



2019-IPR-I3-FGIV-011449

**FG IV – IT Project Officer – Scientific Research
/ Disinformation**

Position for:

**FG IV –
IT Project Officer – Scientific
research**

As the science and knowledge service of the Commission, the mission of DG Joint Research Centre is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.

The JRC is located in 5 Member States (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain). Further information is available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/>

In the Directorate for Competences, the Text and Data Mining Unit aims to develop, provide access to, and apply text and (big) data mining, management and analysis. The Unit also provides: (i) guidance on the use of statistical data mining methods as well as text mining and analysis techniques for information extraction; (ii) one-stop-shop for tools, services and training for the EU institutions and strategic partners to support their needs in the fields of open sources intelligence, media monitoring, information harvesting and analysis as well as innovation monitoring, statistical data mining and visualisation; (iii) set-up of Competence Centres in these areas as appropriate.

We offer a position for a research fellow in Text Mining to explore original methodologies and techniques that address the spread of propaganda and disinformation.

The successful candidate will contribute to the disinformation-related research performed by our team, working in some of the following research areas:

1. Computational algorithms for detecting disinformation or for claim detection and verification, applying these techniques to large volumes of text from online news and social media.
2. Linguistic, cognitive and psychological cues of deception, misleading narratives and propaganda.
3. The application of network analysis and information diffusion models to disinformation, news propagation and large-scale flows of news articles and social media posts.

The successful candidate will also carry out the following tasks:

1. Develop of software components based on the results of the research above to extend large-scale multilingual online news and social media analysis engines.
2. Publish research results in peer-reviewed scientific conferences and journals.
3. Provide advice to internal and external stakeholders on state-of-the-art methods and results in this specific area.

Qualifications:

- MSc and/or PhD in Computer Science, Computational Linguistics, Statistics or related areas.
- At least 3 years postgraduate experience.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven publication track in peer-reviewed scientific conferences and journals. • Very good knowledge of English (B2 level). • Good communication skills. • Hands-on programming experience. • Familiarity with some state-of-the-art machine learning toolkits. • At least passive knowledge of several languages in order to work with multilingual data. <p>It would be an asset to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated skills in development of NLP tools, methods and applications in Java or Python. • Good knowledge of the landscape of freely available NLP toolkits and related linguistic resources. • Knowledge of tools for the acquisition of data from social media sources. • Acquaintance with neural networks and deep learning methods. • Experience of working in a multilingual environment.
Directorate Unit	Competences Text & Data Mining
Indicative duration	36 months initial contract with possible renewals up to maximum 6 years.
JRC Site Country	Ispra Italy
Rules and eligibility	<p>The candidate must be on a valid EPSO reserve list for Function Group IV contract staff.</p> <p>Applicants to the following Calls for expression of interest can also be considered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CAST Permanent - EPSO has launched in January 2017 an open-ended selection procedure to create a pool of candidates from which the institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the European Union (EU) can recruit contract agents. Details available at the link below: https://epso.europa.eu/documents/2240_en 2. Call COM/1/2015/GFIV – Research - The JRC has launched in January 2015 a permanent call for researchers FG IV. Details available at the link below: https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/working-with-us/jobs/vacancies/function-group-IV-researchers <p>Auxiliary contract staff: https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/working-with-us/jobs/temporary-positions/contract-staff-members</p> <p><i>Please note that due to the high number of applications received only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.</i></p>