



2022-IPR-I3-FGIV-020508

**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 for Competences, 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 PROPOSE:**

We are looking for a researcher in text mining/natural language processing and offer a 3-year contract with possible renewals up to a maximum of 6 years.

You will research methods and approaches for media monitoring and analysis as well as for detecting and handling online disinformation. You will also prototype tools for media analysts, fact-checkers and other specialists working in this area.

You will join the Text Mining and Analysis Competence Centre, working on large-scale media monitoring, disinformation, stance detection, and on extracting useful information for policy making from large amount of text. The team is based in Ispra, Italy.

The team are working in many complementary areas and, according to your expertise, you will provide scientific and technical support in some of the following 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.
- Demonstrated research experience and extensive knowledge of natural language processing, 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](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.