

TRANSPORT ACQUIS AND LEGAL DESK OFFICER
VACANCY NOTICE AT THE
PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE TRANSPORT COMMUNITY

The Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community is announcing a vacancy call for a full-time position of:

TRANSPORT ACQUIS AND LEGAL DESK OFFICER

1. The Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community

The Transport Community is an international organisation established by the Treaty³, signed on 9 October 2017 by the following Contracting Parties: the European Union, the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, the Republic of North Macedonia, and the Republic of Serbia. As of November 2022 Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, and Georgia are Observing Participants in the relevant Transport Community bodies.

The Transport Community is based on the progressive integration of transport markets of the South East European Parties into the European Union transport market based on the relevant *Acquis*, including the areas of technical standards, interoperability, safety, security, traffic management, social policy, public procurement and environment, applicable to all modes of transport, apart from air transport.

The Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community ("the TCT Secretariat") is one of the institutions set up under the Treaty. The TCT Secretariat provides administrative support to the other institutions of the Transport Community (the Ministerial Council, the Regional Steering Committee, the Technical Committees and the Social Forum), acts as a Transport Observatory to monitor the performance of the indicative extension of the comprehensive and core TEN-T networks to the Western Balkans and supports the implementation of the Connectivity Agenda aiming to improve links within the Western Balkans as well as between the region and the European Union. It also reviews the implementation of the obligations under the Treaty.

The working language of the Transport Community is English.
The TCT Secretariat is located in Masarikova 5, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia.

2. The post of the TRANSPORT ACQUIS AND LEGAL DESK OFFICER

The Transport Community is searching for a highly motivated Transport Acquis and Legal Desk Officer with a pragmatic and problem-solving attitude who will work under the supervision and coordination of the Head of Division on Transposition and Implementation of EU Acquis and shall be:

- Responsible for providing legal expertise and guidance on all legal acts and matters of the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat and
- Responsible for providing legal guidance and support on EU Acquis transposition into the legislation of Regional Partners in the areas identified in the Transport Community Treaty (TCT), Annex I.

³ <https://www.transport-community.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/treaty-en.pdf>

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 (1999) and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

Tasks and responsibilities shall include the following:

- Provide legal support to the Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community on all subjects pertinent to the Transport Community and TCT Secretariat legal documents, including staff matters;
- Provide legal support to the Regional Partners and liaise with the WB partners and European Commission on transposition of Annex I of the TCT, including drafting of the EU Acquis transposition action plans;
- Based on the needs of the Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community to carry out any other tasks in the interests of the Transport Community, according to the instructions received by the Director / Deputy Director.

3. Eligibility criteria:

To be considered for the position, applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria by the closing date for applications:

- **Citizenship:** Be a citizen of one of the Contracting Parties of the Transport Community Treaty, enjoying full citizen rights.

- **Education:** A university degree in law is required - a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies of at least four years attested by a diploma.

- **General professional experience:** Have at least five years of post-graduate experience acquired after the required education qualifications referred to above.

- **Specific professional experience:** Pertinent experience as a lawyer, legal officer, or legal adviser shall be proven within a minimum of three years of general professional experience. This experience must have been gained after obtaining the university degree in law. Only appropriate professional experience acquired after achieving the minimum qualification stated in the previous paragraph shall be taken into consideration.

- **Languages:** Have an excellent ability to communicate in English orally and in writing – the successful candidate should have very good drafting skills in English and solid negotiating and communication capabilities. He/she should have the capacity to explain complex legal issues in plain, straightforward language.

- **Age Limit:** At the deadline for applications, be able to complete the full three-year-mandate before the end of the month in which she or he reaches the age of 66.

- **Travel requirements:** low

4. Selection criteria:

Applicants will be assessed on the basis of the following selection criteria:

1) Technical skills

- Experience in drafting legal texts or legal acts in English;
- Have strong analytical skills combined with sound legal judgement;

- Ability to establish and maintain a network of contacts both within and outside the Transport Community;
- Strong service attitude and good interpersonal skills;

2) Technical knowledge

- Professional experience providing legal advice;
- Have a knowledge of the Transport Community and/or European Union Law.

3) Other

The following would be considered as strong assets:

- Professional experience in the transport area, transport policies/legislation or a corresponding background would be considered an asset;
- Knowledge of any other official language of the Contracting Parties is considered an asset;
- Capable of performing well under pressure, prioritising tasks, and meeting short deadlines;
- Knowledge of EU transport legislations and transposition process would be considered an asset;
- Experience in dealing with EU institutions will be considered an asset;
- Work experience in an international/multicultural environment would be considered an asset;
- Team spirit and ability to adapt quickly to a changing working environment are essential;
- Availability at the earliest convenience would be an advantage.

5. Independence and declaration of interests

The person appointed will be required to make a declaration of commitment to act independently in the public interest and to make a declaration in respect of any interests that might be considered prejudicial to his/her independence. Applicants must confirm their willingness to do so in their application.

