



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

2021-IPR-B6-FGIV-019009

FG IV – Scientific Project Officer - Next-generation infrastructures and technological enablers for data sharing

POSITION FOR:

Member of the contract staff FG IV – 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 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/>

The current vacancy is in the Digital Economy Unit of the JRC Directorate Growth and Innovation. The unit provides quantitative and qualitative techno-socioeconomic research targeting the impacts of the Digital Transformation on the economy and society. It studies the current and emerging facets of digital transformation, and its impacts on the European economy, society and environment, in support of policies under the priority “A Europe fit for the Digital Age”. In particular, the unit provides techno-socio-economic research on the impacts and strategic role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other digital technologies, data and digital platforms for the economy and society, and to support the modernisation of public sector.

WE PROPOSE:

The “twin” green and digital transformations are conceptualised as an integrated policy, which poses completely new challenges to the European societies and economies. Supported by the unprecedented initiative defined by the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the “twin” transition provides multiple opportunities for leaping forward while also recovering from the Covid-19 crisis. Within the context of this ambitious policy agenda, readily available and interoperable data, combined with novel technologies, are a critical component. To this end, the European Strategy for Data launched by the Commission in February 2020 proposes the creation of sector-specific Data Spaces, where heterogeneous data (public, private, research, citizen-generated) are shared and reused, unlocking the full potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and data-driven innovation in Europe. In this context, concrete approaches for the creation of such Data Spaces need to be explored, together with the very role of data within the context of the “twin” green and digital transitions.

The ENABLED project is investigating the actors, incentives, barriers, and enablers in data ecosystems in order to understand the creation of value, advantages and disadvantages of different organisational and technical approaches for data sharing. As a main project objective, technical guidelines and best practices for setting up and operating interoperable European Data Spaces will be developed, collecting and synthesising concrete, multi-disciplinary approaches and recipes.

Against this background, the Unit is looking for a highly motivated, independent and collaborative scientist with an excellent understanding of the power of data and its role in catalysing the digital and green transformation, in particular for its use in AI applications. The jobholder will carry out studies aiming to identify, analyse and experimentally evaluate a broad range of technological enablers for data sharing. A particular focus will be on technologies that facilitate and streamline the creation and operation of Data Spaces and similar future-proof digital infrastructures, including architectural approaches, APIs, protocols, technical standards, interoperability mechanisms, privacy enhancing technologies, data engineering tools and a wide range of relevant software and hardware building blocks. The design of these infrastructures is expected to span multiple, heterogeneous deployment tiers, e.g. (multi-) cloud and edge, and involve complex trade-offs in terms of scalability, privacy, security, trust, portability and

energy efficiency.

Additionally, the successful candidate will have the opportunity to directly contribute to the design of data infrastructures supporting prominent European digital initiatives, in particular the European Green Deal Data Space and the EuroGEOSS platform. S/he will interact with representatives from a wide variety of stakeholders in the private and public sector, civil society organisations and academia. Finally, the selected candidate will act as bridge between science and policy, and should therefore be able to relate research findings to the policy priorities relating with the use of data for public good.

WE LOOK FOR:

We are looking for a scientist with a keen interest in EU policies and a good knowledge about data innovation with:

- A PhD or Masters degree (if combined with at least 3 year of relevant research) in the field of computer science, data science, digital technologies, or another field relevant to the position.
- Very good (C1) command of English language.

The following experience/knowledge is desirable:

- An academic track record in one or more scientific areas relevant to the position.
- Demonstrated practical experience in designing, architecting and implementing data infrastructures or similar complex information systems, in particular with cloud/edge computing platforms.
- Familiarity with the broad technology landscape (frameworks, standards, open source software) around data and Artificial Intelligence.
- Very good in writing and communicating to scientific, policy, and business audiences, as well as the public.
- International experience, including coordination of stakeholder working groups, collaboration with/leading communities.

INDICATIVE CONTRACT'S DURATION:

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

PLACE OF WORK:

Ispra (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 JRC

- 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.