WHO ARE WE?

The EDPS - a young and dynamic institution

The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS), a young EU institution established in 2004, in Brussels, Belgium, is the independent data protection authority of the EU institutions and the advisor of the EU legislator on data protection matters. We strive to be an impartial centre of excellence in order to embed a strong data protection culture in the EU institutions and the legislation emanating from them. We also closely follow technological developments and try to anticipate their impact on the privacy of individuals. Our organisation employs about 120 staff members, most of whom are EU officials, but we also welcome Contract Agents and Seconded National Experts, working full-time or part-time.

The EDPS - a great place to work

We value a strong culture of respect, flat hierarchical structures and an open door policy to foster innovative ideas and a strong collaboration between colleagues. To ensure our staff's well-being and motivation, we believe that it is essential to create a healthy organisational climate and to strike a good work-life balance. To achieve this, we offer various flexible working arrangements, as well as learning and development opportunities, such as job-shadowing and training programmes.
WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Someone who

- fits in an informal and friendly yet professional working environment;
- appreciates working collaboratively with other colleagues on a variety of different projects;
- brings their creativity and initiative to the table;
- enjoys engaging constructively with stakeholders, based on our core values: integrity, impartiality, transparency and pragmatism.

ABOUT THE POSITION

Our job vacancy is in the Systems Oversight and Technology Audits Sector of the Technology and Privacy Unit. The unit provides expertise at the intersection of policy and information technology by generating in-depth knowledge about the impact of technology on privacy and data protection, including the forecast of future trends.

The Technology and Privacy Unit of the EDPS is in charge to monitor relevant developments, insofar as they have an impact on the protection of personal data, in particular the development of information and communication technologies. The unit also serves as technological advisor and contributor for other units and sectors in the EDPS.

In addition, the Unit is leading the technical audits of IT systems carrying out data processing operations and in particular the Large Scale IT systems of EU Institutions (EUIs) such as SIS II, Eurodac, VIS, etc. These audits follow the requirements of specific legal instruments and international standards and controls. The unit handles the notification of personal data breaches from the other Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies (EUIs).

As IT and Privacy Security Auditor, your main responsibilities will include:

- Prepare/participate and when needed lead audits of the most relevant (from data protection point of view) IT systems managed by the European Institutions;
- Carry out ad hoc security audit on the databases to verify control objectives such as access control, privileged access or the application of the right data retention and logging policies.
- Document, evaluate and test IT systems and controls to determine their adequacy and effectiveness to ensure compliance with data protection, security legislation and international standards. This will include hands-on verification of the security measures implemented among others at network level, database level, application level including detection of potential vulnerabilities using specific tools;
- Design and maintain audit processes and procedures;
- Draft technical reports that analyse/interpret audit results and stakeholder reports that use accessible language to explain the process and recommendations;
- Organise and execute ad-hoc technical investigations particularly related to systems in the Area of Security, Freedom and Justice (AFSJ);
- Use and develop the IT Lab of the Unit with selection and acquisition of tools that will support the auditing and other security activities of the EDPS such as investigation activities;
- Contribute to EDPS opinions, formal and informal comments on AFSJ related legislative proposals with an impact on data protection and privacy that involve technological aspects;
- Advise EUIs in the domain of AFSJ on matters related to the impact of technology on data protection and privacy (for instance in response to prior consultations received after an institution for high risk Data Protection Impact Assessment or preparing ad-hoc trainings);
• Prepare briefings and reports on the impact of technological developments on data protection in AFSJ;
• Prepare draft security and technical guidelines for the EUIs in various emerging technology topics such as Artificial Intelligence in AFSJ.

These tasks may require occasional (3-4 times a year) missions out of Brussels. You may also be required to carry out additional tasks when necessary and in the interest of the service.

