## Lawyer-linguist at the Council of the EU





Name: Simonetta

**Country of origin:** UK and IT

**Languages you speak:** English, Italian, French,

Spanish

## Why do you work as a lawyer-linguist?

The aspect that I like the most about being a lawyer linguist is the opportunity to apply logical reasoning skills in order to identify potential legal difficulties and ambiguities in draft laws. You thus play a role in ensuring the legal certainty of EU legislation and can thus be a cog in the larger Union decision-making wheel. In addition, you may have the chance to defend the position of the Council in cases brought before the Court - undoubtedly a daunting yet thrilling experience!

## What was the best challenge/most exciting moment you experienced as a lawyer-linguist?

I had the opportunity to help with the drafting of an important intergovernmental treaty on financial stability within the Union - one of the first instruments adopted to address the economic crisis. It was fascinating to work on such a topical issue, to listen to the debates among Member States and to gain privileged insight into the broader political issues at stake. It also allowed me to gain awareness of the weight of every carefully-chosen word of the treaty and to appreciate the difficulty of all Member States reaching agreement on such a sensitive topic. Although working on that treaty was at times stressful, it was immensely rewarding to see it printed, bound and finalised and to attend the signing ceremony attended by the heads of State or government.