



Director: Public Affairs

Kekst CNC was formed in 2018 when two of the world's premier strategic communications firms, Kekst, founded in 1970, and CNC, founded in 2002, combined their teams and capabilities to build the leading global strategic communication consultancy worldwide.

Our global team of more than 250 experienced professionals serve clients, from our 12 offices in New York, London, Munich, Berlin, Frankfurt, Brussels, Tokyo, Seoul, Hong Kong, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Stockholm where Kekst CNC is JKL. As trusted advisors, the firm brings expertise on such high stakes matters as: M&A, shareholder activism and governance, crisis communications, restructurings, regulatory investigations, litigation support, investor relations, IPO communications, issues and reputation management, change management and employee engagement, as well as digital and social communications.

Kekst CNC is part of the Publicis Groupe, the world's third largest communications group.

Purpose and Scope of Role

We are looking for an ambitious, results oriented self-starter to build and develop London's public affairs offering to complement the existing business in London as well as to extend the existing international public affairs offering from Berlin, Stockholm and Brussels

Someone that has a deep understanding of public affairs and is business driven; who leads with integrity and is a team player. The successful individual must be able to increase revenue by introducing new clients and creating public affairs opportunities with existing Kekst CNC clients

S/he will increase the company's network of relationships with key political stakeholders in line with client and mandate objectives and plan and deliver programmes of public affairs activities to clients, ensuring key messages relating to specific projects, are clearly communicated and issues are identified and managed

Main Responsibilities

Stakeholder engagement

- Build and manage a capable public affairs team as the offering grows in the UK, utilising the existing public affairs expertise in the UK and other Kekst CNC offices
- Delivery of the public affairs strategy, focused on managing key relationships to deliver corporate objectives
- Support clients at key meetings externally as required
- Develop and maintain positive relationships with political stakeholders and key political correspondents in order to facilitate their understanding of, and contribution to, mandates and client needs

- Develop and maintain networks with peers from new and existing clients
- Contribute to the mapping and analysis of key strategic stakeholder relationships
- Play a key role in bringing the global public affairs offering together, with an initial focus on the Transatlantic and Pan European offering

Information, intelligence and influencing

- Develop influencing plans using technical knowledge of political process to further mandate/clients strategic objectives
- Proactively provide political intelligence, advice and alerts on regulatory matters, liaising with policy, data and/or research teams as needed
- Keep abreast of upcoming legislation and political developments, specifically across the UK but further afield as mandates/clients demand
- Represent the public affairs function at internal team meetings

Contact management

- Liaise with strategic stakeholders, including arranging and preparing for meetings and developing a collaborative approach to mandates/clients
- Work with consultants and the digital team to ensure strategic engagement activities are aligned with communications objectives

Requirement

More than 10 years' experience in public affairs – ideally with a long period spent in the agency/consultancy sector

- Experience of, and ability to, build, shape and run a public affairs offering, delivering the strategy and managing the team in an organisation with high ambition and aspiration to shape and set agendas
- Proven ability to develop relationships and secure influence with policymakers, decision makers and stakeholders in areas such as business, media, academia
- Ability to understand and work across a wide range of cultural and political contexts reflecting Kekst CNC's international presence
- An experienced people manager able to motivate and manage a team to deliver exceptional results
- An expert in client relations with a vast network of influential and key figures
- Drive, determination, creativity and ambition to make things happen
- Good command of written and spoken English, with a working understanding of German a bonus
- Good knowledge of EU institutions and legislative processes
- Knowledge of media relations and understanding of the digital and social media landscape
- Thorough, structured and efficient deliverer