6. Selection and appointment

A Selection Panel will be set up for the selection process. The Panel will invite applicants with the best profile for the specific requirements of the post to an interview, selected based on their merits relevant to the post according to the criteria as set forth above.

Candidates will undergo a written test and interviews that will take place at the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat headquarters unless differently decided.

Following the interviews, the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat will inform the candidate selected for the job within five working days.

Shortlisted but not selected candidates who have been interviewed but not retained for the position will be informed by email. The candidates can submit a complaint against this decision within five calendar days following the receipt of the email. The Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community shall reply to the candidates within five calendar days from the date of the receipt of the complaint.

The candidates who were not shortlisted will be informed by email and they can submit a complaint against this decision within five calendar days following the receipt of the email. Any argument must be based on the initial application. No additional information will be taken into consideration. The candidate shall receive a reply within five calendar days from the date the complaint has been received.

The complaint communicated by the non-selected candidates shall not postpone the decision of the Selection Panel.

7. Equal opportunities

The Transport Community applies a policy of equal opportunities and non-discrimination following the Rules for Recruitment, working conditions, and geographical equilibrium of the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat's Staff.

8. Conditions of employment²

The person selected for the position will be appointed as a staff member of the Transport Community for a three-year period, with a probation period of six months. The contract may be renewed based on performance and is subject to a decision by the Director.

The place of employment is Belgrade, where the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat is based.

A monthly salary will indicatively be EUR 4,500.00 to EUR 5,000.00 depending on the level of experience.

Indicative start date of employment: 1 March 2024; availability at the earliest convenience would be an advantage.

Employment shall be governed by the Staff Regulations of the Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community <https://www.transport-community.org/staff-regulations/>

9. Application procedure

Candidates must submit their applications, via email to the following email address: vacancies@transport-community.org.

For the application to be valid, the following needs to be provided:

1. A motivation letter;
2. A Curriculum Vitae (CV) in English. The CV must be drafted using the Euro pass CV format³;
3. Copies of diplomas or certificates of studies;
4. A Copy of the passport;
5. Two employer references confirming the general and specific professional experience;
6. Work certificates or employment contracts confirming candidates' general working experience;
7. A signed declaration using the attached form in Annex.

Incomplete applications will not be taken into consideration.

In order to facilitate the selection process, all communication with applicants concerning this vacancy will be in English.

Applications, clearly specifying the job for which the candidate applies, should be sent by email to vacancies@transport-community.org

Applicants are asked to report any change of address in writing without delay to the address above.

Any additional information may be sought by sending an email to: vacancies@transport-community.org

² More details can be found in the Staff Regulations of the Transport Community webpage <https://www.transport-community.org/legal-basis/>

³ The Europass CV can be downloaded from the website: <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/htm/index.htm>

10. Closing date

Applications must be sent by e-mail no later than 22 December 2023, 1 PM, CET (date of the email received by the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat).

The Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community reserves the right to extend the closing date of this vacancy by publication of notification at the Transport Community webpage: <https://www.transport-community.org/job-opportunities/>

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted to schedule the interviews. The interviews will be organised in person unless differently decided and prior to the interview, the test will be scheduled. All information will be communicated no later than a week before the date of the interview.

11. Important information for applicants

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

12. Protection of personal data

The Selection Panel will ensure that candidates' personal data are processed as required by the Regulation on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Transport Community institutions and bodies and the free movement of such data. This applies in particular to the confidentiality and security of such data⁴.

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council 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

ANNEX: Applicant's declaration

Language skills:

Mother tongue:

Other languages:

APPLICANT'S DECLARATION

- 1) I, the undersigned, declare that the information provided in this application form and its enclosures is correct and complete.
- 2) I declare that:
 - a. I am a national of one of the Member States of the European Union or one of the South East European Parties as listed in the Treaty establishing the Transport Community and enjoy my full rights as a national.
 - b. I have fulfilled any obligation imposed on me by the laws concerning military service.
 - c. I can produce appropriate character references to prove my suitability for the performance of the envisaged duties.
- 3) Upon request, I will provide supporting documents concerning the three points 2) a., b. and c. above promptly, and I recognise that, if I do not provide such documents, my application will not be considered.
- 4) If selected for this post, certified or, notarised copies of all documents stated under aforementioned point 9 will be provided within ten working days from the day of receiving the request. I recognise that, if I do not provide such documents, my application will not be further considered.
- 5) I am aware that the following supporting documents are essential for the admissibility of my application form:
 - a. Documents proving the date of birth, nationality and residence;
 - b. Diplomas or certificates of studies at the level required;
 - c. Employer references, work certificates or employment contracts;
- 6) I declare that I have not been subject to a penal or disciplinary condemnation (public service or professional bodies) and that I am not subject to disciplinary or criminal proceedings.
- 7) I am aware that any false declaration may result in the cancellation of my application or, if necessary, the termination of the employment agreement with the Permanent Secretariat of the Transport Community.

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Date

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Signature