

Vacancy Notice

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is launching this call for expressions of interest in order to establish a reserve list for the following temporary agent profile:

Reference number	ECHA/TA/2022/003
Job Title	Scientific Officer – Environmental Risk Assessment
Function Group/Grade	Temporary Agent, AD 7 (see the Guide for Applicants for more information)
Location	Helsinki, Finland
Publication Date	22 June 2022
Deadline for Applications	09 August 2022, at noon, 12:00 Helsinki time (11:00 CET)

The initial closing date (04 August 2022) for submission of applications for this call has been extended until 09 August 2022 at noon 12.00 Helsinki time (11.00 Central European Time).

1. Who we are

The [European Chemicals Agency](#) (ECHA) aims to be the centre of knowledge on the sustainable management of chemicals, serving a wide range of EU policies and global initiatives, for the benefit of citizens and the environment. Together with our partners, we work for the safe use of chemicals.

ECHA is an equal opportunity organisation which welcomes applications from qualified professionals all over the European Union and the European Economic Area. We are committed to achieving diversity, as the diversity of ECHA's staff is essential to the Agency's success. We do not discriminate on the grounds of sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation. Candidates who are judged to be the most suitable, based on the assessment in the selection process, will be placed on the reserve list.

ECHA achieved excellent results in the most recent staff survey (2021) and has been awarded a recognition as one of [Finland's most inspiring workplaces](#). This acknowledgement signals a high employee engagement level and indicates that the Agency develops the organisation, staff wellbeing, operating culture and collaboration together with staff. The recognition is given to Finnish organisations that achieve outstanding results in the

PeoplePower® employee survey carried out by Eezy Flow. You can read more about this acknowledgement here: <https://www.innostavimmat.fi/in-english>.

2. Is this job for you?

Are you looking for a challenging opportunity in a leading organisation at the EU and international level and contributing to the protection of the health of European citizens and workers? You will play a key role in supporting your team in a challenging and exciting time for ECHA and EU chemicals management: by facing front-edge scientific and regulatory questions, including integration with other regulations and agencies in the one-substance-one-assessment approach; and by supporting the revision of processes and way of working to address the increasing number of evaluations ECHA undertakes. We currently invite applications for the following units:

The Biocides Units are responsible for ECHA's activities related to the evaluation of active substances and coordinate the scientific assessments to be performed by ECHA under the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR) for technical equivalence and Article 95 inclusion. They are responsible for ECHA's activities related to the evaluation of Union authorisations and other related processes. The Biocides Units ensure that the Agency's Biocidal Products Committee (BPC) and its working groups operate in an independent, efficient, transparent, and consistent manner and can deliver high-quality scientific opinions or agreements. They also provide the secretariat of the Coordination Group (CG).

The Risk Management Units co-ordinate risk assessment issues for restriction and application for authorisation, and the socio-economic and alternatives analysis of restriction and application for authorisation under REACH. They hold overall responsibility for the restrictions' process and applications for authorisation process and the secretariats of the Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) and the secretariat of the Socio-economic Analysis Committee (SEAC). The Risk Management units have expertise on risk assessment and risk management of hazardous chemicals, socio-economic analysis (SEA), analysis of alternatives (AoA) of hazardous chemicals, substitution and applications for authorisation, classification, and occupational limit values.

The Exposure and Supply Chain Unit is responsible for information on use and exposure of chemicals under ECHA's Integrated Regulatory Strategy, including the maintenance of exposure-modelling tools, for example ECHA's Chesar tool, for use by industry and the authorities. They are also responsible for ECHA tools and methods developed in support of the Chemical Safety Assessment (via the Chesar tool) and supply chain communication for substances, mixtures, articles and waste.

The post holder will be expected to interact with a wide range of colleagues at all levels of the Agency, Member State representatives and their experts, Commission, industry and other stakeholders.

3. Key responsibilities

Scientific Officers in Environmental Risk Assessment will work mainly in the Operational Directorates of the Agency in multidisciplinary teams. These teams evaluate scientific and technical information on use, (eco)toxicity, exposure and risks of chemical substances and develop tools and procedures to support the implementation of the REACH Regulation and BPR. Scientific Officers in Environmental Risk Assessment contribute to this work by virtue of

their experience and specialised expertise obtained in academic research, industry, contract research organisations and/or in governmental institutions.

