TRAI NEESHIPS AT THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
Every year, the General Secretariat of the Council (GSC) offers around 100 places available for paid traineeships and about 20 places for unpaid compulsory traineeships.

**WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?**

- You will discover how the Council of the EU works and how it negotiates EU laws, policies and budget.
- You will work in areas such as justice, foreign or economic affairs, law, culture and education, communication or translation.
- You will collaborate with professionals from different backgrounds in a multicultural and multilingual environment.
- You will put your academic knowledge into practice by working for EU citizens.
- You will get an inside view of the Council’s activities by contributing to its daily work.

‘The traineeship gives you the amazing opportunity to be inside “the law-making machine”, to see how EU decisions are made, to understand how things work. So, it is important to seize every opportunity to explore the work in the Council, be very proactive, organise your time well, ask the other trainees what they are doing and if you can attend their working party meetings.’

Viktoriya Dimova
Former trainee
WHAT DOES A TRAINEESHIP INVOLVE?

Depending on the needs of the service, your daily work will generally be equivalent to that of junior administrator officials at the beginning of their career. These tasks include:

- preparing for meetings and drafting minutes,
- attending meetings of Coreper, ambassadors and high level experts of the Council preparatory bodies,
- doing research for various projects,
- translating documents,
- compiling documentation and writing reports.

Trainees will also be invited to take part in a study programme that includes visits to and conferences at other EU institutions in Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg.

“We would like to learn from you and to benefit from your fresh point of view and up-to-date academic knowledge. Please share your constructive feedback and your ideas with us.”

Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen
Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
ELIGIBILITY
Trainees are selected from nationals of the member states of the European Union and nationals of candidate countries which have already signed an accession treaty.

Candidates must have very good knowledge of at least two EU official languages. Given that English and French are used extensively for internal communication within the GSC, a good knowledge of English or French and the ability to communicate in one of these languages is required.

PROFILES
The majority of applications currently come from candidates with qualifications in law, political science, international relations, EU studies and economics.

The GSC is also looking for trainees with qualifications in other fields, such as translation, human resources, computer sciences, agriculture, communication, education studies, health and food safety, energy, environmental studies, aerospace engineering, graphic design, multimedia, etc.

Please see our website during application periods for a complete list of available fields.

‘The experience helped me put a human face on the EU, and that face is smiling and belongs to tens of thousands of committed professionals who do their best to coordinate efforts to keep Europe an excellent place to live in.’

Adam Petrėtis
Former trainee
PAID TRAINEESHIPS

These traineeships are reserved for candidates who have completed at least the first cycle of a course of university studies attested by a degree certificate (bachelor’s degree or equivalent).
Trainees are entitled to a monthly grant of approximately EUR 1,200, a canteen card, accident insurance coverage and a travel allowance. Health insurance can also be provided.

COMPULSORY UNPAID TRAINEESHIPS

These traineeships are for third, fourth or fifth-year university students who have to do a compulsory training period as part of their studies. Students who are required to do research for a thesis or a doctorate may also apply.
Trainees are entitled to a canteen card, accident insurance coverage and a travel allowance. Health insurance can also be provided.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1st period
Application
August - September
Selection
November at the earliest
Traineeship
February - June

2nd period
Application
February - March
Selection
April at the earliest
Traineeship
September - January

Please check our website for more information regarding the exact dates of the application period and the amount of the monthly grant.