Working in the EU institutions

Paul Kaye
@PaulKayeEULangs
Language Officer, European Commission
The legal basis

Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

- Citizens have a right to address the official EU bodies in any of the EU’s official languages and to receive a reply in that language.

Council Regulation No 1/58

- Regulations and other documents of general application shall be drafted in the official languages.
Linguist careers in the EU: 3 roles

Translator

Interpreter

Lawyer linguist
Linguists in the EU

Translators: ± 4 300

Interpreters: ± 1 000

Parliament

European Economic & Social Committee

European Central Bank

Council

CVRIA

Committee of the Regions

Court of Auditors

Translation Centre

Court of Justice
DG Translation

Some **2500** translators and support staff

50% in Brussels

50% in Luxembourg

Field Offices in Member States
Number of translated pages 2014 by target language (%)
DGT's English-language department

- Translated 207,389 pages in 2015
- c. 150 members of staff (Jan 2016)
- 120 translators (Jan 2016)
- Organised into 3 units specialising in different policy areas: 2 in Brussels, 1 in Luxembourg
- Main task is translating documents from EU member states
- Needs knowledge of all EU languages (except MT/GA)
- Covers documents across full range of EU policy
Staff translator: recruitment criteria

You must be an EU citizen

You must hold a full university degree in languages or another field (minimum bachelor's)

No professional experience is required
Language knowledge

• Perfect command of your main language or mother tongue

• Very sound knowledge of English or German or French (first source language)

• Very sound knowledge of a second source language among the EU’s official languages
Practical language tests

Translation:
Two translation tests, around 45 lines, on PC, dictionaries allowed!
A) Source language 1 into English
B) Source language 2 into English
If score in test A doesn't reach the pass mark, test B is not marked. Tests are marked twice, thrice if necessary.

Interpreting:
For each language:
consecutive speech of 5-6 mins, live speaker, no breaks
simultaneous speech of 10-12 minutes, video recording
What can the Commission offer you?

- €4500/month starting salary
- Good leave entitlement and other benefits, job security
- Varied and challenging work
- Scope to shape your own career in the Commission
- Excellent language and other training opportunities
- Multicultural environment
- Flexible working-time arrangements
- www.eu-careers.eu
More information?

• **Web**: ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation
• **Facebook**: .com/translatingforeurope
• **Twitter**: @translatores
• **YouTube**: .com/dgtranslation
Thank you very much!

Muito obrigado!
Go raibh maith agaibh!
Kiitosia paljon!
Nuosirdziai dėkojame!
Mange tak!
Köszönjük szépen!
Hvala lijepa!

Hartelijk dank!

Дакујеме вам вељми пекне!
Tack så mycket!

¡Muchas gracias!

Σας ευχαριστούμε πολύ!

Mockrát děkujeme!

Vielen Dank!

Σας ευχαριστούμε πολύ!

Nirringrazzjawk ħafna!

Grazie mille!

Nirringrazzjawk ħafna!

Много Ви благодарим!

Thank you very much!
Contact

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@PaulKayeEUlangs

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YOUR COMMITMENT. OUR 28 COUNTRIES. YOUR CAREER. OUR EUROPEAN UNION.

Career opportunities with the European Institutions.

Paul Kaye
Language Officer, European Commission Representation in the UK
Where can an EU Career lead?

- Council of the European Union
- European Parliament
- European Commission
- European Court of Auditors
- CVRIA
- Luxemburg
- European Data Protection Supervisor
- European Ombudsman
- Committee of the Regions
- European Economic and Social Committee

EU Agencies
Where can an EU Career lead?

- Brussels
- Luxembourg

20% across Europe and the World
Why an EU Career?

✓ Make a difference for Europe
✓ Career development and personal growth
✓ International working environment
Who are we looking for?

ICT specialists
statisticians
socio-economic analysts
contract administrators project officers
auditors interpreters
lawyers policy officers
scientist officers accountants
lawyer-linguists translators
communication & press officers
economists
financial specialists project managers
Who are we looking for?

- EU citizen
- Mother tongue (EU 24) + EN/FR/DE
- Bachelors degree
Who are we looking for?

