



2021-IPR-I3-FGIV-018648

**FG IV - IT Project Officer – Scientific Research /
Disinformation/Media Monitoring)**

POSITION FOR:

Member of the contract staff FGIV – art. 3b of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:1962R0031:20110101:EN:PDF>

WE ARE:

As the science and knowledge service of the Commission, the mission of DG Joint Research Centre (JRC) 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 Directorate I – Competences, Unit I03 – Text and Data Mining 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 PROPOSE:

We offer a position for a research fellow in Text Mining to research methods and approaches for media monitoring and analysis as well as for detecting and handling online disinformation, and to prototype tools for media analysts, fact checkers and other specialists working in this area.

The successful candidate will join a friendly, enthusiastic and expert team and will work in some of the following research areas:

- News and social media monitoring, text mining and analysis, multilingual and cross-lingual text analysis.
- 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.
- Linguistic, cognitive and psychological cues of deception, misleading narratives and propaganda.
- Analysing the propagation and amplification of disinformation on and between social media platforms and online media, applying techniques such as network analysis and information diffusion

The successful candidate will also carry out the following tasks:

- Contribute to research on natural language processing for the detection and analysis of disinformation and for the enhancement of our large-scale multilingual online news and social media analysis engines.
- Develop methods, resources, components and applications based on the results of the research above.
- Publish research results in peer-reviewed scientific conferences and journals.
- Provide advice to internal and external stakeholders on state-of-the-art methods and results in this specific area.

WE LOOK FOR:

The ideal candidate must have:

- (i) a relevant PhD title,
- or (ii) relevant professional experience of at least three years after having completed MSc studies in Computer Science, Computational Linguistics, Information and Communication

Technologies or related areas. Only relevant education/experience will be considered, which must be on disciplines linked to text mining and computational linguistics.

- Extensive knowledge of natural language processing.
- Demonstrated research experience in the field of information retrieval and extraction including publications in international peer-reviewed journals and/or conferences.
- Very good knowledge of English (B2 level).
- Good communication skills.
- Hands-on programming experience.
- At least passive knowledge of several languages in order to work with multilingual data

It would be an asset to have:

- Demonstrated experience in design and development of general-purpose Natural Language Processing, Information Extraction and Web Mining core components like tokenizers, morphological analysers, named-entity recognition, name lemmatisation, geotagging, syntactic parsers, term extraction, web crawlers, web scrapers, data compression, pattern learning, etc.
- Demonstrated skills in design and development of NLP tools, methods and applications in Java or Python.
- Familiarity with some state-of-the-art machine learning toolkits.
- Application-oriented research, ideally in one or more of the following areas: news and social media monitoring, text mining and analysis, multilingual and cross-lingual text analysis applications and domain-adaptive methods.
- 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.

INDICATIVE CONTRACT'S DURATION:

36 months initial contract with possible renewals up to maximum 6 years.

PLACE OF WORK:

Ispira (IT)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Candidates for this contract agent post shall:

– (i) have passed a valid EPSO CAST selection procedure;

or

– (ii) be registered in the EPSO Permanent CAST https://epso.europa.eu/documents/2240_en

or

- (iii) be registered in the specialised call for researchers <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/working-with-us/jobs/vacancies/function-group-iv-researchers> (used mainly by the JRC).

With a valid application number to one of the above, you may then apply for this specific vacancy at JRC through: <http://recruitment.jrc.ec.europa.eu/?type=AX>.

RECRUITMENT POLICY:

The Joint Research Centre

- Cultivates a workplace based on respect for other people and the environment.
- Embraces non-discriminatory practices and equality of opportunity. In case of equal merit, preference will be given to the gender in minority.