OUR ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Eligibility criteria

For your application to be considered, you must meet one of the following criteria by the deadline for submitting applications:

• work as official for one of the Institutions of the European Union in function group “Administrator” and a grade between AD5 and AD9
• or be a laureate of an EPSO competition for “Administrators”.
• Security Clearance (EU RESTRICTED). Higher is a bonus;

Selection criteria

For this job vacancy, we are looking for someone with the following essential and advantageous skills and experience:

Essential

• Relevant professional experience as Auditor, in the field of information technologies of at least 10 years;
• Relevant professional auditing IT systems in International public organisations (preferably European Institutions Bodies and Agencies) of at least 8 years;
• Certification as Information Systems Auditor (CISA or equivalent is desirable);
• Certification as Data Protection Officer;
• Experience as Database Administrator to perform security testing for IT systems;
• Knowledge and experience in security audit standards and frameworks such as ISO/2700X, NIST, COBIT;
• Very good ability of multitasking and of completing several simultaneous projects with a deadline, as well as being able to demonstrate flexibility and willingness to work on diverse type of tasks;
• Proven knowledge and “hands on” experience to carry out audits on the efficiency of controls and security measures established in a security plan;
• Very good knowledge of new technology and IT security standards, frameworks and guidelines;
• Good knowledge of digital evidence management and/or inspection methodologies and tools (especially those used by data protection authorities) and/or auditing standards;
• Previous experience to cooperate with multiple stakeholders;
• Very good ability of multitasking and of completing several simultaneous projects with a deadline, as well as being able to demonstrate flexibility and willingness to work on diverse type of tasks;
• Extensive capacity for analysis, good communication and writing skills in a structured way;
• Ability to work autonomously, but also a strong sense of teamwork;
• Very good level of written and spoken English, which is the main working language of the EDPS and of the EDPB.
Advantageous

- Knowledge of Large Scale IT Systems in the area of Security, Freedom and Justice;
- Good knowledge of the structure and functioning of the European Union and of its institutions, and other fields of EU law in relation to the position. Working experience in EU Institutions;
- Very good level of written and spoken French and German.

HOW TO APPLY?

Interested in this position? Please send to EDPS-selections@edps.europa.eu by 23/10/2023 at 12:00 midday (Brussels time):

- CV and cover letter detailing why you are suitable for this role;
- the completed application form;
- an official document attesting your status as an official (category, grade); the different posts held in the EU institutions, bodies and agencies, and a copy of your last two staff evaluation reports; or an official document from EPSO attesting that you are a laureate of an “Administrator” competition.

Only duly completed applications submitted electronically within the deadline will be taken into consideration.

Candidates are strongly advised not to wait until the last day to submit their applications, since heavy internet traffic or internet connection issues could lead to difficulties in submission. The EDPS cannot be held responsible for any delay due to such difficulties.

OUR SELECTION PROCEDURE

All eligible applications will be scrutinised by a selection panel. Candidates whose applications best match the selection criteria will be invited for an interview during which the selection panel will assess each candidate’s performance. In addition, a second interview or written tests may be carried out. At the EDPS we aim for all selection panels to have a gender-balanced composition.

To ensure the Selection Panel's independence, it is strictly forbidden for candidates to contact any of its members on any matter related to the selection procedure. All inquiries or correspondence must be exclusively conducted via the functional mailbox edps-selections@edps.europa.eu. Candidates may be disqualified at any stage of the selection procedure if they contact or attempt to contact a member of the Selection Board unless explicitly authorised.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Equal opportunities

The EDPS is committed to promoting diversity, inclusion, and giving everyone equal opportunities to succeed.

As such, the EDPS welcomes all applications without discrimination on grounds of sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of national minority, property, disability, age, gender identity or sexual orientation.

If you require any special arrangements (due to a disability) to take part in this selection procedure, please indicate this on your application.
Data protection

A data protection notice detailing how the EDPS processes candidates’ personal data in the context of recruitment can be found here.

Join us in shaping a safer digital future!

Brussels, 13 October 2023