



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.



Policy Officer – Digital Trade Negotiator

Directorate-General Trade and Economic Security (DG TRADE) of the European Commission

Selection reference: TRADE/COM/2026/1530

Domain: TRADE – EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Where: Unit B.3 – Digital Trade, Intellectual Property and Public Procurement, Brussels

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

Grade range: AD5-7

Publication deadline: 13.08.2026 – 12.00 (Brussels time)

WE ARE

DG Trade and Economic Security has the task of conducting the EU trade policy, one of the exclusive competences of the EU. Trade policy plays a critical role in building global partnerships, enhancing the EU's economic competitiveness, and defending the EU from unfair trade practices and threats to its economic security.

The mission of the Unit TRADE.B.3 is to advance the EU's trade and economic security policy objectives in three areas: Digital Trade, Intellectual Property, and Public Procurement.

The Unit develops and implements the EU's Digital Trade policy, aiming to agree on binding rules in the digital domain that connect the EU's economy with other centres of growth around the world, to ensure the EU's competitiveness, protect its economic security, and to promote its values. The Unit's engagement covers bilateral negotiations of both Digital Trade chapters in the EU's trade agreement and standalone Digital Trade Agreements, plurilateral engagement in the context of the WTO's E-commerce Joint Statement Initiative, and multilateral work in the WTO's Work Programme on E-commerce. On Intellectual Property (IP), the Unit develops and implements the EU's external IP policy, promotes effective protection and enforcement of IP rights worldwide, seeking to establish a level playing field by promoting coherent and predictable IP regulatory frameworks that facilitate cross-border trade and ensure robust protection for EU's innovators and creators. In the area of Public Procurement, the mission of the Unit is to ensure that transparency, competitiveness, non-discrimination and the rule of law become the standard for public procurement worldwide.



WE PROPOSE

We propose an interesting Policy Officer position for an enthusiastic and highly motivated colleague to join a dynamic negotiating team working on digital trade. This position offers the opportunity to work at the intersection of trade policy, digital issues, and international negotiations.

As a member of the Digital Trade Sector, the selected candidate will monitor and analyse global policy developments and third-country positions to inform and develop EU's negotiating positions in bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on digital trade. The selected candidate will prepare the substantive and technical basis for these positions and assist in preparing and carrying out negotiation rounds and will also contribute to drafting EU policy and legislative documents relating to digital trade.

In addition, the selected candidate will represent the DG in technical meetings and working groups, provide briefings to senior officials, and contribute to internal reporting on developments in the digital trade field. Throughout this work, the selected candidate will coordinate closely with other Commission services, Member States, and external stakeholders to ensure a consistent and robust EU negotiating stance.

The position may involve regular international travel.

WE LOOK FOR

The ideal candidate should demonstrate excellent analytical and conceptual skills, combined with the ability to draft clearly and present complex issues effectively.

The candidate should demonstrate a solid understanding of the EU regulatory framework relating to digital trade or general trade policy.

A legal background and experience with the internal working procedures of the Commission would be a strong asset.

The candidate should have a proven ability to negotiate and represent the Commission in various fora, while ensuring effective cooperation with Member States, the European Parliament, and external stakeholders. Initiative, strong policy development skills, and the ability to work in close coordination with other services within DG TRADE and across the Commission are essential.

The position also requires excellent communication skills, the ability to master technical details, and the willingness to learn the relevant EU acquis, while understanding and assessing third countries laws. Good knowledge of the EU's digital acquis would be an asset, as would strong interpersonal skills and experience in international negotiations.



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 trade-b3-applications@ec.europa.eu indicating the selection reference **TRADE/COM/2026/1530** 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 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.

➤ 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.