



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

2022-IPR-B6-FGIV-019788

FG IV – Scientific Project Officer - Next-generation digital infrastructures and technologies 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 for 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:

Data is increasingly becoming a fundamental asset for the digital economy. The capacity to share vast amounts of data, while respecting citizen’s and businesses’ rights, is key for Europe to remain competitive and successfully complete its digital transformation.

To leverage on the potential brought by data, the European Commission launched the European Strategy for Data in February 2020, proposing the creation of Common European Data Spaces, digital infrastructures where vast amounts of data (public, private, research, citizen-generated) can be shared and reused, unlocking the full potential of artificial intelligence and data-driven innovation in Europe. Data Spaces are expected to take advantage of recent standards and technological developments in cloud and edge computing in order to build open, trustworthy, secure and privacy-preserving environments for participants to share and process data while retaining full control over their use.

For its research supporting the creation of these Data Spaces, the Digital Economy Unit **is looking for a highly motivated, independent and collaborative researcher** with an excellent understanding of the power of data and a strong awareness of the technological landscape in the field of data-intensive digital infrastructures.

The successful candidate will define and carry out research on a broad range of technological enablers for data sharing, including cloud and edge computing, data-sharing standards, advanced IT infrastructures and digital twins. Within these areas, special attention will be given to concrete technologies that support and streamline the creation and operation of various types of data ecosystems, ranging from decentralised and federated architectures to data discovery and interoperability mechanisms, privacy enhancing technologies, data engineering and data operations methodologies, and a wide range of relevant technical standards and 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, portability and energy efficiency.

The work will involve:

- defining a research roadmap and concrete studies and experiments;

- carrying out desk research on existing technologies, methodologies and standards, including mapping them to policy requirements;
- designing and carrying out practical experiments and proofs of concept for selected technologies or approaches;
- contributing to the design of data infrastructures supporting prominent European digital initiatives, in particular the European Green Deal Data Space and EuroGEO¹;
- drafting scientific publications and reports or briefings for policy makers;
- interacting with representatives from a wide variety of stakeholders in the private and public sector, civil society organisations and academia;
- defining and following up external study or service contracts.

WE LOOK FOR:

We are looking for a research 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 years of relevant experience) 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:

- A research track record in one or more scientific or technical domains relevant to the position (e.g. cloud/edge computing, artificial intelligence, data-sharing, data-intensive infrastructures, digital twins).
- Experience in the design of data infrastructures or similar information systems, in particular with modern 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.

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 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.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/knowledge-publications-tools-and-data/knowledge-centres-and-data-portals/eurogeo/about-eurogeo_en