**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, backgrounds, languages and cultures make the Commission a vibrant and inclusive place to work.

**WE OFFER ATTRACTIVE WORKING CONDITIONS AND MUCH MORE:**

* Interesting and challenging positions with plenty of opportunities for training and acquiring new skills and competencies throughout your whole career
* Opportunities to try several areas of move between different policy your career
* A package of flexible working conditions including the possibility of teleworking – we care about your work-life balance
* A competitive financial package, including comprehensive healthcare, accident and pension schemes
* A multilingual, multicultural workplace where personal and career development are strongly promoted
* Multilingual schools for your children

**We recruit from a wide range of backgrounds and actively promote diversity and inclusion:**

We do not only recruit political scientists and lawyers but are also looking for all kinds of profiles, including scientists, linguists, IT experts, data analysts and economists, as well as drivers and engineers.

We are committed to equal opportunities and to fostering a rich, diverse and inclusive working environment. We aim for our workforce to be representative of European society and strongly welcome applications from all qualified candidates. We actively seek to create a workplace where each staff member feels valued and respected, can give their best and can develop to their full potential.

To promote diversity and establish a geographically balanced pool of candidates, we strongly encourage applicants from Member States which are currently underrepresented in the European Commission workforce to apply. These Member States are currently Austria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Netherlands, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Sweden[[1]](#footnote-1). Recruitment will however remain strictly based on the merits of all applicants and no positions will be reserved for nationals of any specific Member State.

**STAFF RECRUITED ON CONTRACTS**

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

* [**temporary agents**](https://epso.europa.eu/en/selection-procedure/how-apply) are recruited to fill vacant positions for a set amount of time or to perform highly specialised tasks.
* [**contract agents**](https://epso.europa.eu/en/selection-procedure/how-apply) 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](https://epso.europa.eu/en/eu-careers/staff-categories#tab-0)

**IT Security Officer:**

**Penetration Tester -**

**Offensive Security team**

**in DIGIT CERT-EU of the European Commission**

**Job title:** IT Security Officer: Penetration Tester - Offensive Security team

**Domain:** Information and Communication Technologies

**Where**: DIGIT.CERT-EU, Brussels

**Function Group**: FG IV

**Contract Type**: 3b

**Express your interest until**: 01.04.2025 - 12.00 (Brussels time)

**WE ARE**

# DIGIT-Digital Services is the Directorate whose aim is to deliver digital services to enable EU policies and to support the Commission’s internal administration. CERT-EU is the Cybersecurity Service for the European Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies (Union entities). CERT-EU is administratively attached to DIGIT.

Established in 2011 to shore up the ICT security for the Union entities, we have been steadily expanding our IT security operations over the years and currently serve over 90 such entities spread across the Continent and beyond. From our base in Brussels, we work with a range of peers, partners and researchers from all over the world to ensure we maintain our technological edge and have access to the best-in-class expertise.

**WE PROPOSE**

# DIGIT CERT-EU is seeking to hire a truly motivated “IT Security Officer: Penetration Tester” to join our Offensive Security team.

The primary purpose of this role is to provide cybersecurity services to more than 90 European Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies. Our penetration testers also work closely with the other experts of the Offensive Security Team and collaborate frequently with other CERT-EU teams.

The main activities of the selected candidate will include, but are not limited to:

* Vulnerability assessments and scans
* Penetration testing, mainly web applications, including reporting and recommendations.

The job holder will be involved in projects aiming at delivering new service capabilities and will participate in the definition, implementation and delivery of such projects.

# In addition to the main duties, the selected candidate will participate in the general set of tasks executed by the team, which include:

# Setting up and maintaining the inventory of identified vulnerabilities and the measures undertaken to reduce the associated risks

# Communicating with business owners and technical stakeholders

# Suggesting possible improvements to the operational processes, and reporting on the efficiency and maturity of the vulnerability assessment and penetration testing services

