



## **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 Sweden<sup>1</sup>. 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](https://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](#)

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



# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ASSISTANT (AST)

## Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) of the European Commission

**Selection reference:** JUST/COM/2026/842

**Domain:** Justice and Human/Civil rights

**Where:** Unit JUST.01.002 External aspects of rule of law and judicial cooperation, Brussels

**Staff category and Function Group:** Temporary agent 2b – Assistant

**Grade range:** AST1-AST3

**Publication deadline:** 16.06.2026 - 12.00 (noon, Brussels time)

### WE ARE

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The mission of the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) is to vindicate and strengthen the rights of people living in the European Union, whether they are acting as citizens, as entrepreneurs, as consumers or as workers, wherever they are in the EU. Our policies are based on Europeans' core values and principles – freedom, democracy, rule of law, equality, tolerance, and respect for human rights.

The unit coordinates the international dimension of justice and consumer policies, including international data flows, in cooperation with all units. Regarding international coordination, the unit leads on the definition and implementation of strategic objectives, the development of activities and the shaping of cooperation with foreign partners on behalf of the DG.

In particular, the unit is responsible for:

- Relations with third countries;
- Relations with international organisations;
- Enlargement process and European Neighbourhood Policy – including rule of law and justice reform;
- Post Brexit matters;
- Mainstreaming JUST policies into EU external relations;
- Steering and contributing to, in coordination with relevant services, cooperation projects/Team Europe Initiatives in the area of justice.

Regarding international data flows, the unit is responsible for addressing protection issues at an international level, including by engaging in dialogue and negotiating data transfer instruments with non-EU countries/international organisations

On both aspects, the unit represents the DG in the relevant international fora, negotiations and events and works closely with the other Units in the DG, with other DGs and the European External Action Service.

(Selection reference JUST/COM/2026/842)



## **WE PROPOSE**

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We offer an interesting and challenging job as a policy assistant in the area of enlargement. The successful candidate will contribute to the coordination of the enlargement negotiations for DG JUST (including Screening and Sub-Committee meetings) and in particular the alignment with the justice and consumer acquis. This work will involve daily contacts with colleagues from DG JUST's line units, with DG ENEST, our Delegations and third countries concerned. We offer a friendly and flexible working environment where enthusiastic colleagues can make positive contributions.

## **WE LOOK FOR**

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We are looking for a Policy Assistant with strong organisational and coordination skills, with an eye for details, a dynamic team player willing to take initiative and with a high sense of commitment. At least 5 years of professional experience in the field of international relations, in particular in the area of pre-accession/enlargement, is required. Efficiency and flexibility under the pressure of strict deadlines are required. She/he should be able to identify and understand political context, think strategically about the priorities of the DG, and be able to present arguments in a logical and diplomatic manner. The successful candidate will also need to dispose of very good interpersonal skills, as many contacts with colleagues from other units, other services and countries concerned need to be maintained. Fluency in English is required.

## **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. completed application form.

Please send these documents by the publication deadline to **[JUST-01-vacancies@ec.europa.eu](mailto:JUST-01-vacancies@ec.europa.eu)** indicating the selection reference DG JUST/COM/2026/842 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 EU<sup>2</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>2</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<sup>3</sup>. If these candidates do not best fit the requirements for the position, the Commission can recruit a temporary agent.

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 (French).

## **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 **Brussels**.

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

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<sup>3</sup> 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 **1<sup>st</sup> contract will be of 1 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.