In particular, he/she will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Modelling and estimating exposure concentrations related to environmental or human (occupational and/or consumer) exposure assessment;
- Development of human or environmental exposure assessment models and methods;
- Environmental or human exposure assessment as part of chemical risk assessment in the context of authority risk management;
- Policy development and communication on exposure assessment in the area of the regulatory management of chemical substances or analogous regulatory systems;
- International co-operation on exposure assessment expertise in the field of chemicals risk management;

General responsibilities¹:

- Coordinating and performing human health or environmental exposure assessments for dossiers received from Member States, or prepared by the Agency, in the context of the BPR active substance approval or product authorisation processes, or the REACH restriction process;
- Supporting the prioritisation of groups of chemicals for regulatory action and provide expert input on use and exposure to the related REACH registration, evaluation and risk management processes (EU wide action to restrict substances or require authorisation);
- Coordinating and contributing to the evaluation of justifications for use of REACH rules for adaptation of information requirements, and coverage, relevance and conclusions made in the environmental and human (i.e. occupational or consumer) exposure assessment and risk characterisation;
- Interacting with and briefing the chair of the Biocidal Products Committee (BPC), Member State Committee (MSC) or Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) ahead of discussion on these dossiers and coordinating and contributing to Agency opinions resulting from the discussions, within their expertise;
- Contributing to the development, testing and promotion in use of the scientific IT tools supporting the execution of these tasks (e.g. R4BP 3, REACH-IT, IUCLID and Chesar tool);
- Further developing and supporting the coherent use of the exposure scenario concept for different Biocides Product Types, and in the REACH evaluation, authorisation and restriction processes;
- Maintaining Chemical Assessment Methodologies and their implementation in ECHA's Chesar tool, to enable registrants to demonstrate safe use and generate safety advice for Safety Data Sheets and the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC);

¹ The specific position will determine which of these applies.

- Coordinating and contributing to the development of new and on-going exposure models and tools in support of the EU legislative framework on chemicals (e.g. exposure scenarios, Chesar platform);
- Developing, contributing to and carrying out internal and external training activities and capacity building in the relevant fields of expertise;
- Management of projects in their areas of expertise and acting as team leaders as appropriate;
- Other related activities.

4. Eligibility criteria

The selection procedure is open to applicants who satisfy the following eligibility criteria, on the closing date for application:

a. General requirements

The applicant must:

- Be a national of a Member State of the European Union, or a national of the European Economic Area (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway)²;
- Enjoy the full rights as a citizen;
- Have fulfilled any obligations imposed by the laws concerning military service;
- Produce the appropriate character references as to the suitability for the performance of the duties³;
- Be physically fit to perform the duties⁴;
- Have a thorough knowledge of one of the official languages of the European Union⁵ and a satisfactory knowledge of another such language to the extent necessary to perform your duties;
- Be able to communicate well in English as this is the working language of ECHA;
- Be below the age at which staff of the EU is automatically retired, i.e. currently on the last day of the month in which he/she reaches the age of 66⁶.

b. Qualifications

² The Member States of the European Union are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden.

³ Before appointment, successful applicants will be required to produce an official document indicating that they do not have a criminal record.

⁴ Before appointment, successful applicants will be required to undergo a medical examination to ensure that they fulfil the requirements of Articles 12, 2 (c) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union.

⁵ The languages of the EU are: Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, Irish, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish, Swedish.

⁶ See Article 47(a) CEOS for Temporary Agents, applicable to Contract Agents by analogy, Article 119 CEOS.

- a) Successful completion of a full course of university studies attested by a degree, where the normal duration of university education is four (4) years or more.
- b) Successful completion of a full course of university studies attested by a degree, where the normal duration of university education is three (3) years and at least one (1) year of professional experience.

Only qualifications issued by EU Member State authorities or EEA authorities and qualifications recognized as equivalent by the relevant EU or EEA Member State authorities will be accepted.

c. Professional experience

To qualify for this profile, you must have at the closing date for applications a total professional experience⁷ of at least six (6) years acquired after achieving the minimum requirements stated out in section 4.b of this vacancy notice. At least three (3) years of your total professional experience must be relevant professional experience⁸ in the fields listed in section 3.

5. Selection criteria

If you meet the eligibility criteria set out in section 4, you will be assessed on the basis of the following selection criteria. The candidates who are judged to be the most suitable on the basis of the selection criteria will be invited to an interview.

- **Your academic and professional qualifications** and their relevance to the main areas of work listed in section 3.
- **Your professional experience:** Preference will be given to candidates having experience in functions similar to those outlined in section 3. The Selection Committee will assess the range of fields covered, the length, the type and level of work done and its relevance to the areas of work listed in section 3.

The following will be considered as assets:

- Master or doctoral degree on a subject relevant to the job description;
- Publications in scientific magazines on environmental and/or human exposure of chemicals;
- Experience in analyses leading to or contributing to regulatory outcomes;
- Experience of project management and/or team leadership.

⁷ Only appropriate professional experience acquired after achieving the minimum qualification stated in 4.b. shall be considered. Where additional periods of training and study are accompanied by periods of professional activity, only the latter shall be considered as professional experience. Compulsory military service or equivalent civilian service accomplished after the achieving the minimum qualification stated in 4.b. shall be taken into consideration. Professional activities pursued on a part-time basis shall be calculated pro rata, on the basis of the percentage of full-time hours worked. A given period may be counted only once.

⁸ Relevant experience should be described in your application.

Your academic and professional qualifications, professional experience and knowledge and experience considered as an asset **must be described as precisely as possible in your application.**

6. Interview and written test

If selected for interview and/or written test, you will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

6.1 Specific knowledge related to the post:

- Knowledge and understanding in your areas of experience that are most relevant to the tasks set out in section 3;
- Understanding of the role and aims of ECHA in relation to the REACH, CLP and Biocides legislations.

6.2 General competencies⁹ and conduct required for the job:

- Supervisory capacity and ability to develop people;
- Negotiation, problem-solving, flexibility and conflict-resolution skills;
- Ability to communicate and liaise effectively with external stakeholders and with internal stakeholders at all organisational levels;
- Ability to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team in a multicultural and multilingual environment;
- Creative and analytical problem-solving skills;
- Organisational skills, the ability to accomplish, as project manager, projects within tight deadlines;
- Ability to adapt, respond and drive change.

Your ability to communicate in spoken/written English, and the knowledge, skills and competencies related to the job will be assessed throughout the written tests and interviews.

For native English speakers, your ability to communicate in your second EU language will be tested during the selection process. As this forms part of the general requirements stated under section 4.a General Requirements from above, any failure in proving the satisfactory level of your second EU language would lead to your exclusion from the selection.

⁹ You can read more about the general competencies in place in ECHA through the following link:
https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/17100/echa_staff_competencies_en.pdf/81a7fbbf-730a-4bc2-9681-24095900028c?t=1476375368217

Interviews and written tests may be organised **remotely**.

7. Placement on the reserve list

If you are judged to be among the most suitable candidates, on the basis of the criteria listed in sections 4, 5 and 6, you will be placed on the reserve list. The reserve list will be valid for a period of two years, with the possibility of extension.

It should be noted that inclusion on the reserve lists does not imply any entitlement of employment in the Agency.

At ECHA, we believe in continuous learning and flexible work assignments to ensure the best use of our human resources and to maintain a high level of staff motivation and expertise. Hence, your career at ECHA, once recruited, may lead you to another role within ECHA in the future.

8. What we offer

a. Engagement and conditions of employment

Successful applicants may be offered an employment contract for five years as a temporary agent, in the grade **AD 7**. This contract may be renewed for a definite period. If renewed for a second time, the contract becomes indefinite. If the successful applicant from the external selection procedure is already a member of temporary staff 2(f) in the relevant function group or another function group, the Agency shall offer the person, in writing, the opportunity to be assigned to the post by means of mobility under the provisions of Article 6(2)¹⁰ or, subject to the establishment plan availabilities, Article 10⁹ respectively, if the person prefers to ensure continuity of contracts.

The successful applicant will be required to make a declaration of commitment to act independently in the public interest and to make an annual declaration with respect to any interests which might be considered prejudicial to his/her independence. Moreover, before recruiting a member of staff, ECHA's Executive Director will examine whether the applicant has any personal interest which may impair his/her independence or any other conflict of interest. To that end, the applicant, using a specific form, shall inform the Executive Director of any actual or potential conflict of interest. Applicants must confirm their willingness to do so in their application.

b. Salary & benefits

The successful candidate will be recruited as a Temporary Agent Grade AD 7 with the basic monthly salary starting from € 6.414,44, subject to an annual review of remuneration provided for in Article 65(1) of the Staff Regulations.

In addition to the basic salary, ECHA offers a range of benefits which include allowances, such as a household allowance, an expatriation allowance (16% of the basic salary) and a

¹⁰ Implementing rules on the procedure governing the engagement and use of temporary staff under Article 2(f) of the CEOS:
https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/17100/MB_DECISION_03_2018_4_MB49_FINAL.pdf/7087cc5b-2dee-aade-0de0-bcdb47aa605d

dependent child allowance, as well as a welfare package including pension scheme, medical and accident coverage.

For more information on the salary and on the allowances, please visit our website at: <http://www.echa.europa.eu/about-us/jobs/what-we-offer>.

9. Other information

For more information on the selection process of temporary agents and on the contractual and working conditions, please refer to:

- **Guide for Applicants:**
https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/17100/general_guide_for_applicants_en.pdf/cd910e74-63ba-4cdd-b87f-29f0a77d0fea?t=1646396767190
- **Implementing rules** concerning temporary agents:
https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/17100/MB_DECISION_03_2018_4_MB49_FINAL.pdf/7087cc5b-2dee-aade-0de0-bcdb47aa605d
- **Conditions of Employment of Other Servants** of the European Union:
<http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:1962R0031:20140101:EN:PDF>
- **Protection of personal data:** The European Chemicals Agency will ensure, on its part, that your personal data is processed as required by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 on the protection of personal data.
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R1725&from=EN>