



## Notice of call for expression of interest

**Ref. S3JU/LC/005 - CEI**

*List of external experts to support the SESAR 3 JU  
Scientific Committee*

11 April 2022

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Acronyms and terminology

<b>ATM</b>	Air Traffic Management
<b>ATFM</b>	Air Traffic Flow Management
<b>ATM Master Plan</b>	ATM Master Plan (available at <a href="https://www.sesarju.eu/masterplan2020">https://www.sesarju.eu/masterplan2020</a> )
<b>CEI</b>	Call for Expression of Interest
<b>EC</b>	European Commission
<b>ECAC</b>	European Civil Aviation Conference
<b>ED</b>	Executive Director
<b>ER</b>	Exploratory research
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EUROCONTROL</b>	European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation
<b>SBA</b>	Single Basic Act <sup>1</sup>
<b>SC</b>	SESAR 3 JU Scientific Committee
<b>SES</b>	Single European Sky
<b>SESAR</b>	Single European Sky ATM Research
<b>SESAR YSA</b>	SESAR Young Scientist Award
<b>SESAR 3 JU</b>	SESAR 3 Joint Undertaking
<b>SME</b>	Small and Medium Enterprises
<b>SRIA</b>	Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda
<b>UTM</b>	Unmanned aircraft systems Traffic Management

## 1.2 The SESAR 3 Joint Undertaking

The SESAR 3 Joint Undertaking (hereinafter SESAR 3 JU) was established by Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 of 19 November 2021 (“Single Basic Act”).

In accordance with Article 142(2) of the Single Basic Act and in complement to the modernisation of the European ATM system through the coordination and concentration of all relevant research and development efforts, the specific objectives of the SESAR 3 JU are to:

- (a) *“develop a research and innovation ecosystem covering the entire ATM and U-space airspace value chains allowing to build the Digital European Sky defined in the European ATM Master plan, enabling the collaboration and coordination needed between air navigation services providers and airspace users to ensure a single harmonised Union ATM system for both manned and unmanned operations;*
- (b) *develop and validate ATM solutions supporting high levels of automation;*

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<sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2021/2085 of 19 November 2021, establishing the Joint Undertakings under Horizon Europe and repealing Regulations (EC) No 219/2007, (EU) No 557/2014, (EU) No 558/2014, (EU) No 559/2014, (EU) No 560/2014, (EU) No 561/2014 and (EU) No 642/2014

- (c) *develop and validate the technical architecture of the Digital European Sky;*
- (d) *support an accelerated market deployment of innovative solutions through demonstrators;*
- (e) *coordinate the prioritisation and planning for the Union’s ATM modernisation efforts, based on a consensus-led process among the ATM stakeholders;*
- (f) *facilitate the development of standards for the industrialisation of SESAR solutions.”*

For this purpose, as per Article 143 of the Single Basic Act, the SESAR 3 JU will:

- (a) *“coordinate the tasks of the Single European Sky ATM Research definition phase, monitor the implementation of the SESAR project and amend, where necessary, the European ATM Master Plan;*
- (b) *implement the research and development aspects of the European ATM Master Plan, in particular by:*
  - (i) *organising, coordinating and monitoring the work of the SESAR development phase in accordance with the European ATM Master Plan, including low TRLs (0 to 2) research and innovation activities;*
  - (ii) *delivering SESAR solutions, which are deployable outputs of the SESAR development phase introducing new or improved standardised and interoperable operational procedures or technologies;*
  - (iii) *ensuring the involvement of the civil and military stakeholders of the aviation sector, in particular air navigation service providers, airspace users, professional staff associations, airports, manufacturing industry and the relevant scientific institutions and scientific community;*
- (c) *facilitate an accelerated market uptake of SESAR solutions [...].”*

## 2 THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

### 2.1 Purpose

Articles 21(1)(a) and (4), 148(d) and 154 of the SBA refer to the Scientific Advisory Body of the SESAR 3 JU to be known as ‘the Scientific Committee’ (hereinafter referred to as SC).

The purpose of the SC is to provide advice and recommendations to the SESAR 3 JU Governing Board (hereinafter referred to as GB) on the progress of the implementation of the SESAR 3 Research Programme, in particular on its implementation, monitoring and evaluation of research activities including the necessary bridge between the SESAR 3 Exploratory Programme and Industrial Research Activities.

