

Are you looking for

a key position within a dynamic organisation which shapes learning and skills for Europe? Then Cedefop is looking for your application!

# **BRUSSELS LIAISON OFFICER**

Type of contract and grade	Temporary Agent 2f - AD 7 (1)
Initial contract duration	5 years (renewable)
Place of employment	Brussels, Belgium
Reference	Cedefop/2025/03/AD
Deadline for applications	Thursday 24 July 2025 - 13:00 Greek time (CET+1)

### 1. Who are we?

Cedefop is the European Union's reference centre for vocational education and training (VET), skills and qualifications. Our mission as an EU agency is to provide research and policy analysis to support the development of European VET policies and to contribute to their implementation. More than ever, skills and VET play a crucial role at the intersection of different policy areas to accompany economic, demographic and social changes, including the digital and green transitions, and to address issues like labour market integration and employability of EU citizens. This is where we are committed and dedicated to providing pan-European expertise, services and tools that make a difference.

To learn more about Cedefop's work, please visit Cedefop's website, and Cedefop's Programming Document.

# 2. Is this job for you?

If you are a highly motivated professional with a passion for enhancing and expanding Cedefop's relationships with key stakeholders, boosting its impact, visibility, and policy relevance at the EU level, then this opportunity could be the perfect fit for you. The Brussels Liaison Officer will play a key role in pro-actively strengthening institutional engagement and collaboration between Cedefop and EU institutions, private organisations, social partners and

<sup>(1)</sup> Staff Regulations of Officials and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union Interagency mobility: successful candidates currently holding a Temporary agent 2(f) contract may qualify for mobility under the terms of the CEOS, and in accordance with the Cedefop rules. The bandwidth for this position which can be accommodated is AD7-AD8.

key stakeholders. The successful candidate will monitor relevant EU policy developments, provide strategic insights, initiate or support Cedefop's representation at high-level meetings.

This role offers a unique opportunity to work in a dynamic, multicultural environment, contributing to Cedefop's mission at the EU level while engaging in stakeholder management.

The successful candidate will report directly to the Head of the Department for Communication.

With this vacancy notice, Cedefop aims to fill one position. Other successful candidates will be placed on a list of suitable candidates and may be offered a position as the need arises in the Agency.

To learn more about Cedefop organisation, please see Cedefop's organisational chart.

### 3. Key responsibilities of the position

- Develop and maintain strong relationships with EU institutions, private organisations, social partners and keys stakeholders to enhance cooperation and engagement.
- Develop and implement an engagement strategy aligned with Cedefop's overall communication and stakeholder engagement approach.
- Identify and create strategic opportunities for Cedefop and provide strategic recommendations to contribute to relevant EU policy discussions and initiatives.
- Represent Cedefop in meetings, working groups, and high-level events, ensuring effective communication and visibility; facilitate stakeholder discussions, workshops, and networking events to foster cooperation and knowledge exchange; build relationships with other EU agencies and organisations to identify synergies and collaboration opportunities.
- Produce reports, briefings, and other material for internal and external stakeholders, in line with the target audience and purpose.
- Oversee and manage budgetary and procedural matters related to engagement activities, in line with Cedefop's financial rules.
- Support the development of Cedefop's work program by integrating EU-level insights into strategic planning.
- Ensure timely and effective two-way exchange of information with Cedefop's colleagues based in Thessaloniki.

### 4. Cedefop as an employer of choice

We offer a vibrant multicultural work environment with project- and team-based approach.

Our actions are inspired by our core values:

 proactive and responsive: we deliver relevant, high-quality and timely evidence, expertise and tools, addressing our stakeholders' and users' needs, building inclusive partnerships, cooperating with other key players to tap synergies and avoid duplication and proactively supporting EU policy objectives.

- **well-run and ambitious**: we are an efficient and compliant Agency that is committed to transparency, scientifically sound research and analysis and the highest standards of ethics and integrity. We empower and engage our staff and continuously improve our processes.
- **open-minded and adaptable**: we develop new ideas, embrace change and innovation, and view European Union values founded on human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights as fundamental in all our activities.