# Evaluating, deploying and maintaining tools and solutions needed to deliver the services

# Assessing findings and writing detailed reports

# Cooperating with Union entities and third-party service providers

# Translating findings into clear and actionable corrective measures.

**WE LOOK FOR**

# The ideal candidate must possess at least two years of experience as penetration tester.

# The ideal candidate will possess some, or all, of the following knowledge/experience/skills:

# Web application assessment experience with thorough knowledge of OWASP

# Familiarity with security testing tools (e.g. Burp Suite)

# Knowledgeable with mobile application testing (DAST/SAST)

# Service delivery experience

# Experience in vulnerability assessments and penetration testing in cloud environments

# Penetration testing security certification (e.g. GWAPT, OSCP, OSCE)

# Coding capability (e.g. Python, Go)

# Experience in automating processes.

# The selected candidate should also demonstrate the following required skills and characteristics:

# Analytic sharpness in ability to think like a threat actor or attacker

# A strong focus on understanding and prioritising customer needs

# Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, including the ability to deal with a large amount of information in a limited time

# Ability to establish and maintain effective working relations with co-workers in an international and multi-disciplinary work environment

# A high degree of commitment and flexibility

# Excellent communication skills in English, both orally and in writing

# A focus on constant learning and improvement of technical and personal skills

# The ability to adjust to a wide range of IT technologies and swiftly become proficient in new ones.

# The candidate must hold a security clearance at EU SECRET level or be in a position to be security cleared.

**HOW TO EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST?**

With a view to guaranteeing equal access to all, the Commission recruits from an open database of spontaneous applications. The present call for interests aims at helping the recruiters to identify potentially interested candidates within this database.

In practice, to express your interest, please follow the subsequent two steps:

1. If you are not registered yet in the open EPSO database, please do so at the following address: [CAST Permanent](https://eu-careers.europa.eu/en/job-opportunities/open-for-application). Please select under selection procedures for contract agent the CAST permanent profile that best suits your education and experience.
2. 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 *secretariat@cert.europa.eu* indicating the call for interest reference EC/2025/DIGIT/473318 in the subject.

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

# ANNEX

# *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 contract 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 position;
* Produce the appropriate character references as to suitability for the performance of the duties.
* Have passed an EPSO CAST in the relevant Function Group for this position. At the stage of the application, it is sufficient to be registered in the [EPSO CAST](https://eu-careers.europa.eu/en/job-opportunities/open-for-application) data base.

## Qualifications:

1. Have a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies of at least three 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.

## Languages:

* have a thorough knowledge (minimum level C1) of one of the 24 official languages of the EU[[2]](#footnote-2)
* AND have a satisfactory knowledge (minimum level B2)[[3]](#footnote-3) of a second official language of the EU, to the extent necessary for the performance of the duties.

# What about the selection steps?

The selecting unit chooses from the EPSO database[[4]](#footnote-4) candidates with the appropriate profile and invites them to an interview. For the interview a selection panel is set-up to assess the best candidates. Due to the large volume of applications that we may receive only candidates selected for the interview 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.

# *Recruitment*

The candidate selected for recruitment will be requested to provide documentary evidence in support of the statements made in the database and, where relevant, the call for interest.

The successful candidate will be required to undergo a mandatory pre-recruitment medical check-up carried out by the Commission. Candidates are required to undergo a security vetting that is conducted with the national administration of the Member State.

# Type of contract and working conditions

# The place of employment will be in Brussels.

The successful candidate will be engaged as a **contract agent under Article 3(b) of the** [Conditions of Employment of Other Servants](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A01962R0031-20140501)**, in function group FG IV.** General information on Contract Agents can be found at this [link](https://epso.europa.eu/en/eu-careers/staff-categories#tab-Contract%20staff).

The grade or proposed grade range, as well as the step in that grade, will be defined on the basis of the candidates’ previous professional experience, in accordance with [Commission Decision C(2017)6760](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/detail?ref=C(2017)6760&lang=en) laying down the criteria applicable to classification in step on engagement.

The duration of thefirst**contract will be of 1 year.** Subject to the interest of the service, the contract can be extended to a maximum duration of 6 years.

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(2017)6760](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/detail?ref=C(2017)6760&lang=en) on policies for the engagement and use of contract 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.

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| 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](https://epso.europa.eu/en/eu-careers/benefits#tab-Work/Life%20Balance). |

For information related to Data Protection, please see the Specific [Privacy Statement](https://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register/detail/DPR-EC-02054.3) 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.

1. Please note that the list of underrepresented Member States may be subject to future amendment based on potential data changes over time. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 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). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. For details on language levels, please see the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/resources/european-language-levels-cefr). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Therefore, candidates who did not pass already a CAST on the level Function Group [IV], should register their profile at this [address](https://epso.europa.eu/en/job-opportunities/open-for-application). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)