### 2.2 Tasks

According to Articles 17(2)(n), 21(7) and 154(4) and (5) of the SBA, the SC shall carry out the following tasks:

- a) *advise on the scientific priorities to be addressed in the work programmes including on the scope of calls for proposals, in line with the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and the Horizon Europe strategic planning and on the annual additional activity plan;*
- b) *advise on the scientific achievements to be described in the annual activity report;*
- c) *suggest, in view of the progress of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and individual actions, corrective measures or re-orientations to the GB, where necessary*

- d) provide independent advice and scientific analysis on specific issues as requested by the GB, in particular as regards developments in adjacent sectors or to support the assessment of applications of potential associated members or contributing partners;
- e) advise on activities related to low TRLs (0 to 2) upon request of the GB and other bodies of SESAR 3 JU;
- f) collaborate with the relevant advisory bodies set up under Horizon Europe such as specific sector integration committees specifically set up between European partnerships under Horizon Europe to enable synergies
- g) help reviewing scientific papers for the SESAR Innovation Days, or being members of SESAR YSA Award Board or other ad-hoc research activities as requested by the SESAR 3 JU.

## 2.3 Members

The SC shall consist of no more than fifteen permanent members. The SC shall elect its chair from amongst its members for a period of two years.

In order to be able to collectively cover the technical domains needed to make science-based recommendations to the SESAR 3 JU taking into account the climate, environmental and socioeconomic impact of such recommendations to SESAR 3JU, the SC members should reflect a balanced representation in terms of:

- recognised scientific experts covering the relevant disciplines and perspectives related to the ATM sector and its value chains,
- gender and geographical basis.

Members participate in the SC in their individual capacity and commit themselves to discuss the questions put forward and provide advice in their relevant fields of expertise to the best of their ability and in the best interest of the SESAR 3 JU. By means of signature of a declaration of confidentiality and absence of Conflict of Interest to give effect to Articles 33 and 42 of the SBA, in accordance with GB decision ref. GB(D)03-2021, they shall commit to act independently of any external pressure or influence.

The SC Members may not delegate their tasks to another person. Members may be replaced by candidates from the reserve list in the case of long-term illness or incapacity to attend meetings under the control of the SESAR 3 JU.

In accordance with Article 21(3) of the SBA, the members of the SC, as well as invited observers, shall be subject to the obligation of professional secrecy which, by virtue of the Treaties and the rules implementing them, applies to all members of the institutions and their staff, as well as to the Commission's rules on security regarding the protection of sensitive non-classified and Union classified information, laid down in Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443(31) and (EU, Euratom) 2015/444(32) respectively.

## 2.4 Deliverables and reporting

The agenda of meetings of the SC shall be made publicly available in a timely manner on the website of the SESAR 3 JU

After each meeting of the SC, its chairperson shall submit to the GB a report outlining the body's and its members' opinions on the matters discussed during the meeting. To the extent possible, the report shall be made publicly available on the website of the SESAR 3 JU.

The SC may, of its own initiative, advise the GB to consult it on specific points not covered by the tasks set out in Article 21(7) of the SBA and Section 2.2 of this Notice. To the extent possible, the report shall be made publicly available on the website of the SESAR 3 JU.

The SC members shall prepare and submit a collective annual report on the activities of the SC to the SESAR 3 JU Executive Director, suitable for inclusion in the Annual Activity Report of the Joint Undertaking.

The report shall provide recommendations on the research issues, consolidate their observations from the technical reviews while carrying out the above-mentioned tasks and provide opinion on the future directions of relevance to the SESAR 3 JU research programme. The annual report could also contain an abstract of the recommendations prepared for the GB on relevant research areas.

Each member shall actively contribute to the drafting of the above-mentioned report.

During the SC meetings, each member may be asked to organise, prepare and present a topic in the interest for the SC to execute its mandate.

The Scientific Committee may advise on request of the Governing Board and other bodies of the SESAR 3 Joint Undertaking, or on its own initiative, in particular on activities related to low TRLs (0 to 2).

## 2.5 Meetings

The SC shall meet at least twice a year.

Extraordinary meetings may be convened upon the Chairperson's own initiative after informing the Chairperson by the SESAR 3 JU GB and the SESAR 3 JU Executive Director.