We are committed to equality and diversity, providing equal opportunities to all employees and applicants. To attract diverse talent pool, we welcome applications from all qualified candidates, without any distinction on any grounds and from the broadest possible geographical basis amongst the EU Member States and EEA countries.

We place high importance on the professional development of our staff and offer diverse learning opportunities in-house and externally.

We value the well-being and work-life balance of our staff and offer flexible working arrangements, hybrid working and part-time working possibilities.

To learn more about Cedefop's working conditions, refer to the dedicated guide. The salary grid is available here.

### 5. Eligibility

Based on the requirements of the regulatory framework, for your application to be considered eligible, you must fulfil all the following requirements on the closing date for submission of applications:

**Nationality**: Be a national of one of the Member States of the European Union or a national of the European Economic Area (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) (<sup>2</sup>).

Citizen rights: Enjoy full rights as a citizen.

Military service: Have fulfilled any legal obligations concerning military service.

**Physical fitness**: Be physically fit to perform the duties relating to the post (<sup>3</sup>).

#### Education and professional experience:

- Have level of education which corresponds to completed university studies attested by a diploma and appropriate professional experience of at least 6 years when the normal period of university education is 4 years or more. OR
- Have a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies attested by a diploma and appropriate professional experience of at least 7 years when the normal period of university education is at least 3 years.

Only diplomas that have been awarded in EU Member States or EEA countries or that are the subject of equivalence certificates issued by the authorities in the said countries shall be taken into consideration.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>) Agreement on the European Economic Area.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>) Before appointment, the successful candidate must undergo a medical examination.

**Language skills**: Have a thorough knowledge (<sup>4</sup>) of one EU language (<sup>5</sup>) and a satisfactory knowledge (<sup>6</sup>) of another EU language as required for the performance of the duties.

### 6. Preselection phase

#### 6.1 Exclusion (yes/no) preselection criteria

For your application to be considered further, you must meet the following criteria:

- a university degree (EQF level 6 or above) in communication, public relations, political science or European studies;
- at least 9 years full-time equivalent experience in the past 15 years, relevant to the duties described in Section 3. *Key responsibilities of the position;*
- English (<sup>7</sup>): level C2 in all dimensions as per the CEFR.

Only if your application meets these three *Exclusion* preselection criteria it will be assessed against the scored preselection criteria listed below.

#### 6.2 Scored preselection criteria

The scored preselection criteria consist of essential and advantageous criteria against which your application will be assessed.

#### 6.2.1 Essential preselection criteria

If you do not meet the minimum requirements in any of the essential criteria below, your application will not be considered further.

- at least 3 years in the past 5 years proven experience in working for or with EU institutions or international organisations;
- experience in the past 5 years in managing institutional relationships, demonstrated by specific projects.

#### 6.2.2 Advantageous preselection criteria

If you do not meet one or more of these criteria, listed in order of priority, it will not result in exclusion. However, meeting them will positively impact the overall scoring of your application, increasing your chances of being invited to the next stage of the selection process.

- experience with managing a network of stakeholders relevant to Cedefop's field of work;
- project management experience (formal certification will be assessed more favourably e.g. PMI, PM2, Prince2, Agile, Scrum);
- French: at least level B2 in all dimensions.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>) Level C1 in all dimensions as per the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>) By way of derogation from Articles 12(2)(e), 82(3)(e) and 85(3) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, the languages referred to in Article 129(1) of the Agreement shall be considered by Cedefop, in respect of its staff, as languages of the Union referred to in Article 55(1) of the Treaty on European Union.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>) Level B2 in all dimensions as per the CEFR.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>) English is the working language of Cedefop.

## 7. Assessment process

The selection process will be organised in several stages.

#### 7.1. Assessment applications by the selection board

The assessment of applications will be carried out by a selection board appointed by the Executive Director, based on the information provided in your online application (Section 9. 'How to apply?').

It is important that you **explain** <u>explicitly</u> how you meet each preselection criterion in the respective box of the online application form as the assessment is carried out solely based on the information you provide there.

