

EBRAINS CEO Job Description

Deadline for application: 1. December 2019 **Start date:** to be discussed
Activity rate: 100%

1. Context:

The [Human Brain Project](#) (HBP) is a EUR 1 billion European scientific research initiative to improve our understanding of the brain and the role it plays in making us human, and to exploit the opportunities offered by the resulting knowledge. With more than 500 scientists from 131 European [partner institutions](#) across 19 Member States, the HBP is one of the largest projects ever funded by the EU. The HBP is one of several major brain research initiatives and projects around the world, and was one of the first of this kind.

The HBP Ramp-Up Phase (2013-16) and its first operational funding period (2016-18) have laid the foundation and first elements of the world's first integrated infrastructure for academic and industrial brain research and development, including a public release of six prototype Platforms for initial user testing in March 2016. These support neuroinformatics, brain simulation, high-performance analytics and computing, medical informatics, brain-inspired computing and linking of simulated brains to robotic bodies. The current phase will see the individual infrastructure platforms extended and integrated into a single [HBP Joint Platform](#) (HBP-JP). The JP will make HBP services accessible to the outside world in a single user-friendly, integrated and networked portal. It will also make the HBP -JP more robust and improve the user experience, encouraging wider use of its tools and data. With this, there must be a shift from supplier-driven to user-driven capabilities, while the infrastructure underpinning them will be tied closely into existing EU research infrastructure efforts.

The newly created "EBRAINS Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif", or EBRAINS AISBL, will become the coordinating entity of the HBP. As such, it is to coordinate the HBP and drive the construction and operation of its European research infrastructure for brain research, on behalf of its members.

EBRAINS is now recruiting its Chief Executive Officer. The CEO reports to the EBRAINS Board of Directors and head the EBRAINS Management Board, in which, together with the Chief Information Infrastructure Officer (CIIO) and the Chief Science Officer (CSO), key management decisions are made. The EBRAINS CEO will also be the HBP Director General.

2. Mission:

The CEO is the Chief Executive Officer of the EBRAINS AISBL based in Brussels. The CEO reports to the Board of Directors of EBRAINS. The CEO heads the EBRAINS Management Board, in which, together with the Chief Information Infrastructure Officer (CIIO) and the Chief Science Officer (CSO) of the AISBL, the key management decisions of the AISBL are made. The EBRAINS CEO will also be the HBP Director General.

The CEO will be responsible for leading EBRAINS in achieving its objectives by promoting, supporting, and coordinating science in the field of brain research through the creation and operation of a European-led, cutting-edge, ICT-based, scientific and medical research infrastructure.

As HBP Director General, she/he will direct the management of the HBP EU FET Flagship project and guide the HBP through its transition from a FET Flagship to an enduring European research infrastructure.

3. Main duties and responsibilities:

- Lead the EBRAINS Management Board, in compliance with the statutory and legal requirements of the EBRAINS AISBL's Statutes and By-Laws, as well as the decisions of the AISBL's Board of Directors and General Assembly.
- Report regularly to the Board of Directors on the management of the EBRAINS AISBL and its research infrastructure.
- Lead the formulation of proposals for decisions to be submitted by the AISBL Board of Directors to the General Assembly.
- Develop the strategy of the AISBL, with the CSO and CIIO, for approval by the Board of Directors.
- Lead the execution of strategic policies of EBRAINS, give shape to the objectives of EBRAINS, and propose future priorities and adopt proactive plans.
- Lead the management of the intellectual property rights and assets of the EBRAINS AISBL and its research infrastructure, in coordination with members' technology transfer offices.
- Actively engage with the user base of the EBRAINS research infrastructure and make it grow.
- Interact with the European Commission, national, and private funding organisations to secure funding for EBRAINS.
- Be a spokesperson for EBRAINS and for the HBP. Communicate with public and private stakeholders, and lobby on behalf of EBRAINS and the HBP.
- Initiate and drive collaboration with partners in science, medicine, industry and society.
- Support the HBP research infrastructure on its way to the ESFRI roadmap, together with the CSO and the CIIO
- As HBP Director General: lead and chair the HBP Directorate, organise its activities, function as the HBP Directorate's liaison with the EC and represent the HBP on the EBRAINS Board of Directors and General Assembly.

4. Reporting practices and interactions with HBP and AISBL bodies:

- The CEO reports to the EBRAINS Board of Directors.
- The CEO chairs the EBRAINS Management Board.
- The CEO also serves as HBP Director General and chairs the HBP Directorate and reports to the HBP Stakeholder Board.

5. Competencies and requirements:

- Proven track record in the management of a sizeable technology project, company, organisation, or research infrastructure. Scientific expertise in HBP-related areas is desirable.
- Extensive experience in developing profitable strategies, implementing visions, and leading large, matrixed organisations.
- Expertise and experience in building and managing ICT infrastructures and/or platforms.
- Good understanding of IT and tech industry best practices.
- In-depth knowledge of corporate governance and general management best practices.
- Demonstrable management and negotiation skills in an international context.
- A history of quickly gaining credibility with key stakeholders in a global business.
- Experience and network in the EU institutions and with the European Commission.
- Perfect written and spoken English, as well as at least one other major European language.

Chief requirements for this position include a proven track record in the management of a sizeable technology project, company, organization, or research infrastructure. Scientific expertise in HBP-related areas is desirable.

Candidacies can be sent to CEO_candidature@ebrains.eu, and must include a curriculum vitae, letter of motivation and, if relevant, a list of publications.