EUROPEAN COMMISSION

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

2021-IPR-E1-FGIV-016708	FG IV - SCIENTIFIC PROJECT OFFICER - GLOBAL CONFLICT RISK INDEX (GCRI)

POSITION FOR:
Member of the contract staff FGIV – art. 3b of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants
http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:1962R0031:20110101:EN:PDF)

WE ARE:
As the science and knowledge service of the Commission, the mission of DG Joint Research Centre is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.

The JRC is located in 5 Member States (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain). Further information is available at: https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/

The current vacancy is with the Disasters Risk Management Unit of the Space, Security and Migration Directorate. This Unit provides scientific and technical support to EU policies addressing global security and crisis management.

WE PROPOSE:
We propose a challenging and rewarding post of scientific officer to play a decisive role in 'developing and improving quantitative conflict risk models supporting the Global Conflict Risk Index' in support of the EU's conflict early warning and prevention policy. The focus will be the design, testing and validation of new and improvement of existing methodologies to describe dynamics of and predict occurrence of violent conflict. It will involve in particular the use of statistical methods with open source data. The work relates to research and development for quantitatively assessing conflict risk, in the context of EU external policy, including conflict prevention, disaster risk reduction and climate change policies, addressing specifically the political priorities of the European Green Deal and a Stronger Europe in the World. The job holder will contribute the Unit's work in partnership with a number of Commission Directorates General and the External Action Service.

Specific tasks will focus on:
- Better understanding of the dynamic elements of conflict within and across countries, in support of early warning.
- Identification and assessment of structural socio-economic open source data sets which could contribute to the predictive capacity of the existing models.
- Maintenance, testing and further development of the current statistical methods and corresponding regression models.
- Data pre-processing, data integration and analysis of conflict related data in order to assess the risk of violent conflicts.
- Frequent contacts with the European Commission's External Action Service (EEAS) with a view to guaranteeing a high quality input to the EU Conflict Early Warning System (EWS).
- Coordination and basic support to the corrective maintenance of the Science4Peace web site.

WE LOOK FOR:
We are looking for a highly motivated, pro-active and well-organised candidate with a degree in statistics and/or political sciences. The candidate must have at least three years of experience with statistical modelling after the university degree or have a Ph.D. The candidate should have relevant experience in computer/data science and statistical modelling (knowledge of python, R or equivalent statistical software). The successful candidate should also have a demonstrated capacity to communicate technical and scientific information. A very good command of English as well as for another official EU language is necessary.

The following skills are essential:
- Experience in Conflict modelling
- Experience in data pre-processing, analysis and visualization
- Knowledge of Python/R
- Experience in statistical methods and regression models
- Demonstrated self-initiative with the ability to work in a team
- Good communication skills (written and spoken) in English (C1)

The following skills are useful:
- Experience in Political sciences
- Experience in conflict prevention within and/or across countries
- Experience with knowledge management
- Experience with multi-disciplinary teams

The candidate should have a proven track record of peer reviewed scientific publications.

INDICATIVE CONTRACT'S DURATION:
36 months initial contract with possible renewals up to maximum 6 years.

PLACE OF WORK:
Ispra (IT)

RULES AND ELIGIBILITY:
To be eligible for the position, the candidate must be on a valid EPSO reserve list for Function Group IV contract staff.

You can be added to an EPSO reserve list if you complete successfully an EPSO selection procedure.

Candidates who are on a valid EPSO reserve list or have applied to an EPSO selection procedure can apply to this specific position through http://recruitment.jrc.ec.europa.eu/?type=AX.

How to apply to an EPSO selection procedure?

Apply either to the permanent EPSO call (CAST Permanent) https://epso.europa.eu/documents/2240_en or a specialised call for researchers https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/working-with-us/jobs/vacancies/function-group-IV-researchers

The CAST Permanent reserve list is used by a wide range of organisations (institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the European Union), whereas the specialised reserve list for researchers (JRC Call COM/1/2015/GFIV – Research) is mainly used by the JRC.

RECRUITMENT POLICY:
The JRC
• Cultivates a workplace based on respect for other people and the environment.
• Embraces non-discriminatory practices and equality of opportunity. In case of equal merit, preference will be given to the gender in minority.