EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

October 2025 – Call for expression of interest – scientific trainees

As the science and knowledge service of the Commission, the mission of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) is to provide independent, evidence-based knowledge and science, supporting EU policies to positively impact society. The JRC is located in 5 Member States (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain).
Further information about the JRC activities is available at https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en

The place of traineeship will be one of the following JRC sites: Geel (Belgium), Ispra (Italy), Karlsruhe (Germany), Petten (the Netherlands) or Seville (Spain).

The JRC cultivates a workplace based on respect for other people and the environment and embraces non-discriminatory practices and equality of opportunity.

Thematic areas

The JRC science and knowledge activities cover a variety of areas, including agriculture and food security, health, industry and space, energy, natural resources, mobility, creativity and an inclusive society, civil security for society, environment and climate change, nuclear safety and security, crisis management, population dynamics and migration, digital transformation and data, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence as well as innovation and growth.

For the October 2025 call, the JRC seeks to recruit approximately fifty (50) scientific trainees, in different thematic areas relevant for the organisation. The thematic areas are clustered in 11 fields as listed below. More detailed information, project descriptions, as well as relevant candidate profiles are available in Annex I.

If the candidate's profile fits in more than one field, the applicant is encouraged to choose the one for which they are more specialised.

The scheme focuses on candidates having a strong scientific background. However, some fields also give the opportunity for candidates with a more generalist profile to apply. Depending on the project, the trainee will be expected to perform desktop work and/or laboratory tasks.

Fields for the October 2025 call (projects details in Annex I)

Fields number	Title
1	Environment and climate
2	Energy sustainability
3	Security, ICT, cyber-security and law enforcement
4	Data management analysis, research, and applications for evidence-based decision-making
5	Research and applications in artificial intelligence, machine learning, and complex systems
6	Space technologies, secure connectivity and geo-information
7	Health and consumer protection
8	Transport science and sustainable mobility
9	Social, economic, political sciences, geopolitics, security, democracy
10	Behavioural science, economics, education and science communication
11	Nuclear Science and Technology. Radiochemistry and radiation protection

Requirements of the Call

Specific eligibility requirements for this call:

- **Nationality**:
  Open to nationals of Member States of the European Union and of countries associated to the Research Framework Programmes.
  The recruitment of candidates from non-Member States (under Research Framework Programmes), may require additional compulsory administrative procedures imposed by the national authority of the country hosting the JRC site and in accordance with internal rules and regulations.

- **Degree:**
  To be eligible, candidates must hold a minimum of a standard three-year higher education degree, corresponding to a complete bachelor's cycle (university education – 180 ECTS[1] credits).
  Additionally, candidates must meet at least one of the following conditions:
  - Have been awarded their last university degree no more than five years prior to the closing date of the call for applications for traineeships; or
  - Be currently enrolled in a Master's degree or Ph.D. (or equivalent) programme.

- **Languages:**
  To fully benefit from the traineeship and to participate effectively in meetings and tasks, candidates from EU Member States must have a thorough knowledge of at least two Community languages, one of which should be English (minimum C1 level, according to the Common European Framework for Languages - CEFR).
  Candidates from non-Member States must have a thorough knowledge of at least English (minimum C1 level, according to the CEFR).

- **Previous experiences:**
  The JRC wishes to offer the opportunity of a traineeship to as many people as possible. Therefore, applications are not considered eligible from those candidates who for more than six weeks, within a European institution, body or agency:
  - have already benefited or benefit from any kind of traineeship (formal or informal, paid or unpaid);
  - have had or have any kind of employment, including anyone who is or has been a temporary staff member, a contract staff member, a contract staff member for auxiliary tasks, a grantholder or an assistant to a Member of the European Parliament;
  - have had, nor currently have, experience as an external service provider, a member of the interim staff, a seconded national expert or as a visiting scientist.

