



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 GREAT JOBS AND GREAT WORKING CONDITIONS:

- Interesting and challenging jobs with plenty of opportunities for training and acquiring new skills and competencies throughout your whole career
- Opportunities to move between different policy areas throughout 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, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Netherlands, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Sweden¹. 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.

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

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](#) 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](#)

¹ Please note that the list of underrepresented Member States may be subject to future amendment based on potential data changes over time.



Project Assistant – Support Laboratory Activities

Directorate-General Joint Research Centre (DG JRC) of the European Commission

Selection reference: JRC/COM/2026/33

Domain Science and Research

Where: Unit JRC.F.2 - „Technologies for Health“, Ispra

Staff category and Function Group: Temporary agent 2d-Assistant

Grade range: AST1-3

Publication deadline: 15.05.2026 - 12.00 (Brussels time)

WE ARE

As the science and knowledge service of the European Commission, 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 organisations and stakeholders. At the JRC we organise our work in portfolios which are the main building blocks of our multi-annual work programmes. The JRC is located in five Member States (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain). More information about the JRC and its portfolios can be found at: https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/index_en

The current vacancy is in the Directorate for Health and Food (JRC.F). 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 within the Technologies for Health Unit (JRC.F.2), which has the mission to support EU health and food policies with safe, sustainable and innovative solutions and technologies, by evaluating available evidence, performing state-of-the-art measurements and generating knowledge for use throughout the policy cycle.

The current vacancy supports the Unit work on the development and characterisation of analytical approaches (methods) to quantify health-relevant chemicals and nanomaterials in food, products



and other complex matrices. It supports research programme and projects in particular in relation to advanced materials and food /food technologies innovation and standardisation so that the Unit achieves its objectives and contributes to the overall Directorate, portfolio and JRC objectives. It also supports the JRC Nanobiotechnology laboratory in its open access and training activities.

The post is located in Ispra.

WE PROPOSE

You will be working in the Novel/Nano in Food activity group. We conduct applied research focused on the development and validation of analytical methods for the identification and quantification of key chemicals and nanoparticulate or materials of regulatory relevance. Our work spans multiple domains, with a particular emphasis on food innovation – including the characterisation of novel food ingredients, alternative protein sources and process contaminants – to support regulatory compliance and scientific advancement in these areas.

As project assistant, with your technical skills and laboratory experience, you will be in charge of the operation and maintenance of scientific instrumentation, such as HPLC, ICP-MS, GC-MS etc. You will also be in charge of the preparation of experimental setups for the development and validation of (bio)/chemical methods targeting priority chemicals and testing of inorganic/organic particulate materials (e.g. engineered nanomaterials) in food, health, and environmental contexts.

You will report experimental data and contribute to the writing of reports and scientific articles and present the Unit's work at different fora. You will contribute to plan and deliver practical training sessions on laboratory techniques to various stakeholders. You will also support our efforts in harmonisation and standardisation of methodologies for international organisations such as OECD, ISO and CEN.

You will help facilitate the order for supplies of consumables, new equipment and their maintenance with the team. You will liaise with the unit's safety officer to ensure the safety of the laboratory rooms.

Our teams are very well gender-balanced and are composed of friendly and enthusiastic colleagues working in a truly multilingual and multicultural context.

You will help us support EU stakeholders (e.g. DGs SANTE in particular), as well EU Agencies such as EFSA and ECHA.

WE LOOK FOR

We are looking for a motivated and experienced scientific assistant with a solid scientific foundation in chemistry.

You must have at least three years of recent and relevant research/working experience, particularly in analytical chemistry. Experience in the development of analytical methods is desired. Proven recent practical experience in operating and maintaining scientific instrumentation (e.g. HPLC, ICP-MS, GC-MS, AF4, DLS etc.) in a laboratory context for chemical/biological analytical measurements



is required. Experience in food safety, health-related domains or nanomaterials is desired, with publications in peer reviewed scientific journals and reports being an advantage. Experience in planning and delivering hands-on training sessions on laboratory techniques to stakeholders is an asset.

We look for a positive, committed and dynamic colleague, with good organisational skills and ability to deliver results timely, a strong sense of initiative, an eye for details and the ability to prioritise and work under pressure. Good analytical and drafting skills are a requirement.

You should have good interpersonal and collaboration skills, a positive attitude and good team spirit with proven ability to work in teams and possess resilience and a flexible mindset open to new working methods.

You should possess a willingness to interact with both internal and external stakeholders of the JRC, with good communication skills suited to a multi-cultural environment and adopt a service-oriented approach.

A good command of English (at least B2 of the CEFR) as well as a good knowledge of another official EU language is required. Knowledge of the Italian language 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. completed application form.

Please send these documents by the publication deadline to HR-JRC-OFFICIALS-TEMPORARY-AGENTS-SELECTION@ec.europa.eu indicating the selection reference JRC/COM/2026/33 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 for this position, you must have at least

- 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 EU²
- 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.

➤ What about the selection steps?

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

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).



In accordance with Article 29 of the Staff Regulations, applications from Commission officials, officials from other Institutions, and laureates of competitions have priority³. If these candidates do not best fit the requirements for the position, the Commission can recruit a temporary agent.

For temporary agents under Article 2(a) of the [Conditions of Employment of Other Servants](#), the post is published directly on the EPSO website, without mandatory prior internal publication.

A selection panel will choose a limited number of candidates for interview, based on the CV and application form 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 another 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 **Ispra**.

In case the successful candidate is not an official or a competition laureate, they will be recruited as a **temporary agent under Article 2(d) of the [Conditions of Employment of Other Servants](#), in function groups AST.**

³ Officials from the Commission or other Institutions are invited to use the standard channels (Sysper or inter-institutional vacancy portal).



➤ **Grade**

The recruitment grade, as well as the step in that grade, will be determined in accordance with [Commission Decision C\(2025\)4716](#) on policies for the engagement and use of temporary agents and with [Commission Decision C\(2013\)8970](#) laying down the criteria applicable to classification in step on engagement.

The recruitment grade will be calculated based on the qualifications and the number of years of professional experience, according to Art. 13 of the Commission Decision C(2025)4716. Higher grades may be granted exceptionally.

The duration of the **1st contract will be up to 4 years**. The contract might then be extended only once for a maximum of 2 years and in the interest of service, in accordance with [Commission Decision C\(2025\)4716](#) 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.