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Brussels, January 2025

**Recruitment Notice N° COR/TA/AD6/4/2025  
concerning an Administrator position (M/F)  
(Temporary staff member, grade AD6)  
for the European Alliance Group (EA)  
in the European Committee of the Regions**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

The Authority empowered to conclude contracts of employment, in agreement with the President of the **European Alliance Group (EA) in the European Committee of the Regions (CoR)**, has decided to open a **selection procedure for the purpose of recruiting a temporary staff member pursuant to article 2(c) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union (CEOS) and decision n° 31/2018 of the Secretary General of the European Committee of the Regions related to the recruitment of temporary staff.**

**About the European Alliance Group**

The European Alliance Group in the CoR brings together politicians who believe in a European Union which takes account of the views of Nations, Regions, and Local Authorities. Our members are strong supporters of the application of the principle of subsidiarity where decisions are taken at the level closest to the citizens. Many of our members are strong supporters of more autonomy through which regions and nations can decide on their political and economic future through peaceful and democratic means.

European Alliance members are active in formulating political recommendations on proposed EU strategies and legislation, as well as on issues identified by the CoR as being of key importance to Europe's cities and regions. We are hugely passionate about the Cultural and linguistic diversity in the European Union and believe that a particular attention should be placed on this very valuable EU resource.

The EA Group organises meetings and citizens' debates in cities and regions across Europe, bringing policymakers together and connecting them directly with the experience of Europe's citizens. The Group also hosts workshops, seminars and cultural events to encourage debate and drive political action on some of the most important issues Europe's citizens face. The EA Group works in close cooperation with the European Free Alliance political party and has many links with independent MEP's.

The dynamic European Alliance Secretariat assists the President and its members, carries out in-depth work ahead of CoR commission meetings and plenary sessions and ensures full support to the EA Group coordinators in order to facilitate their task of securing group cohesion and of dealing with their counterparts.

**Place of employment:** Brussels  
**Post:** Temporary staff member 2 c)  
**Grade:** AD 6

**Indicative timetable for the selection procedure:**

Closing date for application: 23 February 2025 at noon (Brussels time)  
Assessment of eligibility: March 2025  
Written tests: April 2025  
Interviews: May 2025  
Entry into service: July 2025

**II. NATURE OF THE DUTIES AND PROFILE**

Qualified temporary staff member with responsibility, under the authority of the President and Secretary-General of the Group, to work as a **Political Administrator** within the Secretariat ensuring the political preparation of the meetings of the CoR commission meetings, plenary sessions and other political initiatives. The position requires relevant experience, technical skills and competences in targeted political briefings, to be carried out in alignment with the political priorities and objectives of the CoR and the EA Group.

The main duties of the political administrator are to:

- Have a thorough knowledge of policy developments in the EU, in the Member States and within the CoR, and to be able to prepare briefings aligned with European Alliance Group members perspective;
- Have a good understanding of Local and Regional authorities and their role in the EU decision-making process; proactively assist members' in planning and enacting policy actions;
- Prepare voting lists and be responsible for negotiations with the other political groups' secretariats and at administrative level;
- Facilitate bilateral contacts between EA members to relevant contacts in the EU institutions;
- Draft members speeches on a diverse range of EU policy and political agenda;
- Propose and draft regular press releases and articles;
- Communicate the EA Group work internally and externally;
- Organise high-level group events and formulate strategies to ensure their success;
- Develop and maintain key contacts at European, national, regional and local level, as required;
- Other duties that may be added to this list in line with the changing needs of the Group.

**III. ELIGIBILITY**

The selection procedure is open to candidates who meet the following conditions on the closing date for applications:

## **A. General conditions**

Under article 12(2) (a) of the CEOS, each candidate must:

- be a national of a Member State of the European Union;
- have fulfilled any obligations concerning statutory military service;
- have produced the necessary character references for performance of the duties concerned (the successful candidate will be required to provide an extract from his/her police record or equivalent document before recruitment);
- be physically fit to perform the duties linked to the post (the successful candidate will be examined by the CoR Medical Officer before recruitment).

## **B. Specific conditions**

### **1. Diplomas and professional experience:**

- Have completed a university education of at least three years attested by a diploma, preferably in a relevant field to the post.
- Have a minimum of 3 years professional experience as main field of activity in the political preparation and coordination in an environment of a political nature.