[1] European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

Selection criteria

Candidates are evaluated anonymously on the basis of the following criteria:

- Level of education: minimum bachelors' degree;
- Level of knowledge of English;
- Level of knowledge of any other official language of the EU, as well as other non-EU languages, if any;
- Relevant field-related work experience, if any;
- Field-related methodologies and technologies, IT skills, if any;
- International experience (education, work, volunteering abroad and aptitude to work in an international environment atmosphere), if any;
- Papers, publications, participation in conferences/summer schools, if any;
- Motivation and suitability for the JRC.

All candidates will be notified about the pre-selection results.

Short-listed candidates might be contacted for informal interviews directly by the interested JRC Unit/Service. Inclusion in the database does not, in itself, constitute a traineeship offer. An offer is not considered final until the placement offer has been signed. Candidates not recruited will be notified at the closure of the selection phase.

Supporting documents will be verified in the recruitment phase. Originals may be requested for verification at any time.

Conditions of Traineeship

The conditions of the Traineeship Programme are governed by the Rules Governing the Scientific Traineeship Programme of the Joint Research Centre. The next traineeship session will start in October 2025 and will run for a fixed period of 5 months. Under exceptional circumstances, a postponement of the start date may be possible. Candidates should be aware that any postponement of the start date might have an impact upon candidates' eligibility for other career opportunities at the European Commission.

The amount of the basic monthly allowance in 2025, adjusted by the applicable correction coefficient of the site, is between € 1.297,73 and € 1.663,60[2].
No tax or social security contributions will be withheld or paid by the European Commission with respect to the above stated allowances. Trainees are solely responsible for the payment of any taxes due on allowances by virtue of the laws in force of the State(s) concerned.

Trainees may receive a travel allowance that partly covers the expenses incurred for travelling from their place of residence to their place of traineeship. The travel allowance is a lump sum (fixed amount). The method of calculation and the procedure to be followed are published in Annex II.

[2] The monthly basic allowance is equivalent to 25% of the basic remuneration for an official at grade AD5/1, adjusted by the correction coefficient applicable to the JRC site where the traineeship takes place.

Further opportunities

Candidates interested in further opportunities at the European Commission can find information on the website of the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO): epso.europa.eu

Access to the talent management programme "JPP" (Junior Professionals Programme[3]) is open also to JRC scientific trainees. The admission is subject to specific eligibility requirements and further boundary conditions.

Data Protection

For further information on how the JRC processes your personal data, please consult our page for "Data protection in the selection and/or recruitment process".

The Commission ensures that candidates' personal data are protected as required by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 on the processing of personal data by EU institutions and bodies. This safeguards the confidentiality and security of such data.

JRC contact details

For any technical problems with your application, please contact:

HR-JRC-RECRUITMENT-TOOLS-SUPPORT@ec.europa.eu

For questions related to this call, please contact:

HR-JRC-ISPRA-TRAINEES@ec.europa.eu

[3] traineeships.ec.europa.eu/junior-professionals-programme-jpp

ANNEX I

FIELD	PROJECTS DESCRIPTION	PARTICULARLY RELEVANT* FOR APPLICANTS WITH A BACKGROUND IN…
FIELD 1 Environment and climate	This field covers a wide range of topics on climate and environmental challenges, including climate change, air, water (from source to sea) and soil pollution and quality monitoring, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable land use including agriculture. The projects could involve measurement and modelling techniques to assess sustainability, environmental and climate variables, human interactions, environmental economics, pollution prevention and control, technology assessment, and resource dependency. The goal is to support environmental, climate and sustainable policy developments addressing and supporting EC policy priorities on sustainable competitiveness and sustaining quality of our life. For example, industrial decarbonisation and pollution prevention and control, circular and bio-economy, sustainable consumption, sustainable transition, sustainable finance, and material life cycle.	– Industrial and environmental technology, engineering and analytical chemistry. – Environmental monitoring and modelling, air/water/soil quality assessment, ecosystem studies, biodiversity modelling, pollution impact assessment, circular economy analysis/modelling, sustainability strategies, agronomic and agro-economic modelling. – Environmental data analysis, regulatory standards, and policy evaluation. – Impact assessment, environmental economics, transition and green finance. – Climate and/or industrial transition analysis. – Circularity and reusability in the built environment.
FIELD 2 Energy sustainability	This field covers projects on the supply and transformation of energy and associated material supply, renewable energies, energy efficiency, and the integration of competitive and sustainable energy systems and sustainable raw material supply including innovative nuclear energy and its applications. Activities focus on improving energy systems and assessing their impact on the environment and the built environment. Additionally, the research addresses on the decarbonisation of our energy systems and supporting the planning and development of resilient, competitive and efficient energy systems, both within the EU and globally.	– Renewable energy including enablers such as hydrogen and batteries, energy consumption analysis, energy efficiency nuclear safety, energy market modelling, electrification analysis, emissions monitoring. – Energy policies, climate impact studies, and integration of energy systems. – Data analysis or policy assessment related to energy. – Eco-efficiency and sustainability in buildings, targeting energy savings and carbon reduction.

* Candidates are encouraged to apply for any field of their interest also if their studies/background is not listed below or is not fully aligned.

FIELD	**PROJECTS DESCRIPTION**	**PARTICULARLY RELEVANT* FOR APPLICANTS WITH A BACKGROUND IN…**
FIELD 3 Security, ICT, cyber-security and law enforcement	Ensuring a safer and more secure Europe is a top priority for the Commission for 2024-2029. This field covers research activities related to Security, ICT (including cybersecurity), law enforcement, protecting critical infrastructure, and addressing hybrid threats. The JRC provides scientific/technical support for the European Internal Security Strategy, the European action plan against drug trafficking, the counter-terrorism agenda, new and emerging threats (borders security) and the European Integrated Border Management. The analytics also concerns new digital technologies and paradigms to evaluate their potential to enhance the resilience of critical infrastructure and identify associated risks. This field helps shape a more secure and resilient digital future.	– Computer science, cybersecurity, data protection, AI for security, cryptography, software engineering, or infrastructure security. – Network security, data privacy, or software development; risk assessment or encryption methods. – Analytical Chemistry. – Artificial Intelligence Data Science. – Biometrics. – Applied physics. – Engineering. – Electronic engineering. – Material sciences. – Mathematics. – Natural sciences. – Political sciences.
FIELD 4 Data management analysis, research, and applications for evidence-based decision-making	The projects in this field might involve analysing large and complex datasets containing structured or unstructured information, geospatial imagery, textual content, numerical data, and categorical information from various sources. The field supports evidence-based policymaking through data management, data science, composite indicators and scoreboards, machine learning, advanced data visualisation, and econometric and statistical modelling. Some projects involve linking data from various sources and using data science for policy implementation. Counterfactual impact evaluation methods are also used to assess policy impacts and tailor implementations using data science techniques and econometrics methods.	– Data science, AI, text mining, data visualization, econometrics, statistics, and impact evaluation. – Data processing, policy evaluation, and counterfactual analysis. – Economics and econometrics. – Development of composite indicators and scoreboard to monitor multi-dimensional phenomena (e.g. inequalities, innovation, competitiveness)