- Analysis & problem solving
- Communication
- Delivering quality & results
- Learning & Development
- Prioritising & organising
- Resilience
- Working with others
- Potential to lead
Types of staff

- Permanent official
- Contract agent
- Temporary agent
- Seconded national expert
- Freelance/interim
- Trainee
Permanent official Overview procedure

Pre-selection Tests
Computer based in test centres worldwide

E-tray
Computer based in test centres in Europe

Assessment Centre

Case study (test centre Europe)
Assessment exercises Brussels (Audit: Luxembourg)
Reserve list
Computer Based Tests across Europe
Computer Based Tests (CBT)

Verbal reasoning

Numerical reasoning

Abstract reasoning

Situation Judgement

In your main language

1 of 24 official EU languages

In your 2nd language
Human genetic testing: implications and recommendations

Although genetic testing in Europe is based on high-quality scientific know-how, it can suffer from a certain level of technical errors. Moreover, the reporting on these tests is sometimes of poor quality. In the context of healthcare, a test should only be offered when it has been proven to be reliable and when there is a sound medical reason to justify it. A test validation system should therefore be established. Public concern regarding genetic testing revolves around the fear of misuse of genetic data and inappropriate access to such data by third parties. The confidentiality and privacy of all personal medical data, including information derived from genetic testing, is a basic right that must be respected. The individual has the right to know about test results, but also has the right to decide not to know.

What is the present situation as regards genetic testing?

- A. Testing is frequently carried out without a valid medical prescription.
- B. Scientists have the right to decide whether or not to divulge the results.
- C. The reporting of genetic data is always of a poor standard.
- D. Despite the expertise in the area, reporting is not always perfect.
Human genetic testing: implications and recommendations

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### Road density in EU-15 (km per 1 000 km²) (2000)

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On average, by how much was the road density in countries A and B higher than in countries D and E in 1980?

- A. 102 km/1 000 km²
- B. 122.5 km/1 000 km²
- C. 204 km/1 000 km²
- D. 276 km/1 000 km²
Road density in EU-15 (km per 1 000 km²) (2000)

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Example abstract reasoning

A  B  C  D  E
Example abstract reasoning

A

B

C

D

E
3. Please consider the situation, and then select what you feel is the most effective \textit{AND} the least effective response or action from the four statements.

You are working on a number of projects with tight deadlines and have a lot of basic information to gather. You have asked other colleagues for help but are unsure of their commitment to help you gather the information that you need.

<table>
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<th>Least</th>
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<tr>
<td>Spend time on your work to make sure that you have plenty of latitude/leeway in case your colleagues don't deliver the help you need in time</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Outline the help that you need from others and explain to them why this is important and the dates by which you need their individual contributions</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce the risk by getting the information that you need yourself rather than relying upon other people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carry on with the tasks that you need to complete and if others do not contribute their parts report them to management</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
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Assessment Centre
Testing 7+1 competencies

- Analysis & Problem solving
- Communicating
- Delivering Quality & Results
- Learning & Development
- Prioritising & Organising
- Resilience
- Working with others
- Potential to lead (leadership)
Assessment Centre
Overview Linguists

1.5 day
in your 2\textsuperscript{nd} language

- Practical Language tests
- Oral presentation
- Structured interview
- Group exercise
Practical language tests

• **Translation:**
  - Two translation tests, around 45 lines, on PC, dictionaries allowed!
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  - If score in test A doesn't reach the pass mark, test B is not marked.

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• **Interpreting:**
  - For each language:
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Successful Candidate?

1. Reserve list
2. Contact with EU Institutions
3. Job interview
4. Recruitment

Number of months: 1 → 12
**When to apply?**

**Spring**
Graduates – Generalists profiles such as law, public administration, etc.

**Summer**
Linguists - Translators, Conference interpreters
*languages vary per year

**Winter**
non-graduates with experience (Assistants)

**Specialists when needed**
(e.g. economists, building specialist, ICT, food safety, contractual staff when needed)
How to apply?
Visit jobs.eu-careers.eu
Traineeships

- 5 months (paid) internships
- All EU Institutions & Agencies
- Brussels, Luxembourg, Elsewhere
- Gain EU experience
- Practical day-to-day work
- Competitive procedure
Find out more!

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- LinkedIn: eu-careers
- Twitter: eu_careers
- YouTube: EUCareers
Questions?

www.eu-careers.eu