

**VACANCY NOTICE**

**SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

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| **Post identification:**  (DG-DIR-UNIT) | **AGRI-H-3** |
| **Head of Unit:**  **Email address:**  **Telephone:**  **Number of available posts:**  **Suggested taking up duty:**  **Suggested initial duration:**  **Place of secondment:** | **Zoltan SOMOGYI**  [**zoltan.somogyi@ec.europa.eu**](mailto:zoltan.somogyi@ec.europa.eu)  **+3222961234**  **1**  **1st quarter 2020 [[1]](#footnote-1)**  **1 year1**  **X Brussels □ Luxemburg □ Other: ……………..** |
|  | **X  With allowances** □  **Cost-free** |
| **This vacancy notice is also open to**  **□    the following EFTA countries :  □ Iceland □ Liechtenstein □ Norway □ Switzerland  □ EFTA-EEA In-Kind agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) □    the following third countries: □    the following intergovernmental organisations:** | |

**1. Nature of the tasks**

We are the Direct Payment Assurance and Audit Unit of the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), which is responsible for the audit of both area-based and animal-based direct payments to farmers managed and checked by the Member States under the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS). The audit objective of the Unit is to provide the Commission with reasonable assurance that expenditure declared by paying agencies on behalf of the European Agricultural Funds – some EUR 40 billion per year – has been incurred in compliance with Community rules. A second audit objective of the unit relates to providing assurance on the beneficiaries’ respect of the requirements of cross-compliance. To meet these objectives, compliance audits are carried out by way of on-the-spot checks, desk audits and subsequent bilateral exchanges.

We have a vacancy in the 5-member audit team responsible for cross-compliance. The jobholder’s core task is to plan, carry out and process audits in Member States, as lead auditor or audit team member. The number of missions averages 6 per year; they usually last one week and may require leaving on Sunday. Missions involve both office work and field visits to farms.

Our audits are not inspections and do not specifically focus on financial accounts. Instead, we deal with farmers’ obligations related to the environment, animal welfare, good agricultural and environmental conditions as well as public, animal and plant health. We consider that the diversity of these topics, which are often news headlines, constitutes a rewarding challenge. The objective of the cross-compliance audits is to obtain assurance that Member States have put in place effective control systems that comply with regulatory requirements. All audits are followed up under the clearance of accounts procedure that starts with the drafting of a comprehensive report. Audits may lead to recommendations for improvement and/or to the proposal of a financial correction to be incorporated in a Commission Decision.

Our vacancy aims at finding a dynamic, open-minded and flexible team player. As the cross-compliance team is relatively small, its members are fully complementary in terms of missions and follow-up of cases. While teamwork is essential, the successful candidate will also be called upon to work independently, developing and defending his/her positions in meetings with the management, the Member States and various boards and Institutions.

The SNE will work under the supervision of the Team Leader “Cross-compliance”. Without prejudice to the principle of loyal cooperation between national, regional and European administrations, the SNE will not work on individual cases with implications for files he/she would have had to deal with in his/her national administration in the two years preceding the entry into the Commission or directly adjacent cases. In no case shall he/she represent the Commission in order to make commitments, financial or otherwise, or to negotiate on behalf of the Commission.

**2. Main qualifications**

**a) Eligibility criteria**

The following eligibility criteria must be fulfilled by the candidate in order to be seconded to the Commission. Consequently, the candidate who does not fulfil all of these criteria will be automatically eliminated from the selection process.

• 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: candidates must have at least one year seniority with their employer, that means having worked for an eligible employer as described in Art. 1 of the SNE decision on a permanent or contract basis for at least one year before the secondment;

• 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. SNE from a third country must produce evidence of a thorough knowledge of one EU language necessary for the performance of his duties.

**b) Selection criteria**

Diploma

- university degree or

- professional training or professional experience of an equivalent level

in the field(s) :

Agronomy, veterinary sciences, economics, accountancy, audit, administration, law.

Major assets are therefore: knowledge of the Common Agricultural Policy or other EU shared management policies and/or a previous audit, control or equivalent legal experience are advantages.

Professional experience

In addition to experience in CAP implementation, ideally in the context of cross-compliance, previous audit, control or equivalent legal experience as well as knowledge of the standard Commission tools would be an advantage. Analytical and synthetic skills, communication and drafting skills would also be assets.

Language(s) necessary for the performance of duties

Very good drafting and communication skills in English. A working knowledge of French or other EU languages would be an advantage.

**3. Submission of applications and selection procedure**

Candidates should send their application according to the **Europass CV format** (<http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae>) in English, French or German **only to the Permanent Representation / Diplomatic Mission to the EU of their country**, which will forward it to the competent services of the Commission within the deadline fixed by the latter.The CV must mention the date of birth and the nationality of the candidate. **Not respecting this procedure or deadlines will automatically invalidate the application.**

Candidates are asked not to 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.

Candidates will be informed of the follow-up of their application by the unit concerned.

**4. Conditions of the secondment**

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). This decision is available on <http://ec.europa.eu/civil_service/job/sne/index_en.htm>.

The SNE will remain employed and remunerated by his/her employer during the secondment. He/she will equally remain covered by the national social security system.

Unless for cost-free SNE, allowances may be granted by the Commission to SNE fulfilling the conditions provided for in Art. 17 of the SNE decision.

During the secondment, SNE are subject to confidentiality, loyalty and absence of conflict of interest obligations, as provided for in Art. 6 and 7 of the SNE Decision.

If any document is inexact, incomplete or missing, the application may be cancelled.

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, OJ L 72, 17.03.2015, p. 53).

The selected candidate has the obligation to launch the vetting procedure before getting the secondment confirmation.

**5. Processing of personal data**

The selection, secondment and termination of the secondment of a national expert requires the Commission (the competent services of DG HR, DG BUDG, PMO and the DG concerned) to process personal data concerning the person to be seconded, under the responsibility of the Head of Unit of DG HR.DDG.B4. The data processing is subject to the SNE Decision as well as the Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

Data is kept by the competent services for 10 years after the secondment (2 years for not selected or not seconded experts).

You have specific rights as a ‘data subject’ under Chapter III (Articles 14-25) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, in particular the right to access, rectify or erase your personal data and the right to restrict the processing of your personal data. Where applicable, you also have the right to object to the processing or the right to data portability.

You can exercise your rights by contacting the Data Controller, or in case of conflict the Data Protection Officer. If necessary, you can also address the European Data Protection Supervisor. Their contact information is given below.

**Contact information**

* **The Data Controller**

If you would like to exercise your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, or if you have comments, questions or concerns, or if you would like to submit a complaint regarding the collection and use of your personal data, please feel free to contact the Data Controller, HR.DDG.B.4, [HR-MAIL-B4@ec.europa.eu](mailto:HR-MAIL-B4@ec.europa.eu).

* **The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission**

You may contact the Data Protection Officer ([DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu](mailto:DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu)) with regard to issues related to the processing of your personal data under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

* **The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)**

You have the right to have recourse (i.e. you can lodge a complaint) to the European Data Protection Supervisor ([edps@edps.europa.eu](mailto:edps@edps.europa.eu)) if you consider that your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 have been infringed as a result of the processing of your personal data by the Data Controller.

To the attention of candidates from third countries: your personal data can be used for necessary checks.

1. These mentions are given on an indicative basis only (Art.4 of the SNE Decision). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)