

POINTS OF ENTRY FOR LAWYER LINGUISTS AT THE COURT OF JUSTICE

- ✓ An open competition organised by the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) is the standard method of recruitment.
<https://europa.eu/epso/>

Deadline for EPSO/AD/404/23 is 17/10/23 at 12:00 (midday) Luxembourg time

- ✓ When a vacancy cannot be filled by a successful candidate on a competition reserve list, a temporary contract is possible as a lawyer linguist.
https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2_10298/postes-vacants

- ✓ Five-month paid traineeships are available.
https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2_7008/



COURT OF JUSTICE
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

WORKING AS A LAWYER LINGUIST

AT THE COURT OF JUSTICE
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,
LUXEMBOURG



The Translation service of the Court of Justice

Two Directorates for legal translation (A and B), which form part of the Directorate-General for Multilingualism, are responsible for the translation, from and into all the official EU languages, of the documents required for the participation in, and understanding, resolution and publication of proceedings brought before the two Courts of the European Union: the Court of Justice and the General Court.

The two Directorates currently comprise 24 language units, one for each official language into which the Court's case-law must be translated. Various support units provide assistance to the language units in a number of areas, such as the management of freelance translation, computer assisted translation tools, terminology and documentation.

The language units

The language units are responsible for the translation, into all the official EU languages, of judgments and orders of the Court of Justice and the General Court, and of Opinions of the Advocates General.

They are also responsible for the translation of orders for reference from national courts and of any other documents required throughout the proceedings.



Qualities required

The work of the translation service is complex and demanding in terms of quality, quantity and deadlines.

Lawyer linguists therefore need to satisfy the following conditions:

- Have a perfect command of the language of their legal studies (mother-tongue level).
- Have a thorough knowledge of French, the language in which the Court, by custom, deliberates and drafts its judgments and orders.
- Have a thorough knowledge of a third official language of the European Union, in which orders for reference, pleadings and Opinions may be written (French-language lawyer linguists are required to have a thorough knowledge of two other official EU languages).
- Have successfully completed a suitable course in law in order to ensure adequate knowledge of the national law and legal system of one of the Member States (for English-language lawyer linguists: hold an LLB (4-year degree); BCL plus one year of legal experience; qualification as a Solicitor or Barrister (Ireland). Equivalent qualifications in law may also be taken into consideration).
- Have a good knowledge of EU law.
- Be capable of translating complex, legal texts.
- Be able to use standard office technology.
- Be able to adapt and develop throughout their careers.

Duties of lawyer linguists

Translating judgments/orders, procedural documents and Opinions of the Advocates General, as required.

Revising such translations.

Producing summaries of lengthy references for a preliminary ruling.

Providing advice on legal terminology for the Court's legal terminology databases.

Providing training to lawyer linguists from other language units who are interested in the legal terminology and particular aspects of the legal systems of other Member States.