



<b>Vacancy for one post of Accounting Correspondent for a 1-year contract (Contract Agent -FGIV-) in the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking and establishment of a reserve list</b>	
<b>REF.: S2R/2019/04</b>	
<b>Publication</b>	<b>External</b>
<b>Title of function</b>	<b>Accounting Correspondent (Shift2Rail JU)</b>

## 1. WE ARE

The Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (hereafter “the S2R JU”) is a public-private partnership between the European Union and the rail sector, established by Council Regulation (EU) No 642/2014<sup>1</sup>. The S2R JU, established in Brussels, is responsible for implementing the S2R Research and Innovation Programme, funded jointly by the Union and key stakeholders of the railway sector, with a view to supporting the European Union's long term transport policy objectives, including increasing the attractiveness and efficiency of rail and completion of the Single European Railway Area. It also seeks to increase the competitiveness of the European Union rail sector as a whole.

For further information please consult the following website: <http://www.shift2rail.org/>

## 2. JOB DESCRIPTION

The S2R JU has currently a vacancy for an Accounting Correspondent position in the framework of a long-term absence replacement.

The Accounting Correspondent will report directly to the Head of Administration and Finance of the S2R JU. He/she will act as Accounting Correspondent for the S2R JU Accounting Officer (DG BUDGET) and the day-to-day monitoring, follow-up and maintenance of the accountancy and financial system of the S2R JU. He/she will prepare financial reports, prepare the accruals (including for the JU member's in-kind contributions) and review the records of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenditure, payments and other financial activities.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 177, 17.06.2014, p.9

He/she will in particular :

- be responsible for the accounting quality and control management;
- be responsible for the preparation of the JU accounts and contribute to the annual activity report;
- follow-up the validation of the accounting systems and tools;
- ensure that the procedures applied in the JU meet the standards set by the European Commission Accounting Officer as well as any other relevant professional standards;
- produce periodic financial reports and other financial documents for the management of the JU in accordance with the S2R Legal Basis and Financial Rules;
- assist in the preparation of the annual work plan and budget;
- act as main contact person for the audits of the European Court of Auditors on the S2R annual accounts;
- monitor the invoice registration of the administrative expenditures and support the finance team in data entry;
- execute any other tasks, related to the function, as deemed necessary in the interest of the service.

### **3. WE LOOK FOR:**

#### **A) Eligibility criteria**

Candidates will be considered eligible for selection on the basis of the following formal criteria to be fulfilled by the deadline for applications:

1. To have a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies of at least three years attested by a diploma;
2. To have a thorough knowledge of one of the official Community languages and a satisfactory knowledge of a second of these languages to the extent necessary to perform his/her duties;
3. Be a national of a Member State of the European Union;
4. To be entitled to his or her full rights as a citizen;
5. To have fulfilled any obligations imposed by the applicable laws concerning military service;
6. To meet the character requirements for the duties involved;
7. To be physically fit to perform the duties linked to the post.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Before the appointment, a successful candidate shall be medically examined by one of the European Institutions' medical officers in order that Shift2Rail may be satisfied that he/she fulfils the requirement of article 28 (e) of the Staff Regulations of the Officials of the European Communities.

## **B) Selection criteria**

Successful candidates should have:

### **1) Essential qualifications and experience**

- At least 2 years of professional experience<sup>3</sup> in accounting related positions;
- Very good knowledge of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and/or International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS);
- Very good command of both written and spoken English;

### **2) Advantageous qualifications and experience**

- Knowledge (by training or experience) of the EU Financial Regulation and its Rules of Application ;
- Knowledge (by training or experience) of an internationally-broaden ERP system, such as SAP and/or ABAC.
- Some experience with H2020 EU Research and Innovation programme or similar research funding or other Union programmes;

### **3) Behavioral competences**

- Motivation – open and positive attitude;
- Excellent planning and organizational skills;
- Team player;
- Self-control under pressure in demanding situations and ability to handle many simultaneous tasks;
- Excellent communication and negotiation skills;

## **4. INDEPENDENCE AND DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Accounting Correspondent will be required to make a declaration of commitment to act independently in the public interest and to make a declaration in relation to interests which might be considered prejudicial to his/her independence.

