



The European Commission launches selection of candidates for the position of arbitrators and trade and sustainable development experts in bilateral disputes under the EU trade agreements

Brussels, 18 December 2020

The European Commission is inviting applications from individuals interested in serving in the arbitration panel and/or as part of the trade and sustainable development expert panel in bilateral disputes under EU trade agreements.

Many of the trade and sustainable development (TSD) chapters and state-to-state dispute settlement mechanisms in the EU's trade agreements rely on a pre-agreed list (roster) of individuals who may serve as panellists or experts in a specific case. The EU has to put forward candidates for two of the three sub-lists of a roster: the sub-list of individuals for the EU (who are in principle nationals of an EU Member State), and the sub-list of chairpersons who are neither nationals of an EU Member State or of a third country party to the trade agreement in question.

Disputes concerning the application of the trade agreement are typically submitted to an arbitration panel composed of an uneven number of arbitrators appointed in accordance with the agreement of the parties to the dispute. Similarly, trade and sustainable development experts may be called to be part of an expert panel tasked with settling disputes arising in the context of the implementation of the trade and sustainable development chapter of EU's trade agreements. In accordance with the applicable provisions of the relevant trade agreement, the arbitral tribunal or expert panel so constituted shall then render an award, or – in the case of a trade and sustainable development expert panel – a recommendation.

The European Commission is inviting applications from individuals interested in serving in an arbitration panel and/or as part of the trade and sustainable development expert panel in bilateral disputes under EU trade agreements. This invitation is part of an EU wide call for applications. Member States are organising similar calls for candidates. Interested candidates having the citizenship of one of the Member States (or dual citizenship) are advised to apply through their national selection process, but both options are available.

This selection procedure will create two pools of individuals (one for trade dispute settlement, and the other for trade and sustainable development dispute settlement). Candidates may apply to be in both pools, if they have the necessary qualifications. The Commission will draw from the pools for appointments in specific disputes and for the establishment of lists of candidates under existing EU trade agreements. These pools will be used for agreements that require such lists but where those lists are either yet to be established or where existing lists need to be updated, as well as future agreements.

Interested individuals, nationals and non-nationals of EU Member States who wish to be considered for inclusion on rosters are invited to submit their applications before 23:00 (Brussels time) on 1 February 2021.

What criteria should the candidates fulfil?

Candidates should have expertise in law, international trade, sustainable development and/or other matters covered by EU trade agreements. They should have the ability to conduct arbitration and/or expert panel proceedings, and to draft an arbitration award or a recommendation in one or more of the most likely working languages of such proceedings (i.e. English, French or Spanish). Candidates should be independent and impartial from any organisation or government.

In addition, candidates for the sub-list of chairpersons need to demonstrate experience in dispute settlement. Only applicants who are not nationals of an EU Member State will be eligible for the sub-list of chairpersons.

As an example of the ethical requirements and expected tasks, see the [Code of Conduct and Rules of Procedure of the Agreement between the EU and Viet Nam](#), which is the latest bilateral trade agreement to have been approved by the Council and the European Parliament. The same rules apply to experts appointed to TSD rosters.

The objective of this call is to establish two diverse pools of qualified individuals ensuring gender equality and ensuring candidates from as many Member States as possible. Therefore all suitable candidates are encouraged to submit their application. Individuals already appointed to rosters who wish to remain on the rosters as appointed do not need to reapply.

How to apply?

Candidates who are nationals of an EU Member State are advised to contact the relevant authorities in their Member State for further information (see below for a list of Member State contact points – note that this list may be updated, so candidates are advised to check before submitting their applications). They also have the option of submitting their application directly to the European Commission mailbox: TRADE-F-CANDIDATES-PANELS@ec.europa.eu.

Candidates who are not nationals of an EU Member State are invited to submit their application directly to the European Commission mailbox: TRADE-F-CANDIDATES-PANELS@ec.europa.eu.

Candidates are requested to indicate whether they wish to be considered for the pool of arbitrators and/or the pool of trade and sustainable development experts.

All applications have to consist of curriculum vitae (noting all nationalities held by the candidate), cover letter, and declaration of potential conflicts of interest. The conflicts of interest declaration should relate to any recent (within 5 years) or existing links to governmental organisations. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. A further conflicts of interest declaration would also be required if and when an arbitrator or trade and sustainable development expert is asked to sit in a particular case.

Assessment procedure

All timely and complete applications will be assessed by an independent selection panel, tasked with identifying the most suitable candidates in view of the requirements laid down in EU trade agreements. The selection panel will conduct its assessment on the basis of the candidates' curricula vitae, cover letters, and declarations of potential conflicts of interest; the selection panel may conduct interviews with the short-listed candidates. Further information on the European

Commission's (Directorate-General for Trade) [webpage for dispute settlement](#). The results of the assessment procedure with a list of successful candidates will be published on the same webpage.

