

WE PROPOSE

We offer a case handler position in a dynamic and intellectually stimulating environment. The core of a case-handler's work consists in assessing mergers with the goal of preserving effective competition in the EU Single Market. Case handlers work in teams composed of at least two case handlers, a case assistant and a case manager. Case handling work includes meetings with the parties to the concentration and their lawyers, understanding supply and value chains for the relevant product markets, reviewing internal strategy documents of the parties, conducting market investigations by means of requests for information, interviews with customers, suppliers and competitors of the parties, cooperating with competition authorities in other jurisdictions (e.g. the US or China), as well as contacts with regulatory bodies. Case handlers are also responsible for ensuring that procedures are correctly applied, preparing negotiations with the parties and drafting the final Commission decisions. In addition to their case work for Unit COMP/E4, case handlers may



be asked to work on mergers in other sectors within DG Competition's merger network, to draft speeches and briefings and to participate in cross-unit working groups on policy issues and legislation. The wide range of industries covered by the unit gives the opportunity to get acquainted with the dynamics of various markets and to explore different theories of harm. While the work is challenging due to strict legal deadlines, it is varied, rewarding and has a real impact on the economy, on industry and corporate structures and on consumers' daily life. We encourage open discussion and creativity as cases often raise novel legal and economic issues. In addition, the hierarchical structure in the Merger Network is very lean; case teams led by a case manager report directly to the responsible Director and to the DDG for mergers and make suggestions on case orientation to the EU Commissioner responsible for Competition.

WE LOOK FOR

The ideal candidate is a curious, dynamic individual with lots of common sense, who enjoys a fast-paced working environment. Strong analytical and proven drafting skills are a requisite, together with a sense of initiative and the ability to deliver output within tight deadlines. The candidate must also be open-minded and a real team player. A background in law, economics, engineering and/or business and working experience in competition law are clear assets. A good command of English is essential; knowledge of other languages is an asset.

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 COMP-TA-APPLICATION@ec.europa.eu indicating the selection reference COMP/COM/2024/2419 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 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 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.**

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.