### **2. Knowledge and competencies:**

- Experience in writing for stakeholders, media or the public;
- Experience working in an EU institution, organisation working with EU institutions or with relevant EU political bodies;
- Experience or knowledge of the organisation, activities and objectives of the EA Group or its members in the CoR; a commitment to the EA Group and respect of its values;
- Experience working with members of local and regional authorities would be an asset;
- Experience in planning and organising large events including travel arrangements, logistical support (interpretation, catering etc.) independently or in cooperation with other team members.

### **3. Language skills:**

A thorough knowledge of an official language of the European Union and at least a satisfactory knowledge of another official language of the Union is required. For functional reasons, a very good knowledge of English or French is required and at least a satisfactory knowledge of the other of the two languages. Candidates having English or French as their mother tongue will be required to sit the writing editorial tests in the other one of the two languages<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> In view of the nature of the duties to be carried out, this requirement is necessary in order to strike a balance between the need to ensure the recruitment of staff members possessing the highest levels of competence, performance and integrity, and the interests of the service, which requires the candidates to be immediately operational and capable of communicating effectively within the institution as part of

#### **4. IT skills:**

Very good IT and social media preparation and management skills (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram). Good knowledge of IT programmes such as Word, Excel, Outlook, SharePoint etc.

### **IV. SELECTION PROCEDURE**

The selection procedure is based on **qualifications and tests (written and oral)**.

**All correspondence with the applicants will take place by email. Applicants are responsible for informing the HR department of the CoR in writing of any changes of their email address. The HR department of the CoR cannot be held responsible for the non-delivery of emails.**

#### **A. Eligibility**

The list of all applications received will be drawn up by the HR department of the CoR and submitted to the selection panel for assessment and validation.

Applicants who:

- do not meet the general conditions for admission and the specific conditions regarding diplomas and professional experience (set out under Section III "Eligibility", points A and B.1);
- submitted their applications after the closing date of 23 February 2025 at noon (Brussels time);
- did not submit all documents in the form and content as required in Appendix 1.

will be excluded by the selection panel from the selection procedure and be informed thereof by e-mail by the HR department.

#### **B. Pre-selection procedure based on qualifications**

Among applicants meeting the conditions for admission specified in point A, the selection panel will select those who have the best qualifications and the most relevant professional experience with regard to the criteria described in Section II of the recruitment notice "Nature of the duties and profile".

The selection panel will carry out this selection based on the applicants' motivation letter and the CV backed up by supporting documents by using a pre-established evaluation grid based on the specific conditions set out in Section III B, points 2, 3 and 4.

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their daily work in one of the languages most used as an internal lingua franca by the officials and staff of the Union. Testing the linguistic knowledge of candidates during the recruitment procedure is therefore a reasonable way of verifying this aspect of the candidates' ability to carry out the duties of political assistant in the EA Group. For candidates having English or French as their mother tongue, they will be required to sit the tests in the other of the two languages.

Only a maximum of fifteen candidates with the best scores will be shortlisted and admitted to the written tests.

Applicants who have not been pre-selected by the selection panel will be informed by e-mail by the HR department of the CoR.

### **C. Invitation to the tests**

Pre-selected applicants will be invited to the written tests by email by the HR department of the CoR.

Please note that the selection panel may disqualify any applicant if, at any stage of the selection procedure, it finds that:

- they do not meet one or more of the general conditions governing admission to the selection procedure; or
- the claims made in their application are not substantiated by appropriate supporting documents or prove to be inaccurate.

The applicant will be informed thereof by e-mail by the HR department of the CoR.

## **V. TESTS**

### **A. Written tests**

The written tests will be provided in English or French. The written tests will take the form of a multiple-choice questionnaire or a series of short open questions, an editorial test and a case study exercise. Candidates having English or French as their mother tongue will be required to sit all the tests in the other of the two languages. For functional reasons linked to the duties of the post, the editorial test will need to be carried out in English except for candidates having English as their mother tongue. In this case, they will have to take it in French.

The linguistic choice will be defined by each applicant in their application form (Appendix 2).

#### **Test 1**

The multiple-choice or short open questions which aims to assess the applicant's knowledge in the field of EU institutions and current political affairs. The exercise will be taken online.

Duration of the test: 30 minutes

Marking: 0 to 20 points

Minimum pass mark: 10 points

#### **Test 2**

The editorial written test will be carried out to evaluate the communication and analytical skills, the political sensitivity and the knowledge of EU policies. The editorial written test will be computer-based and will be taken online.