The SC meetings may take place by audio conference, video conference or other means of communication. Alternatively, physical meetings shall normally take place in Brussels at the seat of the SESAR 3 JU.

### 2.5.1 Reimbursement of expenses

Members of the Scientific Committee do not receive remuneration. However, they are entitled to the reimbursement of their travel expenses directly connected with a physical meeting as per Section 2.5 above in accordance with Decision C(2007)5858<sup>2</sup> from the Scientific Committee Member's official address (or other point of departure — if explicitly agreed by SESAR 3 JU before the travel arrangements are fixed) to the place of the meeting(s) and back.

## 2.6 Selection, appointment and duration

Based on the applications received from the Call of Expression of Interest (CEI) and the nominations from the States Representatives Group, the Executive Director of the SESAR 3 JU will prepare (with the support of the JU programme office) a list of all candidates eligible to become members of the SC on the basis of the eligibility criteria.

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<sup>2</sup> Commission Decision C(2007)5858 of 5 December 2007 establishing rules on the reimbursement of expenses incurred by people from outside the Commission invited to attend meetings in an expert capacity (available at: [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/experts\\_manual/regl\\_experts\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/experts_manual/regl_experts_en.pdf)).

An evaluation panel composed of around seven (7) members including members of the SESAR 3 GB, statutory staff of the SESAR 3 JU and representatives of the European Commission will carry out an objective assessment of the eligible candidates applications, based on the assessment criteria.

The evaluation panel will establish a draft shortlist of up to 15 candidates who are considered best suited as well as a reserve list of at least 5 further candidates (in case of appointment from such reserve list, precedence shall be given to higher ranked candidates).

The Chair of the GB (in cooperation with the SESAR 3 JU Executive Director) will present the results of the selection process to the GB in the form of a draft short-list of selected candidates, a draft reserve list and a full record of candidates not included in the lists as well as candidates deemed ineligible.

Based on the lists established by the evaluation panel, the GB will appoint the Members of the SC and approve the reserve list.

Members of the SC will be appointed for a 4-year term. Upon recommendation by the SESAR 3 JU Executive Director, the GB may decide to renew the appointment for an additional term of up to 4 years.

The approved reserve list will be valid for the duration of the term, including any subsequent renewal, of the appointed SC. In case of a vacancy, the GB will, subject to continuing eligibility check, appoint a new member from the reserve list for a period of 4 years or for the rest of the duration of the aforementioned term, whichever is the earliest. The SESAR 3 JU may consider, where appropriate, to launch a further CEI to ensure the continuity of tasks of the SC, after the expiry of the first term of appointment.

Before appointment, all members of the SC shall be required to complete a declaration of confidentiality as well as a commitment to disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest according to the procedure established by the GB to give effect to Articles 33 and 42 of the Single Basic Act.

## 3 CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

### 3.1 Objective

The SESAR 3 JU is looking for highly skilled and positive open-minded external experts (scientists) with innovative vision, independent of their employment organisation and familiar with the European Air Traffic Management objectives.

To this end, the SESAR 3 JU hereby invites suitably qualified and motivated individuals to apply as external experts to be part of the SESAR 3 JU SC.

### 3.2 Technical domains covered

In particular, the expertise of the members of the SC shall comprise at least one of the following ATM technical domains for assessment of scientific excellence:

- **Air vehicle operations**  
including U-space, higher airspace operations, special purpose missions, ATM-UTM integration, urban air mobility, etc.;
- **Communications, Navigation & Surveillance Services**  
in particular, service & technical evolution, support for new entrants & use of spectrum;
- **Air Traffic & Aviation Information Services**  
including Human Performance & Human Factors, Flight, Surveillance & Information

processing, Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence, Automation & Autonomy & service-oriented design;

- **High Performing airports**  
including Total Airport Management 'airside & landside' and Multimodal integration in support of door-to-door mobility;
- **Network & Traffic Flow management**  
including ATFM, Network & Airspace Management , ATM Architecture etc.;
- **Meteorology, Environment & Sustainability for aviation**
- **ATM Performance**  
including ATM scalability & resilience, simulation & data analytics in ATM etc.;
- **Safety, & (Cyber)-Security in ATM**
- **Legal & regulatory aviation**  
including data science, framework, data access, standards

without precluding a candidate from proposing an additional domain, which can be of interest to the SESAR 3 JU.

