



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.



Legal and Policy Officer

Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space (DG DEFIS) of the European Commission

Selection reference: DEFIS/COM/2026/561

Domain*: Defence

Where: Unit A1 – “Defence Policy & Innovation”, Brussels

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

Grade range: AD5-7

Publication deadline: 19.06.2026 - 12.00 (Brussels time)

*: please use one of the standardised domains that can be found [here](#)

WE ARE

The Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space (DG-DEFIS) is the European Commission's department tasked with strengthening the competitiveness and innovation of the European Defence industry by ensuring the evolution of an able European defence technological and industrial base. The mission of Directorate A “Defence Policy” (composed of 3 Units) is:

- To impulse and coordinate development and delivery of comprehensive EU defence policy agenda across innovation, Ukraine support, military mobility, hybrid threats and single market integration.
- To drive forward the defence policy agenda through the promotion of the sustainable competitiveness of the EU Defence industrial and technological base, including through achieving better coordination of capability development, strengthening crisis response, and supporting cross-border defence cooperation overall.
- To create enabling conditions for market integration and innovation while ensuring coherence in the policy agenda regarding defence industrial programmes.

DEFIS.A.1 - Defence Policy & Innovation - The mission of DEFIS A1 is to - Develop and coordinate EU defence policy, regulatory and innovation initiatives, while ensuring strategic coordination with the European Defence Agency; - Shape industrial policy and drive defence innovation to accelerate the emergence of an innovative defence ecosystem (EU Defence Innovation Scheme, AGILE, Defence Transformation Roadmap).

WE PROPOSE

Unit DEFIS.A.1 of Directorate-General Defence Industry and Space is seeking to hire a Legal and Policy Officer with a focus on defence industrial policy.

The position will consist of designing, negotiating and implementing policy and legislative initiatives in support of defence industrial cooperation. As a **Legal and Policy Officer**, you will contribute to the implementation of the EU policies which support the competitiveness, innovation capacity and resilience of the European defence industry. You will be expected to follow the main trends impacting the defence sector, both within the EU and internationally, including through sectoral



analyses and foresight. You will contribute to shaping future EU initiatives supporting the adaptation of the European defence industry to an evolving security environment and will participate in the work related to the aerospace and defence ecosystem, including following up on major EU policy initiatives impacting the defence sector.

Key opportunities:

- Be at the forefront of efforts to accelerate the emergence of a competitive and innovative EU defence ecosystem and shape the future of EU defence policies, including through the implementation of the EU Defence Innovation Scheme (EUDIS), the new AGILE Programme and financial instruments supporting defence innovation.
- Follow inter-institutional negotiations with the European Parliament and the Council of the EU.
- Work closely with key stakeholders in the sector, including the European Defence Agency (EDA), the European External Action Service (EEAS), and other Commission DGs (e.g., GROW, ECFIN, RTD) to ensure strategic coordination; engage with Member States, industry stakeholders, academia, and financial institutions (e.g., EIB/EIF).
- Be part of a dynamic and highly dedicated team of economists, political scientists and lawyers.
- Benefit from the Commission's flexible working arrangements, professional training opportunities, and a multicultural, inclusive workplace in Brussels

WE LOOK FOR

We are seeking a highly motivated and experienced professional with a strong background in EU law and defence industrial policy, combined with excellent analytical and communication skills. The ideal candidate will have solid knowledge of the European defence industrial and technological base and proven experience in designing policy measures in support of industrial competitiveness. They will thrive in a fast-paced, collaborative environment and demonstrate a commitment to advancing Europe's defence and industrial objectives.

Essential requirements:

Education:

A recognised university degree (or equivalent) in law, European studies, political science, or a related field.

Professional experience:

At least 5 years of professional job-related experience, at national and/or international level.

Experience in defence or an excellent knowledge of defence is required.

Technical knowledge:

Solid knowledge of EU law.



Experience in drafting legal texts, monitoring legislation, and handling infringement procedures or compliance issues.

Familiarity with EU institutional structures and decision-making processes (e.g., co-decision procedure).

A sound knowledge of the financial and budgetary rules of the Commission will be considered a plus.

Key competences:

Strong resilience and ability to deal with complex policy files.

Ability to conceptualise complex legal/policy challenges, structure information, and propose pragmatic solutions.

Experience in interpreting legal texts and advising on their implementation.

Communication and drafting:

Excellent written and oral communication skills, including ability to draft clear, concise legal/policy documents, briefings, and speeches for high-level audiences.

Capacity to explain technical or specialised information to diverse stakeholders (e.g., Member States, industry, citizens).

Delivery and results orientation:

Proactive and autonomous work style with a strong eye for detail and accuracy.

Ability to prioritise tasks, manage deadlines, and deliver structured outputs in a dynamic environment.

Collaboration and adaptability:

Team player with proven ability to work effectively in interdisciplinary and multicultural settings.

Flexibility to adapt to evolving priorities and new demands.

Experience in people management and coordination of complex files will be considered an advantage.

Languages:

Oral fluency and advanced legal text drafting in English are essential (level C1).

Working knowledge of French (level B2) is required.

Personal qualities:

Commitment to EU values.

Diplomacy and tact in managing politically sensitive files.

Initiative and creativity in developing forward-looking policy solutions.



SPECIFIC CONDITIONS: The successful candidate will be required to undergo security vetting if they do not already hold security clearance at an appropriate level (EU secret), in accordance with the relevant security provisions.



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 DEFIS-A1@ec.europa.eu indicating the selection reference DEFIS/COM/2026/561 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:

FOR AD jobs: In order to be recruited for 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 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. 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 **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 groups AD.**

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.