Duration of the test: 45 minutes  
Marking: 0 to 20 points  
Minimum pass mark: 10 points

### **Test 3**

The case study exercise will be carried out to evaluate the organisational skills of the candidates, their ability to present a political message in a relevant format adapted to social media, the political sensitivity and the knowledge of EU policies. The case study exercise will be computer-based and will be taken online.

Duration of the tests: 45 minutes  
Marking: 0 to 20 points  
Minimum pass mark: 10 points

At least two assessors will correct the written tests 2 and 3 in an anonymous way based on a pre-established evaluation grid pursuant to the requirements as set out under Section II "Nature of duties and profile". An average mark will be awarded to each applicant based on the marks received from the assessors designated among or by the selection panel for each test.

Only applicants who have achieved a pass mark in each of the written tests (10/20) can be considered in view of the oral test. All candidates having scores below the pass mark in at least one test will be eliminated.

Only a maximum of the five best applicants will be invited to the oral test.

The applicants will be informed whether they are invited to the oral test by the HR department of the CoR.

### **Oral test**

The oral test will take the form of a structured interview to assess the applicant's motivation, his/her competencies, knowledge and suitability to perform the tasks listed in Section II "Nature of duties and profile" within the Secretariat of the EA Group.

The interview will be held in English and French. If English or French is the mother tongue of the candidate, the main part of the interview will be held in the second of the two languages. Other language skills declared by the applicants in the application form might also be checked during the interview by the selection panel and can represent an asset.

Duration of the test: 40 minutes  
Marking: 0 to 40 points  
Minimum pass mark: 20 points

The selection panel will evaluate the applicants on the basis of a pre-established evaluation grid pursuant to the requirements as set out under Section II "Nature of duties and profile".

The applicants who have achieved the pass mark (20/40) will be ranked by decreasing order of merit. All candidates having scores below the pass mark will be eliminated. All candidates invited to the oral test will be informed about the result of the selection procedure.

### **C. Reserve list**

As there is only one post available, only one candidate shall be recruited at the end of the selection process. All other candidates will receive a negative answer and no reserve list will be established.

## **VI. RECRUITMENT PROCEDURE**

The recruitment will be done at grade AD 6 following the provisions of article 2 c) of the CEOS. This open-ended contract includes a mandatory 9-month probationary period.

## **VII. SELECTION PANEL**

The selection panel, appointed by the Authority empowered to conclude contracts of employment, will be chaired by a representative of the European Alliance Group Presidency and a member of the EA Group secretariat, one representative of the Staff Committee and one representative of the Directorate for Human resources and finance.

The works of the selection panel are secret and governed by this recruitment notice. The selection panel examines the applications on the basis of pre-established evaluation grids and documents the results by a reasoned decision. An equal treatment of the applicants is ensured at each level of the procedure.

Under no circumstances should applicants approach the selection panel, either directly or indirectly, concerning this recruitment procedure. It reserves the right to disqualify any applicant who disregards this instruction.

## **VIII. APPLICATION**

Applicants must send their full application file consisting of the documents listed in Appendix 1 to the following e-mail address with the reference "**COR/TA/AD6/4/2025**" by the deadline: [\*\*recruitment@cor.europa.eu\*\*](mailto:recruitment@cor.europa.eu)

**Closing date for applications:** 23 February 2025 at noon (Brussels time)

The date and time of dispatch of the e-mail will be taken to be the date and time of submission of the application.

**Applications must be e-mailed in pdf format. The scanned documents must be legible. It is requested that the supporting documents are scanned in a separate file as explained in Appendix 1.**

**Applications sent by registered or ordinary post will not be considered. The same applies to applications sent by internal mail. The HR department of the CoR will not accept applications that are submitted in person.**

Applicants are asked not to telephone to inquire about the timetable for the procedure.

It is the responsibility of applicants to contact the HR department of the CoR if they have not received any automatic acknowledgment of receipt of their application after submitting their complete application form.

Applications must be presented in English or French.

Candidates whose diplomas or employment-related documents are in a language which is not an official language of the EU should enclose a (non-official) translation.

## **IX. OTHERS**

The provisions concerning the request for review of the selection panel decision, appeals, complaints to the European Ombudsman, equal opportunities, access to documents and protection of personal data are explained in detail in Appendix 3.

Each applicant is required to take acknowledgement of Appendix 3 and enclose it signed and dated to the application.

