



Job Title: Economist

Reports to: Senior Economist / Chief Economist

Date: 8th July 2022

Jobsplus Permit No: 380/2022

Post of Economist at the Malta Fiscal Advisory Council

The Chairperson of the Malta Fiscal Advisory Council invites applications for the post of Economist at the Malta Fiscal Advisory Council.

The primary objective of the Malta Fiscal Advisory Council is to carry out fiscal surveillance in line with the requirements of the Financial Responsibility Act, 2014 and the Stability and Growth Pact. In particular, the Council's role is to assess and endorse, as it considers appropriate, the official macroeconomic and fiscal forecasts underpinning each Budget and Stability programme, to assess the sustainability of the fiscal stance, and to monitor compliance with legislated fiscal rules.

The role of the Economist is to support the Senior Economist and Chief Economist in carrying out the necessary tasks to enable the Council in the performance of its functions with regard to monitoring, analysis and reporting on local fiscal developments, assessing compliance with the budgetary regulations, as well as the assessment and endorsement of the Government's macroeconomic and fiscal forecasts.

The Economist will report directly to the Senior Economist and Chief Economist.

Duties and responsibilities

The duties of the Economist include:

- a. To assist the Senior Economist / Chief Economist in the analysis of macroeconomic developments in Malta and the EU, in pursuance of the Council's obligations under the Fiscal Responsibility Act;
- b. To monitor and report on developments in macroeconomic policy in Malta and the EU and their implications for the purposes of the Council's objectives;
- c. To monitor and review the monthly schedules of revenue and expenditure and assess budgetary performance against fiscal targets and policy;
- d. To monitor compliance of budgetary performance with the obligations of the Stability and Growth Pact and the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2014;
- e. To contribute to the preparation of information for dissemination to the public to enhance awareness on the medium-term sustainability of government finances and on whether Government obligations vis-à-vis the EU fiscal framework are being complied with;
- f. To undertake, *inter alia*, research work, perform economic analysis and compile statistical data, economic reports and other documents;
- g. To support the Senior Economist / Chief Economist in the analysis of the Government's macroeconomic and fiscal frameworks and the relative methodology, economic models and assumptions;
- h. To document forecasting equations and analytical frameworks;
- i. To maintain databases used for analysis and for forecasting exercises;
- j. To represent the Council as may be required in local and/or international committees and working groups; and
- k. To perform any other duties to the exigencies of the Malta Fiscal Advisory Council as directed by the Senior Economist / Chief Economist.

Competencies and Proficiency Levels

Within the context of their specific tasks, the incumbent is expected to:

- a. Demonstrate professional behaviour by striving to achieve the highest standards of behaviour, competence and integrity in their work;
- b. To be detailed oriented and work with a high degree of accuracy;
- c. To have problem solving skills, able to multitask and meet challenging deadlines;
- d. To have a positive, can-do attitude and be able to work in teams;
- e. To share the Council's intolerance of sexism, homophobia, xenophobia and racism, and to be respectful and caring towards others irrespective of sexual, religious and political orientation;
- f. To serve the MFAC honestly, faithfully and diligently;
- g. To communicate effectively;
- h. To observe the confidentiality of internal documentation, statistical data and communications and conduct themselves accordingly;
- i. To maintain both the actual and perceived political neutrality of the MFAC. It is important that employees maintain their independence from political involvement and be reticent in matters of public of political controversy;
- j. To maintain independence from any entity, with special reference to Articles 43(1) and 45 of the Fiscal Responsibility Act regarding independence; and
- k. To adhere with the policies promulgated by the Malta Fiscal Advisory Council.

Experience and Qualifications

- A Master's degree in Economics at MQF (Level 7) from a reputable institution.
- Or
- A Bachelor's degree, with Economics as a major area of study, from a reputable institution together with proven ability to perform the tasks pertaining to the position.
- Candidates who have not yet formally obtained any of the above-mentioned qualifications will still be considered, provided that they submit evidence that they have been approved for the award of the qualifications in question by the end of 2022.
- Knowledge of the workings of the Maltese economy and the euro area economy.
- Awareness of recent international economic and financial developments and policy issues.

- Able to analyse data, form judgements and assess information critically.
- Awareness of relevant statistical methodologies and forecasting techniques.
- Proficiency in the use of Microsoft applications and econometric software packages such as E-Views.
- Have excellent verbal and written communication skills in English.

Submission of Supporting Documentation

Qualifications and experience claimed must be supported by certificates and/or testimonials, copies of which should be attached to the application. Scanned copies sent electronically are acceptable.

Original certificates and/or testimonials are to be invariably produced for verification at the interview.

Selection Process

- Selection will be made on the basis of a written assessment and an interview to test the level of competency and suitability of applicants
- An attractive remuneration package and benefits commensurate with qualifications and experience will be offered. Training and professional guidance will be provided.

Other Provisions

- The nature of this position requires the employee to be physically present during office hours. However, telework may be granted in line with the Council's Telework Policy.
- Successful candidates will be required to undertake a medical examination.

Submission of Applications

Interested candidates are to send their letter of motivation, clearly quoting the position being applied for, together with a detailed Curriculum Vitae and copies of academic qualifications (including the transcript of results) to the Head of Human Resources by email on info@mfac.org.mt by not later than noon (Central European Time) of Monday 25th July, 2022.

For any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Head of Human Resources by email on info@mfac.org.mt.