## **5. SELECTION PROCEDURE**

The selection procedure includes the following steps:

### **5.1 Assessment of applications**

- Applications must be complete and validly submitted by the closing date for applications as specified in section 10. Applications that do not meet the above criteria will be rejected. If, at any stage in the procedure, it is established that the information application is incorrect, the applicant will be disqualified from the selection;
- All eligible applications will be assessed by a Selection Committee in an objective, impartial and transparent manner and based on the selection criteria defined in this vacancy notice only.

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<sup>3</sup> Professional experience is counted only from the date the candidate obtained the diploma required for being eligible

## **5.2 Interview and written tests**

- Only the best-qualified candidates, i.e. those who obtained the highest number of points within the assessment of applications, will be short-listed for a written test and an interview;
- Applicants invited to an interview will receive an email invitation, with the date, time and location of the interview;
- During the interview, the Selection Committee will examine each candidate's profile and will assess their relevancy to the post against the criteria defined in Section 3.b above. The minimum threshold to pass the written test and the interview is 50% of the total points allocated to each one of them. Passing the written test and the interview does not guarantee inclusion on the reserve list;
- The interview and the written tests will be held in English. Native English speakers will be tested for their second language skills;
- Supporting documents (e.g. certified copies of degrees/diplomas, references, proof of experience etc.) should not be sent at this stage but must be submitted at a later stage of the procedure if requested. S2R JU has the right to disqualify applicants who fail to submit all the required documents.

## **5.3 Reserve list**

- Following the written tests and the interviews, the Selection Committee will recommend to the Appointing Authority the most suitable candidate(s) for the post to be placed on a reserve list. The threshold to be included in the reserve list is 65%. Inclusion on the reserve list does not guarantee recruitment. The maximum number of candidates to be put on the reserve list is set at 15.
- The reserve list will be presented to the Appointing Authority who may decide to convene a second interview and ultimately will appoint the successful candidate(s) to the post(s).

Indicative period for the interview and written test: **early October 2019**. This period might be modified depending on the availability of the Selection Committee members.

The reserve list will be valid until 31/12/2020. Its validity may be extended by the decision of the Executive Director.

## **6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

The S2R JU, as a European Union body, applies a policy of equal opportunities and non-discrimination in accordance with Article 1d of the Staff Regulations.

## **7. CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

The successful candidates will be appointed by the Executive Director of the S2R JU as a Contract Agent FGIV pursuant to Article 3a of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union for a period of **1 year**, which may be renewed.

Candidates should note the requirement under the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants for all new staff to complete successfully a probationary period.

The place of employment is Brussels, Belgium, where the Joint Undertaking is based.

The conditions of employment of contract staff under the terms of Article 3a of the CEOS can be consulted at the following address:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:1962R0031:20140101:EN:PDF>

**Expected starting date:** As soon as possible

## 8. PAY AND WELFARE BENEFITS

The pay of staff members consists of a basic salary supplemented with specific allowances, including expatriation or family allowances. The provisions guiding the calculation of these allowances can be consulted in the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants available at the following address:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:1962R0031:20140101:EN:PDF>

Salaries are exempted from national tax, instead a Community tax at source is paid.

## 9. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

For applications to be valid, candidates must submit:

- a detailed and updated **curriculum vitae** in European CV format<sup>4</sup> in English<sup>5</sup>. The CV must imperatively refer to the job requirements as listed in the present vacancy notice and reflect how, in the candidate's view, she/he holds the skills and competences mentioned therein. Applications that are incomplete will be disqualified.
- a **letter of motivation** (1 page maximum) in English<sup>6</sup> explaining why the candidate is interested in the post and what her/his added value would be if selected, in relation to the job requirements listed in the present vacancy notice. Candidates are kindly requested to avoid repeating the information already provided in their CV.

Applications should be sent by email to [jobs@s2r.europa.eu](mailto:jobs@s2r.europa.eu) with the following subject line '**SURNAME\_Firstname\_S2R.2019.04**' (the same structure is to be used for the CV and letter of motivation e.g. 'SURNAME\_Firstname\_S2R.2019.04\_CV')

In order to facilitate the selection process, all communications to candidates concerning this vacancy will be in English.

