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Joanna Apap, of Maltese and Belgian nationality, holds a doctorate in European law and politics and is specialised in the area of Justice and Home Affairs. Since 1st March 2005 she is an EU official at the European Parliament. She is currently an administrator in the secretariat of the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) and previously, up until October 2009 she worked at the Policy Department dealing with Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs, following the work of the LIBE Committee.

Over the last 15 years, during both her academic and professional career, she has collaborated with EU Institutions, NGOs as well as academia. Joanna Apap has also been involved in various trans-European and international projects both as the main coordinator as well as a project partner and has published widely in this area. She was also a visiting lecturer in the United States.

Her main research interests (including her current work being carried out at the European Parliament) include policies on fundamental rights and combating discrimination; more specifically, European citizenship rights, human rights, migration and the rights of third country nationals, social integration as well as, very concretely, the rights of the child.

Apart from her two mother tongues, Maltese and English, she also speaks fluently French and Italian, as well as to a lesser extent, Spanish, Arabic and Dutch. She can also passively understand German.