The CoR Secretary General

Petr Blížkovský

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **LIST OF DOCUMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED WITH THE APPLICATION**

*First PDF scanned file, in the following order of documents (MAX 5MB):*

- Application form with formal declaration (Appendix 2), dated and signed;
- Cover letter, written in English or French, of maximum 2 pages;
- An up-to-date CV (in Europass format, see: <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu>), written in English or French;
- Appendix 3 "Requests for review – appeals – complaints to the European Ombudsman – equal opportunities – access to documents – protection of personal data", dated and signed to acknowledge receipt;
- Copy of passport or national identity card.

*Second PDF scanned file (MAX 5MB):*

- Copies of supporting documents relating to the university education;
- Copies of supporting documents relating to the professional experience having as main field of activity the political preparation and coordination in an environment of political nature.

PLEASE DO NOT PROVIDE MORE DIPLOMAS OR PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES THAN REQUIRED AT THIS STAGE OF THE PROCEDURE AND BE AWARE OF THE FACT THAT ALL E-MAILS OF MORE THAN 10MB MIGHT BE AUTOMATICALLY REJECTED BY THE SERVER.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY REJECTED.

**APPENDIX 2**

**RECRUITMENT NOTICE N° COR/TA/AD6/XX/2025**

**APPLICATION FORM**

I hereby submit my application for the above-mentioned **selection procedure**.

**Full name:** .....

**Contact email:**.....

**Contact mobile telephone number:**.....

Language skills & choices:

Mother tongue:.....

1) Multiple choice questionnaire or short open questions (candidates must choose between English or French but cannot choose their mother tongue if it is one of the two):  
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2) Editorial written test (obligatory in English, except if it is the mother tongue of the candidate. He/she will then have to take it in French.):  
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3) Case Study Exercise (candidates must choose between English or French but cannot choose their mother tongue if it is one of the two.):  
.....

**FORMAL DECLARATION**

I declare that the information and all the documents provided in my application are both truthful and complete.

I declare on my honour that:

- i. I am a national of one of the Member States of the European Union;
- ii. I enjoy my full rights as a citizen;
- iii. I have fulfilled any obligations imposed by the laws concerning military service;
- iv. I am able to produce the appropriate character references as to my suitability to perform the duties envisaged;
- v. as far as I am aware, I meet the physical fitness conditions required for the performance of the duties envisaged.

I am aware:

- that my application will be rejected if I do not send the requested documents in accordance with the instructions specified in the recruitment notice;
- that any false declaration will cause the automatic annulment of my application.

**Date:**

**Signature:**

## **APPENDIX 3**

### **PROVISIONS REGARDING**

#### **REQUESTS FOR REVIEW – APPEALS – COMPLAINTS TO THE EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN – EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES – ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS – PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA**

##### **REQUESTS FOR REVIEW**

You can request a review if:

- the selection panel has failed to abide by the provisions governing the selection procedure;
- the selection panel has failed to abide by the provisions governing its work.

Please note that the selection panel enjoys a broad measure of discretion in assessing whether and to what extent your answers are correct or incorrect. It is therefore not worth contesting your marks unless there has been a manifest error in law or in fact.

You must submit your duly substantiated request within five working days of the date of dispatch of the rejection email. The address is the same as for submitting applications. The HR department will forward your letter to the selection panel members, who will examine it and reach a decision within five working days.

In the subject line of your letter, please quote:

- the recruitment notice number;
- "request for review" ("*demande de réexamen*");
- the stage of the selection concerned (non-admission, final result, etc.).

##### **APPEALS**

At any stage of the selection procedure, if you believe that the CoR or the selection panel has acted unfairly or not respected the provisions of the recruitment notice, and that you have been disadvantaged as a result, you can lodge an administrative complaint under Article 90(2) of the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union, by sending an e-mail to the secretary-general at the same functional address: [recruitment@cor.europa.eu](mailto:recruitment@cor.europa.eu)

In the subject line of your letter, please quote:

- the recruitment notice number;
- "complaint Article 90(2) of the Staff Regulations" ("*réclamation article 90, paragraphe 2, du statut*");
- the stage of the selection concerned (non-admission, final result, etc.).

Please note that the selection panel enjoys a broad measure of discretion.

It is not worth submitting a complaint against a decision by the selection panel, as they operate completely independently and their decisions cannot be overturned by the Authority empowered to conclude contracts of employment of the institution. That broad measure of discretion is subject to checks only in the event of a clear violation of the rules governing their work. In that event, a decision by the selection panel may be challenged directly before the Court of Justice of the European Union without a complaint having first been lodged under Article 90(2) of the Staff Regulations. An appeal can be lodged under Article 270 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 91 of the Staff Regulations with the:

General Court of the European Union<sup>2</sup>  
Boulevard Konrad Adenauer  
2925 Luxembourg  
Luxembourg

For both procedures, the time limits start to run from the date you are notified of the decision which is the subject of the appeal.

