



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT

DG – Directorate – Unit	DG MARE B 4
Post number in sysper:	424503
Contact person:	Roberto CESARI
Provisional starting date:	1st quarter 2026
Initial duration:	2 years
Place of secondment:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brussels <input type="checkbox"/> Luxemburg <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.
Type of secondment	<input type="radio"/> With allowances <input type="radio"/> Cost-free
<p>This vacancy notice is open to:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> EU Member States as well as</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The following EFTA countries:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Iceland <input type="checkbox"/> Liechtenstein <input type="checkbox"/> Norway <input type="checkbox"/> Switzerland</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The following third countries:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The following intergovernmental organisations: ...</p> <p><input type="radio"/> EFTA-EEA In-Kind agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway)</p>	
Deadline for applications	<input type="radio"/> 2 months <input type="radio"/> 1 month
Latest application date: 25-11-2025	

Entity Presentation (We are)

DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) aims to develop the potential of the European maritime economy and to secure sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, a stable supply of aquatic food, healthy seas, and prosperous coastal communities - for today's

Europeans and for future generations. This involves formulating, developing, and implementing the Common Fisheries Policy - the cornerstone of our actions for a sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources and sustainable aquaculture development; and promoting an integrated approach to all maritime policies. The DG has around 380 staff, distributed over 5 Directorates and 21 Units. The wide variety of responsibilities creates an interesting and challenging working environment. Hierarchical circuits are short, and working efforts translate into tangible results with a direct impact on the ground and on stakeholders.

MARE B.4 develops and implements the EU's policy to prevent, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.

The fight against IUU fishing is pivotal for the External Dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy. In this context, zero tolerance to IUU fishing is the paramount objective of the EU in line with the EU International Ocean Governance agenda and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Our objective is to address the loopholes in fisheries controls at international, regional and national levels and prevent fishery products stemming from illegal fishing from entering the EU and other markets. Cooperation with EU Member States, third countries and relevant international organisations is essential for achieving our tasks.

Job Presentation (We propose)

We offer a challenging position as Control Expert to help deliver the Commission obligations in implementing the EU IUU Regulation 1005/2008. This includes:

- handle cases in relation to administrative cooperation foreseen by the EU IUU Regulation, contribute to the preparation of the Unit's interactions with third countries in the context of IUU dialogues;
- as part of a team, carry out audits and assessments of third countries' performance in relation to their obligations deriving from international law of the sea, with a focus on fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance frameworks, tools and systems relevant to the fight against IUU fishing;
- analyse and follow up on issues relating to non-compliance with applicable conservation and management measures, and provide related advice to other colleagues and Units;
- draft recommendations for strengthening Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for third countries, provide advice to fisheries inspectors and relevant competent authorities in Member States and third countries;
- gather intelligence and proof of IUU fishing by use of available tools and databases and ensure adequate follow up; carry out data analysis in relation to vessels and/or operators involved or suspected to carry out IUU fishing activities;
- contribute to the smooth entering into operation of the new digital tool for implementing the EU catch certification scheme ('CATCH') on 10 January 2026, as well as its future ongoing implementation and evolution, respond in timely manner to operational queries and requests for guidance on the day-to-day management of CATCH workflows by EU Member States and EU importers of fisheries products;

- contribute to maintaining regular contacts and exchanges of information with public and professional bodies in Member States, third countries and EFCA in relation to policies aiming at eliminating IUU fishing,
- respond to requests for information relevant to the work of the Unit and to access to documents requests.

Jobholder Profile (We look for)

We are looking for a highly motivated, well-organised and dynamic team player, with high sense of responsibility and strong service orientation as well as sound understanding of the policy priorities and tools in the fight against IUU fishing and the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy.

A university degree or professional training or professional experience of an equivalent level is required.

Experience of working in a national/regional administration in relation to monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities is a must.

The candidate should possess good communication skills (oral and written) in English, additional knowledge of French or Spanish would be an asset. He/she should be a quick learner, manage efficiently multiple priorities and deliver quality results within given deadlines. Good understanding of the EU institutional setting, excellent interpersonal and co-ordination skills, drafting skills, intellectual/problem solving and judgement skills, a capacity to work autonomously are prerequisites for this position.

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

¹ (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