



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EUROSTAT

Statistical Officer - Quality management and peer reviews

Vacancy notice COM/2022/2172

Function group: AD

ESTAT.B.TF.PRQ, Luxembourg

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We are

Eurostat, one of the Directorates-General of the European Commission, is the statistical office of the European Union. Eurostat's mission is to provide high quality statistics and data on Europe. Eurostat co-ordinates statistical activities at Union level and more particularly inside the Commission.

Inside Eurostat, we are currently a team of 6 people in the Task Force on "Peer reviews and quality" attached to Directorate B "Standards; Dissemination; Cooperation in the European Statistical System". The team is located in a very horizontal and cross-cutting directorate and is itself involved in many horizontal and very interesting tasks. Our team is composed of very friendly, committed, motivated, hardworking and supportive colleagues who, in addition to addressing their jobs in a serious and responsible manner, also understand and appreciate working in a good social environment. We are a small team but with an excellent team spirit and look forward to welcoming a new colleague willing to contribute to this team spirit.

Although small, the team is responsible for many issues: developing quality standards for the European Statistical System (ESS) such as the European statistics Code of Practice (ES CoP), the Handbook on quality and metadata reporting, the Quality Assurance Framework for the ESS (ESS QAF) and others; implementing these standards in the ESS and in Eurostat. We also work with other DGs in the Commission on the implementation of a reference quality framework for other (than European) statistics and on promoting its application in the collection and use of other statistics for policy purposes.

An important part of implementing quality standards in the ESS and in Eurostat is the harmonisation of quality reporting in the legislation for statistical domains and the implementation of quality reviews in Eurostat. The latter are used to identify improvement actions and to assure the senior management of Eurostat about the quality of statistical output produced by Eurostat.

Furthermore, the Task Force is involved in quality work at international level and in quality related projects and meetings mainly with the enlargement, but also with other non-EU countries. To this end, we organise a package of 6 seminars with countries outside the EU – to promote our standards, the ES CoP, the ESS QAF and the handbook on quality reporting.

In addition, until the end of 2023, the Task Force will spend most of its resources, efforts and man-power on the implementation of the third round of ESS-wide peer reviews of the national statistical systems in the EU Member States and EFTA countries. These peer reviews are currently running and will be finalised in 2023. They aim at reviewing/assessing the compliance of the ESS members with the European statistics Code of Practice as well as proposing future-oriented recommendations. Tasks around the implementation of peer reviews include:

- the fine-tuning and adjustments, if necessary, of the methodology for the peer reviews and the instruments to implement peer reviews,
- a continuous communication to the peer review experts and Member States' peer review coordinators on the methodology,
- the management and organisation of the peer reviews in the remaining 12 countries,
- the follow-up of the results from the peer reviews and harmonisation of the peer review reports for the Member States,
- the identification of good practices from the peer review reports and other documents used in the peer review process,
- the analysis and summary of information from the peer review reports for internal and external reporting on the ESS peer reviews,
- the management of a contract supporting the logistics of the peer reviews,
- regular reporting to relevant stakeholders, such as the ESS Committee, the senior management of Eurostat, the Working Group on Quality in Statistics, the directors of methodology in the ESS (DIME), the ESS Task Force on peer reviews,
- accompanying the peer reviews with appropriate and well targeted communication activities.

For the first time, this third round of peer reviews will be accompanied by an extensive communication campaign, supported by a contract with a professional communication company. This certainly is a challenge for the team as this is a new aspect of our work and we are therefore, learning by doing it on a daily basis.

Although the peer reviews will be finalised in 2023, the work of the Task Force will not finish. A new cycle of work will start afterwards – drawing lessons from the peer reviews, reviewing and adjusting the ESS quality framework (the ES CoP and ESS QAF), discussing and brainstorming how to ensure the compliance with the standards and how to measure this compliance. This is very interesting work ahead even after the end of this round of peer reviews.

Altogether, this means that the Task Force operates in a very challenging and complex but at the same time very interesting context and offers a friendly and welcoming environment. Furthermore, as a unit with a horizontal profile, it offers frequent contacts with other colleagues and units in Eurostat as well as in the EU Member States and a diversity of tasks that encourage development and learning.

We propose

There is currently an open vacancy in ESTAT.B.TF.PRQ. According to Article 29 of the Staff Regulations, the appointing authority shall first consider whether the post can be filled in by internal candidates of the Commission, officials from other EU Institutions and laureates of open competitions in that order of priority. The post is therefore also published internally in the Commission and inter-institutionally, and it is also brought to the attention of competition laureates via the appropriate channels. However, should no suitable candidate be found among the aforementioned categories, it will be possible to consider other candidates for a temporary agent position. For these reasons, any person fulfilling the selection requirements may express his/her interest for the post.

A position as a Statistical Officer, whose main responsibilities are to

- support the implementation of peer reviews in the EU Member States and EFTA countries,
- manage the contract on the organisation and management of the peer reviews in the EU Member States and EFTA countries,
- analyse and summarise information from the peer review reports and related documentation with a view to report on good practices, valuable information for all EU Member States (e.g. staff, budget situation) and possible changes to the methodology/supporting tools,
- contribute to reporting on the implementation of the peer reviews to Eurostat's senior management and other stakeholders,
- contribute to the further development of new ESS quality standards or the revision of existing ESS quality standards,
- support the implementation of ESS quality standards in Eurostat and the EU Member States,
- coordinate quality related work in Eurostat,
- organise meetings and conferences on quality (expert groups, task forces, quality conference 2024),
- contribute to quality related work on international level and in statistical cooperation with non-EU countries,
- manage the contract on promoting ESS quality standards to non-EU countries.

