



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT

DG – Directorate – Unit	RTD D.3
Post number in sysper:	460469
Contact person:	Henriette VAN EIJL
Provisional starting date:	2 nd quarter 2026
Initial duration:	2 years
Place of secondment:	☒ Brussels ☐ Luxembourg ☐ Other: Click or tap here to enter text.
Type of secondment	☒ With allowances ☐ Cost-free
This vacancy notice is open to: ☒ EU Member States as well as ☒ The following EFTA countries: ☒ Iceland ☒ Liechtenstein ☒ Norway ☒ Switzerland ☐ The following third countries: ☐ The following intergovernmental organisations: ... ☐ EFTA-EEA In-Kind agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norw...	
Deadline for applications	☒ 2 months ☐ 1 month Latest application date: 19-12-2025

Entity Presentation (We are)

The ‘People – Health & Society’ Directorate in the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Research and Innovation addresses the challenges posed to human health and well-being, as well as citizens’ democratic participation and engagement in a fair and inclusive, ageing, increasingly digitalised and globalised society. Overall, its activities aim

at helping to achieve the sustainable development goals, whilst also contributing to the competitiveness of Europe's creative, digital and health industries and services, as well as to fair, inclusive and resilient societies.

The RTD D3 Unit “Health and Societal Transitions” contributes to the performance and effectiveness of healthy and fair societies, by shaping and coordinating evidence-based R&I policies. The Unit ensures that R&I policies and programmes, especially Horizon Europe, support the EU policy objectives in health and social transitions, notably in demographic change, inter-generational fairness, mental health, migration, socio-economic and inclusion issues. To accomplish this, the Unit taps into the full potential of the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), especially in the frame of R&I interdisciplinarity and SSH integration under Horizon Europe.

The Unit delivers the programming (Horizon Europe Clusters 1 and 2) and stakeholders’ engagement activities, policy coordination and administrative services for the DG RTD’s People: Health and Society’ Directorate.

In all its activities, the unit takes into account and influence developments in the Member states (public and private sectors) and on the international scene, and ensures synergies with other funding programmes and policy initiatives.

Job Presentation (We propose)

The position offers the chance to work at the heart of European research and innovation policy, gaining unique experience in international cooperation and policy development. This is also a great opportunity to support the exchange of knowledge and good practices between national (and/or regional) administrations and policy-making at European level.

In this impactful and varied role as a policy officer, you will equally divide your time in delivering 2 key responsibilities of the unit; (1) perform analysis, provide assistance and draft policy documents in the fields of health and life sciences R&I and in societal transitions; (2) support the definition and implementation of European R&I programming activities.

You will be expected to be resourceful and self-starting, and you will be surrounded by 24 experienced colleagues who greatly value team spirit and supporting each other.

More specifically, it will be about:

1. Contribute to coordinating and defining the Horizon Europe strategic programming activities, specifically Clusters 1 and 2 of the second pillar of Horizon Europe, that could contribute to EU R&I actions for health and social transitions and in co-creating activities in the areas covered by the People Directorate (Health and Society).
2. Contribute to concept development for long-term policies in health and societal transitions, taking into account developments in research and innovation ecosystems and instruments (including public & private financial support to EU R&I).

In addition, you may be expected to draft speeches, briefings, minutes, studies, and various

reports and support dissemination and exploitation of research and innovation results. Also, you could be asked to participate in internal and external events, and support the preparation of events.

The SNE will work under the supervision of an administrator. Without prejudice to the principle of loyal cooperation between the national/regional and European administrations, the SNE will not work on individual cases having implications with files he/she would have had to deal with in his/her national administration in the two years preceding its entry into the Commission, or directly adjacent cases.

He/She shall not represent the Commission in order to make commitments, financial or otherwise, nor negotiate on behalf of the Commission.

Jobholder Profile (We look for)

We look for an enthusiastic and results-driven colleague with considerable experience in defining and implementing European or national R&I policy, and EU R&I funding. Knowledge and/ or an academic background in research and innovation or policy development in health and social transitions are clear assets.

Ideally, you will:

- Have proven experience or strong motivation in Horizon Europe programming as part of European policy making – especially in health and/ or socioeconomic transitions.
- Have considerable experience in activities (analytical analysis, reports, etc) for concept development for R&I and other policies in health and social transitions – especially in cooperation with external/ internal stakeholders. You are able to analyse and present complex issues - using your excellent English communication and drafting competences.
- Show your motivation and skills to handle on both 2 types of tasks (policy development and programme coordination), applying your proactive approach for planning and problem-solving, and your capacity to work autonomously under high pressure. This includes the ability to adapt rapidly to new organisational procedures, evolving working modes and business needs.
- A particular advantage will be a professional background in a role closely connected with the EU's Horizon Europe R&I Framework Program, and in defining or implementing national R&I funding programs.

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 the 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 ⁽¹⁾. This applies in particular to the confidentiality and security of such data. Before applying, please read the attached privacy statement.

¹() 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)