Note: expertise on **Civil/military operations** would also be considered an asset.

### 3.3 General description of the procedure

#### 3.3.1 Information and documents to be provided (content of applications)

Interested individuals should send an application composed of the following documents:

1. a **Letter of interest** (see Annex I) with their full contact details and the list of specific fields indicated at Section 3.2 in which they have expertise ;
2. a **Declaration on their honour** (see Annex II), stating that they are not in one of the situations of exclusion listed at Articles 136 and 137 of the Financial Regulation . It is to be duly signed and dated by an authorised representative. In case of doubt, they may be requested to provide supporting evidence of non-exclusion.

Supporting evidence **for the evaluation** of the selection criteria **are indicated at Section 4.2;**

3. a **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** in the Europass format (available on the following website: <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu>) in English;
4. **List of scientific publications** in books and peer-reviewed journals, including abstracts of the 10 most relevant articles.

The SESAR 3 JU reserves the right to request any documentary evidence it deems necessary in order to verify experts' skills and knowledge.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the expert to inform the SESAR 3 JU immediately of any changes to their administrative and technical details which would result in a change to their original application.

### 3.3.2 Submission of Application for call for expression of interest and evaluation of candidates proposed by the States' Representatives Group

Individuals interested in performing the tasks as described in Section 2, with expertise in the fields listed in section 3.2 and complying with the requirements set in Sections 4.1 and 4.2, are invited to submit an expression of interest in accordance with the rules set out in this notice, in one of the official languages of the European Union by electronic means at the following address: [scientificcommittee@sesarju.eu](mailto:scientificcommittee@sesarju.eu).

In accordance with Article 21(4) of the SBA, the GB shall take into consideration the potential candidates proposed by the States' Representatives Group. The evaluation of the candidates proposed by the States' Representatives group will be carried out by applying criteria in Section 4 of this notice of call for expression of interests.

### 3.3.3 Inclusion in the list of experts

The objective of this call for expressions of interest is to set up a list of external experts. On the basis of the evaluation of application as set out in Section 4, the SESAR 3 JU will draw up a ranking of experts, in accordance with Section 2.6 of this notice of call for expression of interests.

Based on the lists established by the evaluation panel, the GB will appoint the Members of the SC and approve the reserve list.

Inclusion on the list entails no obligation on the part of the SESAR 3 JU concerning the conclusion of contracts.

The list resulting from this notice will be valid for 8 years from the dispatch of this notice and used exclusively for the execution of the tasks within the fields described in Section 3.2 under the SC mandate.

### 3.3.4 Appointment as Scientific Committee Member

In accordance with Article 21(4) of the SBA, the SESAR 3 JU GB shall appoint the members of the SC following this open Call for Expression of interests. In order to be appointed, experts shall be included in the list in accordance with above Sections 2.6, 3.3.2 and 3.3.3

The Selection Panel of the SESAR 3 JU will select experts as members of SC on the basis of their scientific and academic skills, experience and knowledge required for the achievement of the objectives of the SC (as described in Section 2) and in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment and absence of conflict of interests.

In addition to initially appointed members, external experts of the reserve list may be invited to become members of the SESAR 3 JU SC if at any time a member leaves (see section 3.3.3) or when vacancies arise.

### 3.3.5 Indicative timetable

Interested parties may submit an application until 31 May 2022.

Milestone	Deadline
<b>Date of shipment of this call to the dedicated Secretariat General email address for publication in the Official Journal S series</b>	12 April 2022
<b>Closing date for submission of applications</b>	31 May 2022
<b>Indicative date of the information on the outcome of the evaluation</b>	End August 2022

<b>Indicative date for the 1<sup>st</sup> SC meeting</b>	15 September 2022
<b>Validity of the list</b>	(8 years from dispatch of notice)

## 4 EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications received will be assessed in the light of exclusion, eligibility and selection criteria.

### 4.1 Exclusion criteria

The applicants, must provide a **Declaration on honour** (see Annex II), duly signed and dated, stating that they are not in one of the situations defined in articles 136 and 137 of the Financial Regulation (FR)<sup>3</sup>.

