Part II

Administration and Institutions of the European Union
Chapter Five

Staffing the EU institutions

Chapter 5 is the introduction to the remaining chapters in the second part of the book. The chapter provides readers with an overall perspective on the EU administration regarding recruitment and classification of staff (section 5.1), the recruitment of Eurocrats for the EU’s administration (section 5.2), the career prospects for Eurocrats (section 5.3), the staff regulations of the EU (section 5.4), and the remuneration of EU officials (section 5.5).

5.1. The staff of the EU’s administration: The Eurocrats and the rest

As illustrated in table 5.1 the European Commission has by far the greatest number of employees among the institutions of the EU. The General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee, and the Committee of the Regions have in total fewer employees than the Commission.

It is obvious that the unique position of the Commission in decision-making in the EU is also reflected in staff levels.