If at any stage in the procedure it is established that any of the information a candidate provided is incorrect, the candidate in question will be disqualified.

## 10. CLOSING DATE

Applications must be sent no later than **10/09/2019, 17h Brussels time**. Applications sent after the deadline will not be considered.

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<sup>4</sup> English CV template and guidelines available at following link: <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions>

<sup>5</sup> The Selection Committee will ensure that no undue advantage is given to native speakers of this language

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## 11. IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Applicants are reminded that the work of the selection committee is confidential. It is forbidden for applicants to make direct or indirect contact with members of this Committee, or for anybody to do so, on their behalf.

## 12. REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

Applicants who consider that their interests have been prejudiced by any decision related to the selection procedure can take the following actions:

### Requests for review

The applicant may submit a request for review in writing to the Selection Committee stating the reasons for the request. Any arguments must be based on information provided in the application form, no subsequent information can be taken into account.

Request for review can be submitted either by email or by post. In both cases, request for review has to be submitted **within 10 days of the date written on the notification on the decision**. The date of the email or postmark will be evidence of timely submission. Please indicate the name used in your application clearly in all correspondence.

a) *Submission by email*: Request for review can be sent to [jobs@s2r.europa.eu](mailto:jobs@s2r.europa.eu)

You are requested to clearly indicate the selection title and reference number in the subject line.

b) *Submission by post*: Request for review can be sent to the below address:

Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking  
[Title and reference number of the selection]  
Human Resources Department  
Avenue de la Toison d'Or, 56-60  
B-1060 Brussels  
Belgium

The envelope should be clearly marked "PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL – NOT TO BE OPENED BY THE MAIL SERVICE".

### Appeal procedure

▪ Within three months of the date written on the notification of the decision, the applicant may lodge a complaint under Article 90(2) of the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union and Conditions of employment of other servants of the European Union, at the following address by registered mail only :

Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking  
Human Resources Department  
[Title and reference number of the selection]  
Avenue de la Toison d'Or, 56-60  
B-1060 Brussels  
Belgium

The time limit for initiating this type of procedure starts to run from the time the candidate is notified of the action adversely affecting him/her.

▪ Within three months of the date written on the notification of the decision, the applicant may submit a judicial appeal under Article 270 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (ex Art. 236 of the EC

Treaty) and Article 91 of the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union to the General Court of the European Union:

General Court  
Rue du Fort Niedergrünewald  
L-2925 Luxembourg  
tel.: (+352) 4303 1 fax: (+352) 4303 2100  
e-mail: [GeneralCourt.Registry@curia.europa.eu](mailto:GeneralCourt.Registry@curia.europa.eu)  
URL: <http://curia.europa.eu>

The time limits for initiating this type of procedure (see Staff Regulations as amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 723/2004 of 22 March 2004, published in Official Journal of the European Union L 124 of 27 April 2004 — <http://eur-lex.europa.eu>) start to run from the time you become aware of the act allegedly prejudicing your interests.

▪ make a complaint to the European Ombudsman: like all citizens of the European Union, an applicant can make a complaint to the:

European Ombudsman  
1 avenue du Président Robert Schuman  
CS 30403  
67001 Strasbourg Cedex  
FRANCE

<http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu>

Please note that complaints made to the European Ombudsman have no suspensive effect on the period laid down in Articles 90(2) and 91 of the Staff Regulations for lodging complaints or for submitting appeals to the General Court of the European Union under Article 270 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (ex Art. 236 TEC). Please note also 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.

### **13. PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA**

Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 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 1247/2002/EC (hereinafter "the Regulation") applies to the processing of personal data carried out by the S2R JU.

The S2R JU protects the fundamental rights and freedoms of natural persons and in particular their right to privacy with respect to the processing of personal data.

The [S2R JU Privacy Policy](#) describes the measures taken to protect your personal data with regard to the data processing operations in the context of the recruitment of staff, SNE and trainees. Furthermore, it describes the rights you have as a data subject and how you can exercise these rights. More information on Data Protection at the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking can be obtained in the [Data Protection Register](#) and in the [Privacy Notices](#) published in the S2R JU web site.