

**April 2014**

**Report on personnel used in the administration of the EU's institutions**

**Introduction**

The EU comprises a number of 'Institutions':

[European Parliament](#); [European Council](#); [Council of the European Union](#); [European Commission](#); [Court of Justice of the European Union](#); [European Central Bank](#); [European Court of Auditors](#); [European External Action Service](#); [European Economic and Social Committee](#); [Committee of the Regions of the European Union](#); [European Investment Bank](#); [European Investment Fund](#); [European Ombudsman](#); [European Data Protection Supervisor](#); [Agencies and other bodies](#)

All of these institutions employ administrative staff, for example the European Council is supported by employees in working parties for specific issues and in committees of a general nature such as in COREPER (the Committee of Permanent Representatives), which includes about 250 committees and working parties at any one time.

Interestingly, a report from the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee shows that the UK Government is concerned because, in relation to its share of the EU's population (12.5%), the UK remains significantly under-represented among the staff of the major EU institutions, and its presence continues to shrink.

They are also concerned that the number of UK nationals on the staff of the European Commission has fallen by 24% in seven years, and now stands at 4.6% of the total. This compares to 9.7% for France, which has almost the same share of the EU's population.

In the European Parliament, the UK's share of administrator-grade staff has fallen from 6.2% to 5.8% since 2010 (while France's has risen from 7.5% to 8.6%); and in the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU the UK's share of administrator-grade staff fell from 4.8% to 4.3% over the same period (while France's fell from 7.7% to 6.9%). The concern is that with a relative fall in the percentage of UK Nationals in key positions the UK's ability to influence the EU is declining.

## Preamble

It is difficult to be specific about EU administration staff numbers because many of them are temporary and even 'externally employed' staff, that change frequently; however currently it is believed that the EU's total administrative force is about 56,000 – broken down in the chart below. Note that several of the 'institutions' have been included in 'Others' in the chart.

Administration of the EU Institutions			
EU Commission	BRU Brussels	21,511	38.4%
-do-	EU except BRU & LUX	3,812	6.8%
-do-	LUX Luxembourg	3,900	7.0%
-do-	Non-EU	3,816	6.8%
Sub Total	-	<b>33,039</b>	-
EU Parliament	BRU Brussels	<b>6,245</b>	11.10%
Council of the European Union	BRU Brussels	<b>3,500</b>	6.3%
Others, incl, COREPER	-	<b>13216</b>	23.6%
TOTAL EU	-	<b>56,000</b>	100%

## Conclusion

Even EU produced documents available from time to time are conflicting in the detail of staffing numbers: this may be due to the general manner in which the figures are presented but never the less it should be possible for any organisation to publish specific data on a 'rolling basis', say 3 months in arrears.

## References

[http://europa.eu/about-eu/facts-figures/administration/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/about-eu/facts-figures/administration/index_en.htm)

<http://www.euromove.org.uk/index.php?id=19596>