The applications that meet the eligibility requirements (Section 5) will be assessed against the criteria described in Section 6, using as a reference the description of the role in Sections 2 & 3 of this vacancy notice.

Around 12 eligible candidates, who obtain the highest scores in this phase and at least 50% of the maximum score for the scored preselection criteria, will be invited for a written test.

#### 7.2 Written test and interview

This stage of the selection procedure will allow you to prove your suitability for this post. You will have the opportunity to demonstrate your technical and soft skills relevant for the job, as follows:

- knowledge and understanding of Cedefop's mandate and activities, as well as of the EU policy making process;
- ability to analyse policy developments and translate them into actionable insights for Cedefop;
- ability to navigate complex political environments, understand institutional sensitivities, and identify appropriate engagement strategies;
- ability to build trust, negotiate and achieve consensus;
- ability to communicate clearly, effectively and persuasively (orally and in writing) in English and to adapt the communication style to different audiences;
- excellent planning and organisational skills including flexibility and ability to work efficiently under time-pressure.

The written test will be organised remotely (proctoring method) and assessed by the selection board anonymously (i.e. the candidate is assigned a code and the selection board is not aware of the candidates' identity when correcting the written test).

Only candidates who obtain at least 60% of the maximum score for the written test will be invited to take part in an interview with the selection board. The interviews too, will take place remotely.

In the final score the written test will have a weight of 30% and the interview 70%.

### 8. Reserve list of suitable candidates and appointment

Following the tests and interviews, the selection board will propose candidates to be included in a reserve list of candidates suitable for this post.

In order to be proposed to be placed on this list, you must obtain a minimum of 60% overall score and minimum 60% of the scores for the written test and the interview, respectively.

A second interview may also be organised with candidates placed on this list prior to taking the final decision. The second interview will assess further the suitability of the candidate for the post in view of the main functions and duties it entails.

The job offer to the most suitable candidate(s) will be made only after the necessary supporting documents have been provided by the candidate and Cedefop's HR service has confirmed their completeness.

The successful candidate will be required to sign a declaration of commitment to act independently in the public interest and to sign a declaration in relation to interests that might be considered prejudicial to his/her independence. Applicants must confirm their willingness to do so in their application.

The appointed candidate will undergo a probation period of 9 months.

Candidates on the list may be considered for other recruitment(s) at Cedefop as the need arises in the Agency. However, inclusion in the list does not guarantee recruitment.

In line with art. 2(2) of Cedefop/DGE/40/2019 governing conditions of employment of contract staff under the terms of Article 3a of the CEOS, the Appointing Authority may also, following due consideration of the needs of the service, offer to suitable candidate(s) a Contract Agent post in Function Group IV. The duration of such contract may vary according to the need of the Agency.

This list will be valid until 31 December 2026. The Executive Director may extend the validity of the list. The status of the lists of suitable candidates can be consulted on Cedefop's webpage dedicated to job opportunities.

### 9. How to apply?

Please submit your application in English through the online system by **Thursday 24 July 2025 at 13:00 Greek time (CET+1)**.

To register and apply, please go to the Vacancies section on Cedefop's website, click on the name of this vacancy notice and follow the instructions.

Supporting documents (diploma(s), work experience certificate(s), etc.) may be requested in the context of the selection phase.

Candidates are strictly forbidden to make any contact relating to this selection procedure with the selection board and the Executive Director, or members of Cedefop's management, either directly or indirectly. Any infringement of this rule will lead to disqualification from the selection process.

For useful information for applicants, refer to the dedicated guide for applicants.

If you have a query, please refer first to the Frequently Asked Questions.

If you cannot find the response that you need there, you may also send an email to hr-recruitment@cedefop.europa.eu.

# 10. Additional information

#### Protection of personal data

Cedefop ensures that applicants' personal data are processed in line with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018.

More information is available on Cedefop website: privacy statement.

#### Cooperation among EU agencies

To promote collaboration among EU agencies, Cedefop may share the reserve list with other Agencies. Prior to sharing, Cedefop will ask for consent from each candidate on the reserve list to share their application. Cedefop will also inform each candidate which agency would receive their data.