The job involves a close cooperation with the production and the metadata units in Eurostat, with EU Members States' NSIs, enlargement and other non-EU countries and other Commission DGs. The job also offers a good degree of autonomy in dealing with different tasks and may involve some missions in relation to the peer reviews and the promotion of quality standards to non-EU countries.

We look for

A candidate with an interest in being involved in horizontal activities providing a good overview and knowledge on the situation in the ESS members. A candidate interested and willing to contribute to the manifold activities of the Task Force such as to the implementation of the peer reviews in the ESS, to the analysis of information resulting from the peer reviews, to the monitoring of improvement

actions identified during the peer reviews and to promoting quality concepts and standards in the ESS and beyond. The ideal candidate would have some knowledge on peer reviews, the European statistics Code of Practice and quality concepts or standards, but knowledge in related areas will also be useful and the Task Force members will provide the necessary learning and knowledge transfer.

Previous experience in working in a statistical domain and assessing the quality of statistical output would be an advantage.

The candidate should be able to work as part of a team as well as independently, with a high level of responsibility, accuracy and motivation. As the Task Force is a small team with many demanding tasks, the candidate should ideally enjoy multi-tasking and working on different projects. He/she should be proactive, resourceful, flexible and interested in building relationships within Eurostat and with relevant stakeholders, especially in the ESS. Good communication and diplomatic skills are needed to communicate in an appropriate way with different kinds of stakeholders. A habit to look at things in a wider context will be helpful for designing and implementing assessments and reviews. Good oral and written communication skills in English are a prerequisite and knowledge of the other main working languages of the Commission is an asset.

The main working language of the unit is English.

	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	Writing
English	C1	C1	C1	C1	C1

In order to be eligible for the post, the candidate must, as a minimum, fulfil the following conditions:

- (a) be a national of one of the Member States of the Union and enjoy his/her full rights as a citizen;
- (b) to have fulfilled any obligations imposed on him/her by the laws concerning military service;
- (c) produce the appropriate character references as to his/her suitability for the performance of his/her duties;
- (d) be physically fit to perform his/her duties; and
- (e) produce evidence of a thorough knowledge of one of the languages of the Union and of a satisfactory knowledge of another language of the Union to the extent necessary for the performance of his/her duties.

In addition, candidates must have at least a level of education corresponding to at least 3 years' completed university studies attested by a diploma.

Selection procedure

No applications will be accepted after the closing date of the vacancy.

The selection panel will choose a limited number of candidates for interview, based on the CV and motivation letter that they submitted.

Due to the large volume of applications received, only candidates selected for interview will be notified.

Should they be chosen, candidates will be requested, as part of the actual recruitment procedure, to supply documentary evidence, in original, in support of the statements made in the application.

For functional reasons and in order to complete the selection procedure as quickly as possible in the interest of the candidates as well as that of the institution, the selection procedure will be carried out in English and/or French only.

Should a position be offered, candidates will be required to undergo a mandatory pre-recruitment medical check-up, carried out by the Commission medical service.

Type of contract

The successful candidate will be engaged as a temporary agent under Article 2(b) of the CEOS in **function group AD, grade 5.**

He/she will be classified depending on the length of his/her previous professional experience in step 1 or step 2 within that grade, in accordance with Commission Decision C(2013)8970.

The duration of the contract is **three years.**

Applicants should note the requirement under the Staff Regulations for all new staff to complete successfully a nine-month probationary period.

For any further information on contractual and working conditions, please refer to the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Communities, which are available at the following link: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A01962R0031-20140501>

Pay

The pay of staff members consists of a basic salary supplemented with specific allowances, including, where applicable, expatriation and family allowances. The provisions guiding the calculation of these allowances can be consulted in the [Conditions of Employment of Other Servants.](#)

The place of employment will be Luxembourg.

How to apply

The interested candidates should send their CV + motivation letter respecting the deadline of the vacancy to the following email address:

ESTAT-HR-BUSINESS-CORRESPONDENT@ec.europa.eu

Please mention in the subject of your application the title of the job “*Statistical officer - Quality management and peer reviews*”.

Appeals

Candidates have the right to submit complaints under Article 90(2) of the Staff Regulations, should they wish to challenge any act adversely affecting them taken during this procedure. Such complaints may be addressed to the Appeals and Case Monitoring Unit of DG HR (HR-MAIL-E2@ec.europa.eu).

Equal opportunities

The European Commission applies a policy of equal opportunities and non-discrimination in accordance with Article 1d of the Staff Regulations.

Data Protection

Candidates who applied for a vacant post but were not selected, will have their CV's stored in the HR database for a period of 12 (twelve) months in case other mobility opportunities open in the future. This processing falls under the headhunting policy of DG HR and is covered by DP record DPR-EC-14128.

For information related to Data Protection, please see the Specific Privacy Statement on the Eurostat website.