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FIELD	PROJECTS DESCRIPTION	PARTICULARLY RELEVANT* FOR APPLICANTS WITH A BACKGROUND IN…
FIELD 5 Research and applications in artificial intelligence, machine learning, and complex systems	This field covers projects on developing advanced algorithms and models to tackle complex challenges, including societal implications of AI technologies, natural language processing, autonomous systems, and image recognition. Additionally, projects are specialising in systems that address emerging issues related to climate, energy and financial-economic stability, human interactions with the Earth system, and social responses to crises.	– Computer science, mathematics, or engineering. – AI applications, ethical considerations in AI, programming, statistical modelling. – AI-driven innovation across various sectors, including construction, transportation, healthcare, autonomous systems and robotics.
FIELD 6 Space technologies, secure connectivity and geo-information	This field covers projects in space technologies, satellite applications – such as Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS), Secure Connectivity and Earth observation – and geo-information. Potential activities include but are not limited to: improving satellite navigation and communication systems (such as Galileo and IRIS²), experimenting with next-generation space and terrestrial connectivity systems (e.g., 5G, quantum). In addition, activities include investigating quantum technologies for communication, sensing and computing, as well as using Earth observation and geo-information data to monitor environmental and climate changes to enhance security and disaster management. Successful candidates will also contribute to European initiatives in space technology, advanced communication systems and Earth observation, through experimental research activities conducted in the JRC's world-class laboratories and in the field. Projects may also involve the use of geo-data applications, enabling the monitoring of policy implementation and assessing its impact.	– Telecommunications engineering. – Electrical engineering. – Electronics engineering. – Aeronautical and aerospace engineering. – Computer science. – Physics. – Geoinformatics/environmental sciences. – Earth observation, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), geospatial data processing.

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FIELD	PROJECTS DESCRIPTION	PARTICULARLY RELEVANT* FOR APPLICANTS WITH A BACKGROUND IN…
FIELD 7 Health and consumer protection	This field covers a wide range of topics such as: public health, health threats, health technologies, medical devices and in vitro diagnostics, biotechnologies, food/feed safety, food and nutrition security, sustainability, new genomic techniques-derived products, food fraud and quality, safe and sustainable chemicals, advanced materials, cancer, rare diseases, and the impacts of lifestyle on health as well as nuclear medical applications. Via modern scientific methods, including bioinformatics and artificial intelligence, the research outputs inform policy makers, regulatory bodies and support standardisation, including the development of reference materials. The goal is to safeguard the well-being of European citizens and ensure the appropriate dissemination of information, as well as to contribute to combatting malnutrition at the global level.	– Public health, life sciences, biotechnology, chemistry, epidemiology, AI in healthcare, food safety, and regulatory frameworks. – Health policies, risk assessment, analytical or bioanalytical measurements, medical research, regulatory affairs.
FIELD 8 Transport science and sustainable mobility	This field covers topics on sustainable mobility solutions, transportation infrastructure and the profound impact of emerging technologies on European transportation systems. Projects focus on improving transportation systems while considering environmental and social impacts also safety and security-related aspects. Particular emphasis is placed on technology solutions for improving energy efficiency, and environmental performance of road vehicles throughout their lifecycle, using experimental and simulation methods. Moreover, the field contributes to the standardisation and regulatory processes related to the transport sector. The work extends beyond technological aspects. The research delves into the societal implications of future mobility systems and model the economic aspects and impacts of future transport policies. This includes a comprehensive consideration of how these policies affect climate and environment.	– Transport engineering, urban planning, or environmental science. – Transport means and systems modelling. – Electrified//autonomous vehicles, mobility policy, infrastructure safety, and climate impact analysis. – Sustainability assessments or urban mobility planning. – Transport emissions inventories and holistic assessment. – Structural safety of transportation infrastructures, with a focus on monitoring and analysis methods and on the resilience to environmental stresses and climate change impacts.

