

**VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT  
NEXT MULTI-ANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK (MFF)**

DG – Directorate – Unit	DG BUDG – Directorate B – Task force STEP
Post number in sysper:	427028
Contact person: Provisional starting date: Initial duration: Place of secondment:	Caroline Vandierendonck, Head of Taskforce/ <a href="mailto:caroline.vandierendonck@ec.europa.eu">caroline.vandierendonck@ec.europa.eu</a>  1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2025 2 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brussels <input type="checkbox"/> Luxemburg <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <a href="#">Click or tap here to enter text.</a>
Type of secondment	<input type="radio"/> With allowances <input checked="" type="radio"/> Cost-free
This vacancy notice is open to:  <input checked="" type="radio"/> EU Member States as well as <input type="checkbox"/> The following EFTA countries: <input type="checkbox"/> Iceland <input type="checkbox"/> Liechtenstein <input type="checkbox"/> Norway <input type="checkbox"/> Switzerland <input type="checkbox"/> The following third countries: .... <input type="checkbox"/> The following intergovernmental organisations: ...  <input type="radio"/> EFTA-EEA In-Kind agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway)	
Deadline for applications	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 2 months <input type="radio"/> 1 month  Latest application date: 25-02-2025

**Entity Presentation (We are)**

The Task Force Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP Task Force) is a relatively recent unit, whose responsibilities include: (i) coordinating the

implementation of the STEP Regulation, seeking to increase EU funding to innovative and strategic projects in digital/deep tech, clean and resource-efficient tech, and biotech; and (ii) contributing to the preparation of the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) as regards in particular the funding of competitiveness in direct/indirect management.

The unit is part of Directorate B (Revenue and Multiannual Financial Framework).

With regards to its STEP mandate, the task force acts as a hub within a network of 14 DGs responsible for 11 EU programmes in the remit of STEP, with the aim to maximize the contribution of the EU budget to the STEP objectives and identify synergies across its programmes. The unit also coordinates the network of STEP National Contact Points in the Member States, and regularly interacts with a wide spectrum of industry stakeholders. The unit launched and runs the [STEP Portal](#), which is a gateway consolidating information for access to EU funding for project promoters of STEP technologies/projects.

The task force is also involved in the preparation of the Commission's proposal for the next MFF, especially with respect to the EU funding for competitiveness, following the mandate to work with relevant Commission services to prefigure a European Competitiveness Fund establishing an investment capacity that will support strategic sectors critical to the EU competitiveness, including research and innovation, and Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEIs).

### **Job Presentation (We propose)**

We offer a position for a national expert from an EU Member State with a background in financial management and in the implementation of EU spending programmes and other policy priorities linked to the green and digital transitions.

This position will enable the national expert to contribute to DG BUDG's work on the next Multiannual Financial Framework (the Commission is due to make a proposal in 2025) and gain a unique knowledge of the functioning of the EU budget and of many EU funding programmes (as well as of the responsible Commission Directorates General, akin to ministries or departments in national administrations).

As a member of the Task Force, you will also have plenty of opportunities to meet with companies at the technological frontier, and to learn about a variety of policy and technology issues.

In particular, the national expert will be selected with a view to:

- Support the preparation of the next MFF. This responsibility involves strong coordination with relevant services inside and outside the DG, within an existing dedicated team in the unit.
- Help coordinate the implementation of STEP within the Commission and with the Member States, provide policy advice to the political level and senior management, engage with key European implementing partners and

cooperate closely with other units in DG BUDG and various other Commission DGs;

- Advice promoters of STEP-relevant projects on available EU funding opportunities across all relevant EU programmes and forms of financial support, including through financial instruments implemented with partners such as the EIB or national development banks.

The national expert will enjoy considerable autonomy and room for initiative in the achievement of agreed objectives while being fully integrated and working within the organizational/management structure of the task force and DG BUDG more generally.

The task force is a friendly, sociable, dynamic team, which brings together a variety of backgrounds and expertise. Information sharing and cooperation among team members is highly encouraged and appreciated. The team's organisation is such that each Member is responsible for a few files but learns about all the others through frequent formal and informal discussions.

### **Jobholder Profile (We look for)**

We look for a dynamic colleague with a strong profile:

#### Diploma:

University degree or professional training or professional experience of an equivalent level in the field(s): economics, legal affairs, finance, or science

#### Professional experience

Experience in one or more of the following:

- Implementation of EU programmes, preferably in direct or indirect management (e.g. InvestEU, Innovation Fund, Digital Europe Programme, EU4Health, Horizon Europe/European Innovation Council, European Defence Fund)
- Setting-up and implementation of financial instruments, either with international financial institutions or national promotional banks. Handling of project financing.
- Implementation of national funding programmes providing support (in the forms of grants or other financial support) to research institutes or companies
- Handling of State aid notifications
- EU or national budget matters
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including on technical subjects
- Strong ability to work in a team, drive to identify solutions and maximize impact

#### Language(s) necessary for the performance of duties:

English is the main working language and the ability to communicate and draft effectively in English is a must.

## **Eligibility criteria**

The secondment will be governed by the **Commission Decision C(2008) 6866** of 12/11/2008 laying down rules on the secondment to the Commission of national experts and national experts in professional training (SNE Decision).

Under the terms of the SNE Decision, you need to comply with the following eligibility criteria at **the starting date** of the secondment:

- **Professional experience:** at least three years of professional experience in administrative, legal, scientific, technical, advisory or supervisory functions which are equivalent to those of function group AD.
- **Seniority:** having worked for at least one full year (12 months) with your current employer on a permanent or contract basis.
- **Employer:** must be a national, regional or local administration or an intergovernmental public organisation (IGO); exceptionally and following a specific derogation, the Commission may accept applications where your employer is a public sector body (e.g., an agency or regulatory institute), university or independent research institute.
- **Linguistic skills:** thorough knowledge of one of the EU languages and a satisfactory knowledge of another EU language to the extent necessary for the performance of the duties. If you come from a third country, you must produce evidence of a thorough knowledge of the EU language necessary for the performance of his duties.

## **Conditions of secondment**

During the full duration of your secondment, you must remain employed and remunerated by your employer and covered by your (national) social security system.

You shall exercise your duties within the Commission under the conditions as set out by aforementioned SNE Decision and be subject to the rules on confidentiality, loyalty and absence of conflict of interest as defined therein.

In case the position is published with allowances, these can only be granted when you fulfil the conditions provided for in Article 17 of the SNE decision.

Staff posted in a European Union Delegation are required to have a security clearance (up to SECRET UE/EU SECRET level according to [Commission Decision \(EU, Euratom\) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015](#)). It is up to you to launch the vetting procedure before getting the secondment confirmation.

## **Submission of applications and selection procedure**

If you are interested, please follow the instructions given by your employer on how to apply.

The European Commission **only accepts applications which have been submitted through the Permanent Representation / Diplomatic Mission to the EU of your country, the EFTA Secretariat or through the channel(s) it has specifically agreed to.** Applications received directly from you or your employer will not be taken into consideration.

You should draft your CV in English, French or German using the **Europass CV format** ([Create your Europass CV | Europass](#)). It must mention your nationality.

Please do not add any other documents (such as copy of passport, copy of degrees or certificate of professional experience, etc.). If necessary, these will be requested at a later stage.

## **Processing of personal data**

The Commission will ensure that candidates' personal data are processed as required by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council <sup>(1)</sup>. This applies in particular to the confidentiality and security of such data. Before applying, please read the attached privacy statement.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39)