Please note that the European Commission will not reimburse the candidates' travel expenses for attending a possible interview with the selection panel should such interviews take place in person.

Questions can be addressed to TRADE-F-CANDIDATES-PANELS@ec.europa.eu.

List of Member State contact points (version of 18 December 2020)

Member State	Contact
Austria	Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU Avenue de Cortenbergh 30 1040 Brussels bruessel-ov@bmeia.gv.at
Belgium	FPS Foreign Affairs Directorate General European Affairs Directorate E5 – EU Trade Policy and WTO Rue des Petits Carmes 15 Karmelietenstraat B-1000 Brussels E5@diplobel.fed.be
Bulgaria	Permanent Representation of the Republic of Bulgaria 49, Square Marie-Louise, B-1000 Bruxelles Mission.BrusselsEU@bg-permrep.eu
Croatia	Permanent Representation of the Republic of Croatia to the EU Rue d'Arlon 108 1000 Brussels hr.perm.rep@mvep.hr
Cyprus	Permanent Representation of Cyprus to the EU 61 Avenue de Cortenbergh,

	<p>1000 Brussels, Belgium</p> <p>cy.perm.rep@mfa.gov.cy</p>
Czech Republic	<p>Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic</p> <p>investment@mpo.cz</p>
Denmark	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>Trade Policy Department, Att. Søren Rinder</p> <p>Asiatisk Plads 2</p> <p>DK-1448 Copenhagen K</p> <p>HPA@um.dk</p>
Estonia	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>International Personnel Policy Coordinator</p> <p>Personnel Department</p> <p>Attn Ms Siiri Liivandi (Siiri.Liivandi@mfa.ee)</p> <p>Counsellor</p> <p>+372 637 7181 +372 53425670</p> <p>www.vm.ee Islandi väljak 1, Tallinn</p>
Finland	<p>Permanent Representation of Finland to the EU</p> <p>Avenue de Cortenbergh 80</p> <p>1000 BRUSSELS</p> <p>sanomat.EUE@formin.fi</p>
France	<p>14 Place de Louvain</p> <p>1000 Bruxelles</p> <p>Belgique</p> <p>courrier.bruxelles-dfra@diplomatie.gouv.fr</p>
Germany	<p>Das Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (BMWi)</p> <p>buero-va3@bmwi.bund.de</p>
Greece	<p>Permanent Representation of Greece to the European Union</p> <p>19-21 rue Jacques De Lalaing,</p> <p>1040, Bruxelles</p> <p>mea.bruxelles@rp-grece.be</p>

Hungary	Permanent Representation of Hungary to the European Union Rue de Trèves 92-98, 1040 Brussels sec.beu@mfa.gov.hu
Ireland	Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment trade@enterprise.gov.ie
Italy	Permanent Representation of Italy to the European Union Rue du Marteau, 7-15 1000 Bruxelles rap.ue.bruxelles@cert.esteri.it
Latvia	Permanent Representation of the Republic of Latvia to the European Union Avenue des Arts 23, B-1000 Brussels permrep.eu@mfa.gov.lv
Lithuania	Permanent Representation of Lithuania to the European Union Rue Belliard 41-43 1040 Brussels office@eu.mfa.lt
Luxembourg	Permanent Representation of Luxembourg to the European Union 75, avenue de Cortenbergh B-1000 Bruxelles bruxelles.rpue@mae.etat.lu
Malta	Permanent Representation of Malta to the European Union Rue Archimède 25 1000 Bruxelles maltarep@gov.mt
Netherlands	Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the European Union 4-10, Avenue de Cortenbergh 1040 Brussels BRE@minbuza.nl

Poland	Permanent Representation of the Republic of Poland to the European Union Rue Stevin 139 1000 Brussels bebrustpe@msz.gov.pl
Portugal	Permanent Representation of Portugal to the European Union Avenue de Cortenbergh 12 1040 Bruxelles reper@reper-portugal.be
Romania	Permanent Representation of Romania to the European Union 107 Avenue de Cortenbergh B - 1000 Brussels bru@rpro.eu
Slovakia	Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic Mlynské Nivy 44/A 827 15 Bratislava vybor133@mhsr.sk
Slovenia	Permanent Representation of Slovenia to the European Union Rue du Commerce 44/Handelstraat 44 1000 – Bruxelles slomission.eu@gov.si
Spain	Permanent Representation of Spain to the European Union Boulevard du Régent 52/Regentlaan 52 1000 – Bruxelles reper.bruselasue@reper.maec.es
Sweden	Permanent Representation of Sweden to the European Union Square de Meeûs 30/De Meeûssquare 30 1000 – Bruxelles representationen.bryssel@gov.se