## **COMPLAINTS TO THE EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN**

Like all citizens of the European Union, you may lodge a complaint with the:

European Ombudsman<sup>3</sup>  
1, avenue du Président Robert Schuman  
CS 30403  
67 001 Strasbourg  
France

Please note that complaints made to the European Ombudsman have no suspensive effect on the period of time laid down in Article 90(2) and Article 91 of the Staff Regulations for lodging complaints or appeals with the General Court under Article 270 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Similarly, please note that, under Article 2(4) of the general conditions governing the performance of the Ombudsman's duties, any complaint lodged with the Ombudsman must be preceded by the appropriate administrative approaches to the institutions and bodies concerned.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

The CoR will take care to avoid any form of discrimination during the selection. It applies an equal opportunities policy and accepts applications without any discrimination based on sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion,

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<sup>2</sup> For details of how to submit an appeal, please consult the website of the General Court ([https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2\\_7033/en/](https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2_7033/en/)).

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/media/en/default.htm>

membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age, sexual orientation, marital status or family situation.

Applicants with a disability are invited to indicate any special needs they may have to the email address [recruitment@cor.europa.eu](mailto:recruitment@cor.europa.eu). This request will be handled in complete discretion, and no record of it will be kept.

## **REQUESTS FROM APPLICANTS FOR ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS DIRECTLY CONCERNING THEM**

Applicants have a specific right of access to certain information concerning them directly and individually.

Applicants admitted to the tests may obtain, on request, a copy of their individual assessment sheet including the selection panel's remarks on their performance. All requests for copies must be made within one month of the date on which the email notifying the decision to end the applicant's participation in the selection was sent. The information will however only be provided to applicants after the selection panel has established the list of suitable applicants for recruitment.

Requests will be dealt with in accordance with the requirement for the work of the selection panel to be confidential and in compliance with the rules on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data.

## **PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA**

The CoR, as the body responsible for organising this selection, shall ensure that applicants' personal data is processed in strict compliance with Regulation (EU) No 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 1274/2002/EC (Official Journal of the European Union L 295/39, 21.11.2018), particularly as regards confidentiality and security.

The CoR Data Protection Officer provides an independent advisory function as regards the application of Regulation 2018/1725 and is required to keep a central register of all the records of processing activities on personal data carried out by the institution.

Personal data will be collected and processed solely for the purpose of organising this selection and managing the resulting list of suitable applicants (including aspects relating to any internal or external audits or any legal proceedings relating to the selection); where relevant, certain data will be added to the personal file of successful applicants who become officials.

The recipients of the data are:

- the staff in charge of the recruitment procedure within the Directorate for Human resources and finance;
- the members of the selection panel;

- where applicable, the Legal Service;
- where applicable, the internal audit service, the Court of Auditors, the disciplinary authorities, OLAF and the Court of Justice.

Applicants have a right of access, rectification, blocking, erasure and objection (e-mail: [recruitment@cor.europa.eu](mailto:recruitment@cor.europa.eu)) on request for the rights of access and rectification.

Applicants have access to their applications, for which they have a right of rectification:

- with regard to the documents demonstrating eligibility, up until the closing date for applications;
- with regard to identity data, with no time limit.

Right of blocking, objection and erasure: within five working days of receipt of the request.

Documents relating to the selection procedure (including those relating to the rejected applicants) will be kept by the responsible department in the administration for five years following recruitment of suitable applicant(s) (this period is justified by the need to be able to respond to a possible audit procedure).

With regard to successful selection procedure applicants who have not been recruited, documents concerning them that were obtained when they registered for the selection will be kept for two years after the list expires.

With regard to successful applicants who are recruited, the documents concerning their selection, their application file and a copy of the list will be placed in their personal files.

Any documents concerning a request relating to a disability will be destroyed after the end of the procedure, unless the said request resulted in costs being incurred, in which case they will be kept for five years (this period is justified by the need to be able to respond to a possible audit procedure).

Once the retention period has elapsed, the documents will be destroyed.

Applicants' attention is drawn to the fact that they have the option of contacting the CoR's Data Protection Officer (DPO): [data.protection@cor.europa.eu](mailto:data.protection@cor.europa.eu), and of contacting the European Data Protection Supervisor at any time: [edps@edps.europa.eu](mailto:edps@edps.europa.eu).

Received by the applicant:

Date:

Signature: