

Job Advertisement

Scientific Policy Officer (SPO)

Young Academies Science Advice Structure (YASAS) is seeking a full-time Scientific Policy Officer (SPO) to work full time on the EU-funded project SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies). This project is a part of the official Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) launched by the European Commission.

Starting date: As soon as possible

Duration: 31st of December 2024

Contract, salary and location: The SPO will be employed by the Young Academy of Europe (YAE), under a Dutch labour contract (but working location can be elsewhere). The maximum gross salary for the retained candidate will be *in the range of* EUR 33 000 to 38 000 nett per year, depending on the exact contract details, country of employment (incl. secondary employment conditions) and their experience.

Travel within the EU is expected.

About YASAS

The Young Academies Science Advice Structure is a collaboration of (currently) fifteen Young Academies (Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, Slovenia, Young Academy of Europe, Global Young Academy) but invites other European Young Academies to join its ranks. It seeks to deepen the exchange between European Young Academies in order to strengthen the voice of Young Researchers in European science policy and science advice. YASAS aims to contribute to the European Commission's Scientific Advice Mechanism and has therefore joined the Science Advice for Policy by European Academies (SAPEA) project (see below). The Young Academy Europe (YAE) acts as legal entity for YASAS.

About the SAPEA project:

The SAPEA project is part of the Scientific Advice Mechanism of the European Commission (EC). At the request of the EC, it provides targeted scientific evidence in a timely and transparent manner to inform the production of science advice by the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors while ensuring the highest scientific quality, developed by complete and independent evidence analysis and synthesis.

SAPEA comprises five European Academy Networks: Academia Europaea, ALLEA, Euro-CASE, FEAM and YASAS. It contributes to widening participation by mobilising its network of over 110 academies from more than 40 countries across Europe, each with hundreds of Fellows. SAPEA aims to strengthen the links between European science academies and to ensure their active participation in its activities.

SAPEA assembles interdisciplinary working groups of scientific experts. The working groups produce Evidence Review Reports or other scientific inputs for the Advisors. The process is supported by Systematic Literature Reviews. SAPEA aims to ensure wide geographical coverage including Widening Countries and gender diversity, coverage of all relevant scientific fields and interdisciplinarity in the process, as well as an open and inclusive approach to involve experts who are not Academy Fellows, and early and mid-career researchers. Experts contribute on a voluntary basis.

SAPEA organises an inclusive dialogue about major societal challenges via a series of events, social media and further D&E&C activities to communicate the project's results and the work of the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors, engaging with the scientific community, policy-makers, stakeholders and the wider public. These activities contribute to increasing awareness of the significance of science advice for policy and to improving transparency of the EU policy-making process. More information can be found on the project's website: www.sapea.info.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

The successful applicant will be one of the 5 SPOs working jointly on SAPEA project, each of whom employed by one of the respective Academy Networks. They will work in close cooperation with the SAPEA Project Coordinator and the Head of Communications. However, the line manager of the YASAS SPO are the president of YASAS and the chair of YAE. The SPO will interact regularly with the top early-and-mid-career researchers from Young Academies who are involved in science advice for evidence-based policy making. Depending on the country of employment, the SPO will work mostly from home (Germany) or, if preferred, be embedded in a University institute (Netherlands). Regular travel for committee meetings is expected.

- The retained candidate will act as team member for the production of the Evidence Review Reports (or other formats) on specific scientific topics lead by the other Networks and whenever YASAS leads them, they will assume a role of the lead staff member, on behalf of the Consortium, The SPO will undertake all activities to organise and manage the process and will maintain effective working relationships across and between the Networks. Such tasks will include, among others: Preparing project outlines for scientific topics, including work and budget plans and proposals for the final outputs (e.g., Evidence Review Report),
- Organising meetings of SAPEA working groups of academy Fellows and external experts (virtual, face-to-face or hybrid),
- Organising consultation processes with academies and Fellows, especially within the YASAS Academies,
- Occasionally, acting as a scientific writer,
- Working in cooperation with the SAM staff and members of the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors and representatives of the European Commission,
- Maintaining ties and organising meetings regarding topic-driven activities with various representatives of the EC, other European bodies such as the European Parliament and selected stakeholders,
- Undertaking research, debate and horizon-scanning activities, possibly conducting structured expert interviews and scoping activities such as workshops,
- Collecting suggestions for and contributing to the peer review process of SAPEA publications,
- Contributing to the technical and financial reports of the SAPEA project,
- Organising public events and supporting dissemination activities of the Communications Office of SAPEA,
- Supporting the YASAS board with respect to the project
- Collecting and analysing the data on the participation of early-and-mid-career researchers in science advice activities in the past
- Mapping network of relevant EMCR organisations and plan collaboration
- Preparing (in collaboration with scientists) and conduct comprehensive survey on the challenges associated with science advice by EMCRs
- Collecting literature evidence and best practices on the challenges associated with science advice by EMCRs
- Drafting the initial strategy for increasing participation of EMCRs in science advice mechanism and collaborate with other project partners on its implementation

Profile, skills, knowledge, experience and qualifications:

- Experience in the field of science-based policy advice or related
- Good level of knowledge of the science-policy interface at the European level,
- Excellent organisational and management skills dealing with multidisciplinary stakeholders
- Excellent oral and written proficiency in English,

- Clear and confident communication skills, with the ability to communicate complex scientific issues to various target audiences,
- Strong interpersonal skills, with experience of building and maintaining strong working relationships with a range of internal and external stakeholders across Europe,
- Acquaintance with a network of stakeholders at the science-policy interface, as well as previous experience of working in an EU-funded project, is an asset.
- A minimum of a Master's Degree (or equivalent) is required; a PhD is an asset.

Interested candidates in applying for this position, must send their CV and a motivation letter addressing their relevant skills and experience to the YASAS Secretariat by the **16th of January 2023** (pdf-documents should not be larger than 2 MB): yasas.board@gmail.com .

Interviews will take place online (please indicate your holiday period). YASAS and SAPEA encourage suitably-qualified (gender) minority group candidates to apply.

For further information you may refer to:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/support-policy-making/scientific-support-eu-policies/group-chief-scientific-advisors_en

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2016_2017/main/h2020-wp1617-societies_en.pdf (Horizon 2020 call, page 122 onwards)

www.sapea.info (Predecessor project)