

The EEAS: Around three institutions in just a few months, jumping 5 grades!

The EEAS, the service which according to Mrs Ashton's promises should offer the best of both worlds (Commission and Council) has decided to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Jules Verne's novel "Around the World in Eighty Days" in worthy style.

The headline event was the organisation of "Around 3 institutions in just a few months, jumping 5 grades!"

This is the matter of a race around three institutions (European Parliament, EEAS, and Commission) of a very deserving Civil Servant, O how deserving, who accomplished the challenge of moving from a post at AD7 at the European Parliament to Head of Divisions at grade AD12 at the EEAS, after a short stay in the Commission's service at grade AD8 so as to be eligible for recruitment to the EEAS, while diligently respecting the July 2011 decision concerning the three recruitment routes to that organisation.



In Jules Verne's novel, the extraordinary voyage in 80

days was made possible by the appearance of new modes of transport (railways and steamships) and the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, shortening the distances, or at least the time required to cover them.

In this story about the EEAS, the meteoric rise of our lucky colleague was made possible thanks to the application which one would normally only see in science fiction of classic statutory procedures, which marks the beginning of the revolution planned by the EEAS with the abandonment of all the useless shackles that ensue from the basic principles of Civil Service procedures, to finally arrive at a person-by-person approach (or *intuitu personae* to put it in diplomatic terms) which by far quicker and more efficient. To do this, it was necessary to open a new channel, the "EEAS Canal", shortening the distances between grades, or at least the time required to cover them.

In order to avoid giving the impression that it might be a matter of an exceptional procedure reserved for a unique case to the detriment of the rest of the staff, we are able to confirm that there is a very firm political will on the part of EEAS "managers" to widen this experiment to all staff at grade AD7 at the European Parliament, the Commission and the EEAS, so as to save them the twenty years' wait before attaining AD12 using the traditional promotion paths!

This is surely an adequate response to the expectations of post-2004 staff who complain about the damage they have suffered because of the disastrous 2004 Reforms!

Even so, in order to be accepted among the lucky ones who may be able to hope for a seat on this special trip, you will need to answer the questions addressed in a specially constructed *ad hoc* CBT.

So as to allow people who may be interested to prepare themselves, R&D, true to its promise to help candidates, offers you a few multiple-choice questions.

1) Which is the EEAS's favourite film?

- a) Star Trek: First Contact
- b) Time Bandits
- c) Apollo AD12: Escape from AD7

2) Which of the Harry Potter volumes best represents the essence of career planning at the EEAS?

- a) Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
- b) Harry Potter and the Three Job Transfers
- c) Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince

3) A Civil Servant from the EEAS appeared in one of the James Bond films. Which one?

- a) Diamonds are Forever ...my AD 7 grade only for a few months!
- b) Commission Royale
- c) The Man with the Golden Gun

... and finally the very difficult subsidiary question to separate those with equal scores:

4) Who are the 2012 Nobel Prize winners for Physics?

- a) Serge Haroche and David Wineland for their work on atomic physics and quantum optics
- b) The EEAS for its extension of Albert Einstein's work on Relativity, applied to promotion in just a few months, after job transfers, of a AD7 Civil Servant/photon to AD12...

If you answered 1c) – 2b) – 3a) – 4b) congratulations! You have all the qualities and the judgment needs to be accepted to take part on the next "voyage" and we invite you to contact us to obtain your personal rocket for your turn to set out on your journey.

PS:

R&D cannot bring itself to believe that the bases of this story are quite true and will urgently ask all the competent political and judicial bodies to adjudicate on the procedure put in place at the EEAS.

R&D will furnish all assistance to wronged candidates for them to defend their rights!

In effect, in this very critical phase for our Civil Service, in a period when our institutions and particularly the EEAS are the object of attacks and criticism, it is essential to clarify all the organised procedures so as to protect the reputation and credibility of our institutions as well as the rights and expectations of thousands of members of staff who don't spare their efforts and cannot be insulted by such shameful shortcuts!

Eurosceptics and people who would like to kill our Civil Service need to know that the staff and its representatives know how to react and that the institutions are capable of righting any possible wrongs by themselves!