*N. B.: In case of a doubt experts may be requested to provide supporting evidence of non-exclusion.*

### 4.2 Eligibility criteria

Candidates must demonstrate ‘Scientific Excellence’ through a minimum of 10 years of relevant research or industry experience after obtaining a degree and minimum of 5 years of experience of managing/organising/participating in research projects, involving partners from Research Centres, Universities, European Research Organisations, ANSPs and industry.

Candidates must have a degree in a relevant scientific area, preferably also at post graduate level, as well as an established reputation through demonstrable expertise in Air Transport, ATM, UTM and associated specialities and ideally have contributed to similar high level advisory bodies demonstrating the ability to look for consensus and to provide synthetic, wide-spectrum analyses.

Candidates must be a citizen of one of one of the Member States of the European Union or one of the Countries associated to Horizon Europe programme, in accordance with Article 16 of Regulation (EU) of the Council and of the Parliament on the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013.

For the purpose of participation in the GB, the Chair or its alternate of the SC shall not occupy the position of Member or permanent observer of the GB.

### 4.3 Selection criteria

Eligible expressions of interest will be subject to a comparative evaluation against the following criteria:

- Proven ‘*scientific excellence*’ and significant experience with EU reputation related to at least one relevant ‘*ATM technical domains*’.

<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1046/2018 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

- Professional experience including organisational and management experience in research projects in a multidisciplinary environment including the transfer of research results towards industrialisation.
- Ability to communicate in spoken and written English.

where ‘*Scientific Excellence*’ is defined, a minimum of 5 years of experience of managing/organising/participating in research projects, involving partners from Research Centres, Universities, European Research Organisations, ANSPs and industry as criterion complementing the minimum requirements for the eligibility is required.

Only experts complying with all the criteria, and reaching at least the minimum total and individual thresholds, will be included in the list.

Criteria	Maximum Individual Scoring	Minimum threshold
Proven ‘ <i>scientific excellence</i> ’ and significant experience with EU reputation related to at least one relevant ‘ <i>ATM technical domains</i> ’, considering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the demonstration of a clear understanding of the global state-of-art in their field of expertise (including outside air transport or aviation where relevant).</li> </ul>	60	40
Professional experience including organisational and management experience in research projects in a multidisciplinary environment including the transfer of research results towards industrialisation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the competencies and expertise necessary to make relevant and impactful science-based recommendations to the SESAR 3 JU.</li> </ul>	30	20
Ability to communicate in spoken and written English	10	7
<b>Total scoring</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>70</b>

Note:

- Relevant ATM technical domains for assessment of scientific excellence are the ones described in section 3.2
- expertise on **Civil/military operations** would also be considered an asset, as well as a track record of valorisation of research and/or the transfer of science and innovation results into market applications for uptake
- In accordance with Article 21(2) of the SBA, final section and subsequent appointment by the GB will be subject to achieving, as close as practicable, a balanced representation in terms of gender and geography as well as maintaining the collective competence to cover all aspects of the scope of the SESAR 3 JU.

## 5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The SESAR 3 JU applies the EU policy of equal opportunities and accepts applications without distinction on the grounds of age, race, political, philosophical or religious conviction, gender or sexual orientation and regardless of disabilities, material status or family situation.

## 6 PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

If processing candidates' applications involves the recording and processing of personal data (such as name, address and CV), such data will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. Unless indicated otherwise, your replies to the questions and any personal data requested are required to evaluate your tender in accordance with the specifications of the invitation to tender and will be processed solely for that purpose by SESAR 3 JU. Details concerning the processing of personal data are available on the Privacy Statement at: <https://www.sesarju.eu/sites/default/files/documents/Privacy%20notice%20-%20Procurement%2C%20selection%20of%20experts%20and%20contractual%20execution%20outside%20the%20scope%20of%20Horizon%202020-Europe.pdf>

## 7 EX-POST TRANSPARENCY

A list of experts (name and subject of the tasks executed) who have concluded a contract following the procedure set out at point 3 shall be published on the website of the SESAR 3 JU.

If an expert has concluded a contract of more than €10 000, the name, the locality (region of origin), amount, and subject of the contract shall be published on the website of the SESAR 3 JU no later than 30 June of the year following contract award. The information shall be removed two years after the year of contract award.

## 8 ANNEXES

Annex I - Letter of interest

Annex II - Declaration on honour