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FIELD	PROJECTS DESCRIPTION	PARTICULARLY RELEVANT* FOR APPLICANTS WITH A BACKGROUND IN…
FIELD 9 Social, economic, political sciences, geopolitics, security, democracy	This field covers various analyses across economic, social, and political domains to provide insights for informed decision-making at both European and global levels. The multidisciplinary approach encompasses the study of economic and financial resilience, societal challenges and social innovation, societal resilience, demography and migration dynamics, governance structures, civil society, policy dynamics and geopolitics, as well as security threats/risks and polycrisis, including the impact of digital transformation on these areas. Possible tasks could include development and application of methodologies for quantitative and qualitative analyses, including impact assessment and foresight, to support EU policymaking in financial, economic, industrial, social, territorial, and political areas, including issues related to taxation, social protection, skills and jobs, with a focus on the role of digital technologies and data-driven innovations; in addition, the research contributes to anticipatory governance through foresight and design approaches, assess the societal and economic impact of science, technology, and policymaking, including the implications of emerging technologies on labour markets and the need for re-skilling and engage with various stakeholders as well as ordinary citizens in transdisciplinary studies of these impacts. The field includes specifically the study of democracy and democratic practices at all levels of governance in the EU, including citizen participation in policymaking.	– Social sciences, political science, economics, sociology. – International and strategic studies. – Economic, econometric and financial modelling, policy evaluation and governance research. – Social transformation, future studies, foresight analysis, threats/risk management (including digital economics and technological innovation). – Survey methodologies and stakeholder collaboration, with expertise in data analysis and digital tools. – Citizen participation in policymaking and in science (methods and tools).
FIELD 10 Behavioural science, economics, education and science communication	This field covers topics on human behaviour and decision making, and their impact on society, including the influence of digital technologies and platforms on individual and collective choices. It also covers science communication and scientific networking in a multi-disciplinary environment at the triangle of science-policy-society.	– Behavioural sciences, education, economics or psychology. – Economic modelling, policy impact analysis and data visualization. – Policy design, with a focus on

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	Possible project will address a wide range of societal challenges, including issues related to consumption, production, investment, political engagement, education, energy transition, migration, health, training systems, taxation, social protection and more with a focus on the role of digitalisation and data-driven innovations. Possible tasks include using analytical methods to evaluate public policies, anticipate citizen reactions to interventions, and help to optimise policy effectiveness including the assessment of digital public services and governance models. Such work encompasses micro, macro, financial, market, and sectoral econometric analyses to understand the economy and policy impacts, employing experimental and quasi-experimental methods for policy impact evaluation, including the analysis of the data economy. Other possible tasks involve designing and implementing science communication activities for relevant science for policy actions and investigating the use of AI in the field of scientific editorial processes.	digital public governance and service design. – Science and/or policy communication.
FIELD	**PROJECTS DESCRIPTION**	**PARTICULARLY RELEVANT* FOR APPLICANTS WITH A BACKGROUND IN…**
FIELD 11 Nuclear Science and Technology. Radiochemistry and radiation protection	This field focuses on the nuclear fuel cycle, nuclear reactor safety, security and safeguards, structural materials and nuclear data. It covers radiation protection, environmental radioactivity monitoring, and non-energy applications (such as nuclear medicine and space technology). It also includes decommissioning nuclear installations, developing analytical techniques for radionuclide detection, isotopic ratio analysis, Monte Carlo simulations, nuclear forensic investigations ("atomic detectives") and implementing radiation protection best practices. In addition, projects involving design, operation and maintenance of JRC nuclear installations will be considered. This field aims to ensure the safe, secure, and sustainable use of nuclear technology for energy and non-energy applications.	– Nuclear engineering, physics, or chemistry. – Nuclear safety, radiation protection, reactor physics, nuclear fuel cycle, environmental radioactivity monitoring and isotopic analysis. – Laboratory work, experimental data interpretation. – Radiation hazard assessment and policy development. – Nuclear decommissioning and radioactive waste management. – Mechanical, civil electronics or electric engineering applied to nuclear facilities.

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ANNEX II

TRAVEL ALLOWANCES

JRC Scientific Traineeships Programme

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Art.8.4 - Travel allowances of the Rules Governing the Scientific Traineeship Programme of the Joint Research Centre

Trainees may receive a travel allowance that partly covers the expenses incurred for travelling from their place of residence to their place of traineeship. This possibility is specified in each call and is subject to budget availability. The travel allowance is a lump sum (fixed amount).
The trainee must complete a minimum of three months of traineeship to qualify for the travel allowance.

PLACE OF RESIDENCE

The place of residence is the one where the trainee's address is legally fixed at the time of the recruitment procedure and indicated in the placement offer.

Documents accepted as proof of residence:

- Certificate of residence, not older than one year;
- Valid ID card or Passport with complete address.

A false declaration can result in the termination of the traineeship or a recovery order.

TRAVEL CLAIM and DOCUMENTATION

To receive the travel allowance, trainees must submit the travel allowance claim using the form provided by the HR Service during the recruitment procedure.

All modes of transport are accepted (bus, car, plane, train, boat, motorbike, ...). Trainees may be required to provide proof of travel dates, receipts, or other documentation.

DEADLINES

The travel allowance claim must be submitted within two months after the start of the traineeship.

Claims that are not introduced correctly, or not submitted by the given deadline, will not be processed.

Travel allowances are paid starting from the fourth month of traineeship.

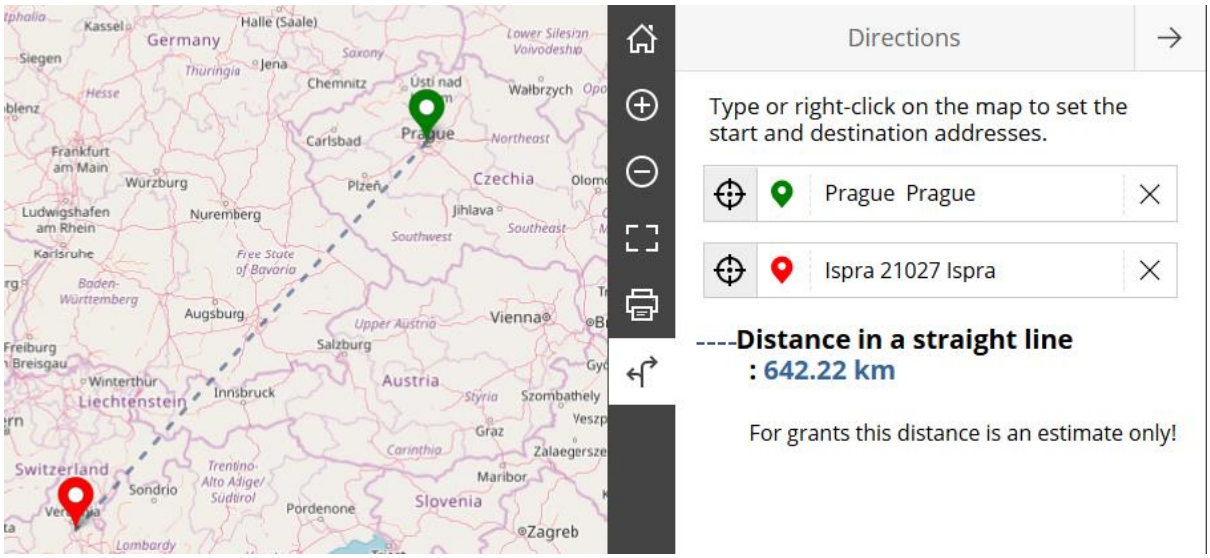
TRAVEL ALLOWANCE AMOUNT

The travel allowance is calculated as a lump sum (fixed amount) based on the shortest aerial distance between trainees' place of residence and the place of assignment (city).

Distances, one way only, are calculated through the Erasmus+ Distance Calculator[4].

Distance – KM	Allowance - €
0 - 49 km	0 €
50 – 99 km	40 €
100 – 249 km	100 €
250 – 499 km	180 €
500 – 1999 km	275 €
2000 – 2999 km	360 €
3000 – 3999 km	530 €
4000 – 7999 km	820 €
> 8000 km	1.100 €

For example, the distance from Prague (CZ) to Ispra (IT) is 642.22 km, which corresponds to 275,00 €.



[4] https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator