



VACANCY NOTICE – 2026-JRC.G.5-KRU-FGIV-003210

FG IV – Project Officer– Scientific Research

Type of contract	Member of the European Commission 's contract staff, Function Group IV (article 3b of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants)
Duration of contract	36 months (renewable up to maximum 6 years)
Area	Nuclear Safety
Place of employment	Karlsruhe (DE)
Indicative basic salary	4.449,31 - 6.444,59 € (applicable as of 1 st of July 2025) For more detailed information please consult: Working Conditions

WE ARE

The [Joint Research Centre \(JRC\)](#) provides independent, evidence-based knowledge and science, supporting EU policies to positively impact society.

This vacancy is within Unit JRC.G.5 – Nuclear Science and Innovation for Energy and Health. The Unit's mission is to preserve and promote European expertise in nuclear fuel safety and materials science, in close cooperation with the JRC Open Access Research Infrastructure Programme. It advances excellence in nuclear fuel safety, fosters collaborative expertise across Europe, and drives innovation in nuclear science for cancer therapy, space missions, and medical isotope development.

The Unit's vision is to serve as a pan-European driving force in nuclear fuel safety, actinide-based materials science, and non-energy nuclear applications that address key societal challenges. It coordinates the open access programme at the Karlsruhe site and leads education, training, and capacity-building activities in its thematic areas and core competences. These activities include practical and theoretical training, as well as on-site visits for users and students.

The Unit is part of the Directorate for Nuclear Safety and Security of the JRC. The Directorate's mission is to implement the JRC Euratom Research and Training Programme and to maintain and disseminate nuclear competences across Europe, serving both nuclear and non-nuclear Member States. Directorate G supports relevant policy DGs and plays a key role in international nuclear networks. It collaborates closely with international organisations, leading academic institutions, and prominent research institutes, reinforcing the JRC's position as an active and strategic partner worldwide.

The purpose of this role is to support nuclear fuel safety research through scientific and technical tasks in the Fuels and Materials Research (FMR) and in the Properties of Actinides under Extreme Conditions (PAMEC) Laboratories, with a focus on solid matter and molten salt chemistry, actinide-containing materials, nuclear fuel behaviour, radiation safety, and the operation of advanced research infrastructure.



A job on the JRC Karlsruhe site offers an attractive and diverse international environment, in one of the European Commission's research centres with state-of-the-art laboratories.

Karlsruhe is located in the German state of Baden-Württemberg, a modern industrial location in the heart of Europe with a robust industry and low unemployment rates. Baden-Württemberg has beautiful and varied landscapes such as Lake Constance and the Black Forest. In addition, Germany is considered one of the safest countries in the world (ref: Global Peace Index) and offers its residents a safe and stable living environment. Karlsruhe is a university city hosting numerous cultural institutions with a diverse and colourful programme from classic to modern (from castles to modern media and art museums).

You can find more information about the benefits of working for the European Commission here: [Working at the Commission – conditions and environment \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/working-at-the-commission/)

WE PROPOSE

The jobholder will be a Project Officer for scientific activities, whose responsibility will consist of carrying out and coordinating scientific and technical tasks in accordance with the objectives and priorities of the Nuclear Science and Innovation for Energy and Health Unit and its mission as defined within the Directorate for Nuclear safety and Security. He/she will support the sector of nuclear fuel. A dynamic position for an engineer and/or scientist in an international organization, to carry out scientific tasks with emphasis on managing the tasks of nuclear fuel safety study necessary to develop research & development on the Fuels and Materials Research (FMR) and in the Properties of Actinides under Extreme Conditions (PAMEC) laboratories of the European Commission that relies on its staff expertise and its cutting edge research infrastructure.

The FMR (Fuel Materials Research) and PAMEC (Properties of Actinides under Extreme Conditions) laboratories give to JRC the capability for performing research on significant amounts and type of nuclear materials, which is an invaluable strategic asset. It is essential for the execution of the JRC program for nuclear safety, nuclear fuel cycle, relevant also for the research on Small Modular Reactors, or radioisotope sources for medical applications, space, in collaboration with and support to Member States. Such activities are performed in control area (ALARA-related) with facilities dedicated to manipulating radioactive samples, so highly qualified staff is needed.

In this context, experimental work is required in solid-matter and molten-salt chemistry, focusing on the determination of thermophysical properties, particularly at high temperatures, using conventional and laser-based techniques. The activities will underpin studies of nuclear fuels for both existing and next-generation reactor technologies. They also involve the preparation and characterisation of actinide-bearing materials, the development of novel laboratory methods and equipment and the analysis of the acquired data for future publications.

The successful candidate will receive extensive training, focusing on handling and treating nuclear materials, and your responsibilities will include coordinating tasks necessary to operate the experimental setups in the FMR Laboratory.



WE LOOK FOR

We are looking for a proactive and service-oriented person with a strong sense of responsibility, who can work independently and collaborate effectively as part of a team in a nuclear materials laboratory. The candidate must have strong experience in experimental work, as the main activities will consist of carrying out experiments, handling radioactive materials in glove boxes, performing instrumentation maintenance tasks, and ensuring that experimental set-ups remain operational.

A PhD degree or university degree with at least three years working experience or equivalent in Chemistry, Physical Chemistry, Physics, Engineering or Science in the fields of Materials, or similar is necessary. Experience in radiation thermometry, data acquisition and processing, and a solid understanding of optics is an important advantage. Direct experience in a nuclear materials lab is a strong asset. Very good communication skills in English are required. At least basic knowledge of German is an asset. Strong publication record is essential.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are **already on a valid CAST FG IV reserve list**, or you **have already applied to the call below**, you can directly submit your application at [JRC Recruitment Portal](#).

If not, before applying to this position, **you must register** for one of the two following databases:

- the [Call for Expressions of Interest | EU Careers \(europa.eu\)](#) (CAST Permanent FG IV), which is used by a wide range of organisations (institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the European Union).

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