The Europe’s Rail Joint Undertaking (EU-RAIL), based in Brussels, Belgium, is looking for three (3)
Senior Programme Managers
(Temporary Agent, Grade AD 6)

Please send us your application by no later than 16/02/2022 at 23:59 (Central European Time/ Brussels time), following the instructions in the ANNEX.

The purpose of this call is to fill in three (3) vacant posts and establish a reserve list.

1. About EU-RAIL

The Europe’s Rail Joint Undertaking (EU-RAIL) is a public-private partnership between the European Union and the rail sector, established by Council Regulation (EU)2021/2085 of 19/11/2021. EU-RAIL, located in Brussels, is responsible for implementing the EU-RAIL Research and Innovation Programme, funded jointly by the Union and Industry Members of the Rail Sector, with a view to contributing to the European Union’s Policy priorities and more specifically the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy of December 2020.

EU-RAIL is the legal and universal successor of Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking (S2R JU) in respect of all contracts, including employment contracts and grant agreements, liabilities and acquired property of the S2R JU. The EU-RAIL Programme will last until end of 2031.

The EU-RAIL Programme is structured around two main pillars, the Innovation Pillar and the System Pillar, complemented by the Deployment Group and is currently in its launch phase, with the first Calls for Proposals expected to be launched during Q1 2022, to achieve an ambitious transformation of rail with innovative solutions expected to start entering in operational environment as from 2025-2026 horizon.

By 2031, EU-RAIL will have implemented research and innovation activities totaling EUR 2.2 billion since the establishment of S2R in 2016.

For further information, please consult the following website: https://rail-research.europa.eu

2. Job Description

To achieve such ambitious Programme, EU-RAIL offers the opportunity to join its professional team to Senior Programme Managers who are passionate about making a difference to achieve a European smart and sustainable mobility and transport, via mission-oriented rail research and innovation.

We are looking for three (3) confident, connected, committed and courageous Senior Programme Managers to work within the Innovation Pillar R&I, each in charge of one of the following areas:

1. Railway operations, including:
   Flagship Area 1: Network management planning and control & Mobility Management in a multimodal environment;
   Flagship Area 2: Digital & Automated up to Autonomous Train Operations;

2. Railway assets, including:
   Flagship Area 3: Intelligent & Integrated asset management;
   Flagship Area 4: A sustainable and green rail system;

3. Railway services, including:
   Flagship Area 5: Sustainable Competitive Digital Green Rail Freight Services ;
   Flagship Area 6: Regional rail services / Innovative rail services to revitalise capillary lines.

A Senior Programme Manager is a key player in the organization of the JU to ensure that we achieve a measurable impact for European citizens, passengers in particular, and supply chain.
Within the Innovation Pillar structure, led by the Head of the Programme, a Senior Programme Manager contributes to the design and implementation of the R&I activities, while ensuring the necessary interaction with the R&I activities carried out in the System Pillar.

The key role of a Senior Programme Manager, which manages and coordinates a small team of Programme Managers, carries the following challenges:

- Ensuring that R&I area, for which they are responsible, leads to measurable and demonstrable innovative solutions, as planned in the Multi-Annual Work Programme, and impactful results, in line with the Master Plan, while preserving an integrated system approach as defined by the System Pillar;
- Providing input, drafting, ensuring the quality of the Calls for proposals, tender specifications and/or request for services, coordinating and running the technical evaluation, ensuring the finalization of the process up to the signature of the relevant agreements directly or supervising the relevant Programme Managers;
- Organising and coordinating projects’ reviews, assessing reporting, including risks and opportunities up to their closing;
- Ensuring an effective and efficient implementation of interdependencies of the EU-RAIL R&I activities as well as any other synergies with other projects, JUs, PPPs or national activities;
- Contributing to the corporate reporting, KPIs and Dissemination & Exploitation activities of the flagship projects;
- Representing the Executive Director and/or Head of Programme in project meetings, external events, interinstitutional meetings, etc. as requested;
- Providing the necessary input to the Head of Programme in view of the Annual Appraisal exercise of the supervised Programme Managers;
- Acting as business partner of the EU-RAIL Members and stakeholders, keeping constructive and professional relations preserving confidentiality and managing conflict of interest.

