



The Royal Observatory of Belgium seeks a collaborator (F/M/X) for the operations of the EUI telescope on Solar Orbiter

Our reference	Activity group	Recruitment category(ies)	Applications open until
ROBSIDC202505	1. Scientific research and experimental development	SW1	15/06/2025

Job description

Purpose of the position

This function is part of the “Solar Influences Data analysis Center (SIDC)”, which has as mission to increase the knowledge of the Sun and its influence on the solar system through research and observations.

The specific purpose of this function is to contribute to maximising the scientific return of the EUI instrument onboard the Solar Orbiter satellite, by taking part to different aspects of the management of the instrument and the support to the community and data analysis.

More information on Solar Orbiter and EUI can be found on the SIDC-website.

Outcome areas

This function supports the outcome areas of the SIDC as Scientific Service at the level of scientific research, transfer of scientific knowledge and management of scientific infrastructure.

1. Scientific Research

The publication of scientific research and the support of colleague scientists with their research are core tasks of the function. The function holder will publish regularly, either as main author or as co-author, in international scientific, peer-reviewed journals on the results of the research with the EUI telescope.

2. Transfer of scientific knowledge

The function holder will regularly represent the team (physically/virtually) on scientific meetings at the European Space Agency (ESA). The function also requires the publishing of EUI observations and results at science conferences on solar physics. Towards the general public, the function holder will take part in outreach activities. This can be public lectures, popularising publications or other activities.

3. Management of scientific infrastructure

The operations of a space telescope like EUI require the health monitoring of the instrument, researching instrumental deviations, production of commanding and checking of incoming telemetry. Together with the EUI-colleagues, the function holder is expected to contribute to these aspects, depending on the task distribution and task rotation agreed within the EUI team.

Employer

There is 1 position open in the Solar Influences Data analysis Center (SIDC), at the Royal Observatory of Belgium (address: Ringlaan 3, B1180 Brussels).

The activity group for the position is: I. Scientific research and experimental development

Solar Influences Data analysis Center (SIDC): *The selected candidate will work within the EUI project at KSB, supported by a team of seven researchers within the larger solar physics group SIDC. The SIDC harbours roughly 50 people of diverse background. The selected candidate will work closely with the international EUI consortium outside ROB and with related projects and researchers within ROB/SIDC.*

Royal Observatory of Belgium (ROB): The ROB (<http://www.observatory.be>) is a Belgian Federal institute located in the green outskirts of Brussel (Ukkel). The operational directorate “Solar Physics and Space Weather” envelopes the SIDC.

Skills

Behavioural skills

- **Reflect and create:** we expect the candidate to be able to independently evaluate complex information from the EUI telescope and come to a conclusion. This involves following trends and possibly experimenting with new methods. Understand and contribute to the vision and values of the organization.
- **Exchange and cooperation:** the successful functioning of the EUI team is based on the full exchange of all information, sharing opinions in dialogue and communicating appropriately. Cooperation is encouraged, not only within the team but also internationally with other teams.
- **Act and achieve results:** Implement solutions for continuous improvement. Make decisions and set priorities. Guide customers.
- **Know yourself and grow:** Understand yourself and recognise your emotions. Commit to development and keep competencies up to date. Contribute to change

Technical skills

- **Methodologies:** Experience with modern image processing techniques

- **Technical skills:** Knowledge of plasma astrophysics, in particular coronal solar physics and MHD wave theory
- **Office applications:** Fluent management of Latex/Overleaf
- **Specific software:** Fluent management of 1 or more high-level programming languages for data analysis (e.g. Python, IDL, etc.)
- **Languages:** English
- **Written communication techniques:** Fluent management of online tools such as chat rooms (Slack/Mattermost) and cloud applications (Gitlab, Sharepoint, etc.)
- **Oral communication techniques:** Use of online teleconference facilities (Webex, zoom, etc.)

Assets

- An extended personal, international network of research contacts will be judged favourably.

Conditions for consideration

Your profile

- You have a degree of Doctor in Exact Sciences or Doctor in Space Science

Degree must have been conferred by the closing date for applications

The degree of Doctor in Exact Sciences or Doctor in Space Sciences must be obtained before the application deadline.

***/!** Applicants who have a degree or certificate from a foreign institution who apply for a scientific position for which the tasks are not related to the permanent missions of the institution are exempt from the need for an academic equivalence evaluation.*

Do you wish to apply but your diploma is not in Dutch or French?

We invite you to contact the person listed in the 'Contacts' section (selection procedure) to find out if you need to take a language test: Article 7 - Level 1/A.

If it is deemed necessary, you can register for language exams by clicking on the link: www.travaillerpour.be/fr/tests-et-certificats/linguistique/inscription.

Experience required

We expect at least two years of experience with high-resolution EUV solar imaging and with the operation & planning of space telescopes in solar physics. In particular, we expect an experience with the scientific themes that the EUI telescope supports, in particular MHD wave observations. This experience will be demonstrated by several publications in international scientific journals with a reading committee.

Job offer

Contract and category

Applicant recruited as category SW1

You will be hired under a fixed-term contract of 7.5 months as a trainee assistant on the SW11 salary scale.

Minimum pay: 61747.9 EUR (SW11) (gross annual salary, at the current index, legal benefits not factored in).

Benefits

We offer you an interesting job with a social impact, which comes with a number of benefits:

- A good work-life balance
 - flexible working times on the basis of 38h/week
 - option of taking compensatory leave for overtime worked
 - 26 days of paid leave (for a year of full time employment), and free between Christmas and New Year's Day
 - easy commuting using public transport
- numerous opportunities for self-growth
 - numerous opportunities for training and apprenticeship (during working hours)
- Financial benefits
 - possibility of receiving a bilingualism bonus
 - hospitalisation insurance provided
 - supplementary pension (occupational pension)
 - free use of public transport for commuting between your home and the place of work
 - meal vouchers
 - possibility of receiving a bicycle allowance for travel via bicycle
 - Benefits and offers via the Benefits@Work card
 - a range of fringe benefits (subject to conditions)

Conditions for employment

If you are selected through this procedure, you must – in order to be hired – fulfil the following requirements on the date of selection:

- Enjoy full civil and political rights
- Have fulfilled military service requirements
- Behave in a manner fitting of the requirements of the position
- Hold the necessary degree(s)
- Have the necessary skills and fulfil the requirements listed in the job profile

Procedure

Step 1 – Verification of the participation conditions

You will be considered in the selection procedure if you fulfil all of the required conditions. Verification will be carried out by the selection board on the basis of the application documents you have submitted. The board will decide whether the qualifications, awards and experiences you have submitted meet the requirements of the position. If they do, you will be invited to continue to the next step of the procedure.

Step 2 – Interview

The interview will take place at the **Royal Observatory of Belgium**. Further details will be sent to you by one of our employees via email.

The selection board assesses whether the qualifications, awards and experience you included in your application documents meet the requirements for the position.

If you fail to attend

If you fail to attend the additional evaluation and/or interview, you will be automatically excluded from the remainder of the selection procedure unless you provide evidence, within three days, that your absence was justified for one of the following reasons:

- illness
- emergency relating to a member of your household (= anyone who lives with the applicant) or family (= spouse or legal cohabitant of the applicant, parents or grandparents of the applicant)
- mandatory presence at your workplace
- disruption or delay to public transport of at least 30 minutes
- force majeure

If applicable, you may request, within 10 days of the interview date, to be interviewed by the board. A new date will then be offered to you.

Notification

If you are not selected in a step, the procedure will end and you will not be invited to any subsequent evaluations in the same selection procedure.

For each step, you will receive a notification of the result.

Equal opportunities and reasonable accommodations

The Federal Administration has an active diversity policy.

Do you live with a disability, with learning difficulties or an illness? If so, you can request accommodations for the selection procedure. Please contact the individual listed under the “Contact persons” section.

Facilities provided for people who are pregnant or breastfeeding

Are you pregnant or breastfeeding your child? If so, you can request access to the relevant facilities. Please contact the individual listed under the “Contact persons” section.

Final result

What happens if you are selected?

Following the selection procedure, an unranked group of applicants will be placed on a short-list. These applicants will be those deemed most suitable to fill the open position in accordance with the conditions for consideration. The Director General of the institute will hire one or more persons from this list.

How long will this list remain valid?

The short-list of selected applicants will be created that remains 1 year valid.

Apply

Do you want to apply? Send your application documents by email to david.berghmans@oma.be, cis.verbeeck@oma.be, and dir-rob@oma.be including the selection reference in the subject line.

Your application documents must include:

- an updated CV
- a cover letter
- a copy (or copies) of the degree certificates with all associated annexes if any of these documents are not written in French, Dutch, German or English, a translation must also be provided
- any other document proving relevant experience, such as:
 - academic activities carried out with attestations as supporting documents (attestations issued by employers, authorities that provided grants, etc.)
 - a list of any scientific papers published

The closing date for sending your application is 15/06/2025 (inclusive).

Applications that do not follow the indicated procedure will not be considered.

Contact persons

Concerning the position:

For more information about the position, please contact:

Dr David Berghmans, EUI Principal Investigator, 02 790 3949 david.berghmans@oma.be

Concerning the selection procedure:

For more information about the selection procedure, please contact:

Dr Ronald Van der Linden, Director General, 02 373 0211, dir-rob@oma.be

If you want to request a reasonable accommodation for the selection procedure or access to facilities for people who are pregnant or breastfeeding, please also contact this person.