



VACANCY NOTICE – 2023-GEE-E4-FGIV-022368

Project Officer - Scientific Research - analytical chemist

Type of contract	Member of the European Commission's contract staff, Function Group IV (article 3b of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants)
Duration of contract	36 months (renewable up to maximum 6 years)
Area	Analytical chemistry
Place of employment	Geel (BE)
Indicative basic salary	3877,47 - 5616,29 € (applicable as of 1 st of July 2022) For more detailed information please consult: Working Conditions .

WE ARE

The [Joint Research Centre \(JRC\)](#) provides independent, evidence-based knowledge and science, supporting EU policies to positively impact society.

The current vacancy is in Geel (Belgium) with the Transport and Border Security Unit of the Directorate for Space, Security and Migration. The Unit has 3 main areas of policy driven research:

- 1) The border security systems research supports the Commission plans towards stronger external borders and improved information exchange. To ensure the security of the EU external Border, it is crucial to understand and address all its different dimensions (Sea, Land, Sky, Cyber) focusing both on people and goods.
- 2) The threat detection & standards for security research develops and provides a variety of test materials, test methods and knowledge transfer to end users in Member States and international organisations. Detection is a key link in the chain of counter-terrorism, and detection technology is often the last line of defence against a terrorist attack.
- 3) The drone and counter drone security living lab provides critical infrastructure stakeholders with scientific advice on how to protect against non-cooperative Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), commonly referred to as drones. As the use of drones, becomes more widespread for commercial use, there is an increased concern that drones will also be used for malicious intent and there currently is no common EU legislation to counter this potential threat.

We work in close collaboration with the respective Commission Directorate Generals Migration & Home Affairs (DG HOME), Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE), Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE), Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD), as well as the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), the Member States authorities and many other relevant stakeholders. For further information: <https://joint->



research-centre.ec.europa.eu/scientific-activities-z/border-security_en, https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/laboratories-and-facilities/explosives-trace-detection-laboratory_en, https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/scientific-activities-z/aviation-security_en and https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/scientific-activities-z/drones-counter-drones-and-autonomous-systems_en

WE OFFER

an exciting opportunity to directly contribute to developing voluntary performance requirements for various explosives/chemical detection equipment used in public spaces (see Commission recommendation (EU) 2022/1341 as an example) as well as to the chemical detection equipment used by the European customs authorities (CCEI).

WE PROPOSE

The jobholder will carry out research and perform knowledge transfer in support of EU policies, with a strong focus on detection of explosive and chemical threats for security applications.

The position will involve a rewarding combination of laboratory-based development work, testing of equipment, knowledge sharing towards policy makers, scientific communities, user communities, member states authorities and the general public;

The jobholder will also regularly interface with EU and Member States' regulators to provide technical advice, and he/she will interact with manufacturers of detection equipment during the development of standards;

The jobholder will have the opportunity to establish himself/herself as an expert in the harmonised, reliable testing of detection equipment at European level.

WE LOOK FOR

- an analytical chemist with a PhD who can apply laboratory expertise to the development of robust, field-deployable test kits and testing methodologies for benchmarking the performance of detection equipment;
- prior experience with chemical detection techniques (e.g. ion mobility spectrometry, Raman, infra-red) is not essential, but would be desirable;
- excellent communication and inter-personal skills are essential, in order to interact with a wide variety of stakeholders.

The job holder should be fluent (at least level B2) in written and spoken English, and be willing to start as soon as possible in the position.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are **already on a valid CAST FG IV reserve list**, or you **have already applied to one of the calls below**, you can directly submit your application at <http://recruitment.jrc.ec.europa.eu/?type=AX>.

If not, before applying to this position, **you must register** for one of the two following calls:

- the [Call for Expressions of Interest | EU Careers \(europa.eu\)](#) (CAST Permanent FG IV), which is used by a wide range of organisations (institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the European Union), or



- the [specialised call for researchers](#) (JRC Call COM/1/2015/GFIV – Research), which is mainly used by the JRC.

Note that each of the calls above has **different minimum eligibility requirements and different selection tests**.

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