In the interest of the service, in agreement with the Head of Programme, the aforementioned responsibilities may be subject to change or be complemented with others.

3. Eligibility criteria

Candidates will be considered for the selection phase on the basis of the following criteria to be fulfilled by the closing date for applications above-mentioned.

3.1. General conditions

- be a national of a member state of the European Union;
- enjoy his/ her full rights as a citizen;
- have fulfilled any obligations imposed by the applicable laws concerning military service;
- be physically fit to perform the duties linked to the post;
- meet the character requirements for the duties involved;
- have a thorough knowledge of one of the official EU languages and a satisfactory knowledge (at least B2 level) of another of these languages to the extent necessary for the performance of their duties.

3.2. Education

- Have a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies of at least three (3) years attested by a diploma;

3.3. Experience

- In addition to the above, at least three (3) years of relevant and proven professional experience gained after obtaining the diploma.
In case you do not fulfil all the eligibility criteria, your application will not be taken into consideration. Eligibility criteria must be fulfilled by the deadline for applications, and maintained throughout the selection procedure and appointment.

4. Selection criteria
Candidates selected based on the above eligibility criteria will then be evaluated according to the following selection criteria:

4.1. Essential qualifications and experience
- At least 5 years of professional experience in programme management;
- At least 3 years of professional experience in the aforementioned rail research and innovation (R&I) areas or in areas such as aeronautics, space, complex and integrated systems dealing with similar R&I challenges;
- Relevant experience as a team leader, team coordinator or equivalent;
- Excellent command of both written and spoken English, as this is the working language of the EU-RAIL;

4.2. Advantageous qualifications and experience
- Relevant professional experience in activities in relation to the EU Framework Programmes for R&I (e.g. H2020, HE) or similar research funding;
- Working experience in an international and multicultural environment;

4.3. Behavioural competences
- Motivation - open and positive attitude;
- Excellent inter-personal, people management and communication skills;
- Excellent planning and organizational skills and ability to define priorities;
- Ability to work under pressure and respect deadlines;
- Sense of initiative and team spirit.

In order to be evaluated in the best possible way, candidates are invited to be as detailed and as clear as possible when describing their professional experience, specific skills and competences in their application form.

5. Appointment and reserve list
The Executive Director of the Joint Undertaking will select the successful candidates and offer the posts. A binding commitment can only be made after the verification of all conditions and will take the form of a contract signed by the Executive Director. The reserve list will be used in order to fill vacant positions within EU-RAIL. Candidates should note that inclusion on the reserve list does not guarantee recruitment. Recruitment will be based on availability of posts and budget.

The reserve list for this post will be valid until 31 December 2023 and may be extended at the discretion of the Appointing Authority of EU-RAIL.

6. Conditions of employment
The place of employment will be Brussels, where the Joint Undertaking premises are located.

The successful candidates will be recruited as Temporary Agent AD6, pursuant to Article 2(f) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Communities, for a period of five (5) years. After an evaluation of the job holder's performance, and subject to budget availability, the term of office may be extended. The period of engagement will not in any case exceed the lifetime of EU-RAIL.

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

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:


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

**Important Note**

Candidates are kindly advised to read the ANNEX that represents an integral part of this vacancy and provides information on how to complete the application, the steps of the selection process and appeal procedures.

1. Prior to the appointment, the successful candidate will be asked to provide a certificate of good conduct, confirming the absence of any criminal record.
2. Prior to the appointment, the successful candidate shall be medically examined by one of the European Institutions’ medical officers in order that EU-RAIL may be satisfied that he/she fulfils the requirement of article 28 (e) of the Staff Regulations of the Officials of the European Communities.
3. Only qualifications issued by EU Member State authorities and qualifications recognised as equivalent by the relevant EU Member State authorities will be accepted. Any academic qualification mentioned in the application form shall be duly supported by evidence (original or certified copies of e.g. diplomas, certification, etc.). In instances where diplomas are obtained from a non-EU Member State, EU-RAIL may request the candidate to provide a relevant document of comparability issued by a recognised authority.