

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert in the Directorate for Strategic Communication and Foresight (STRAT)

Policy Officer, Strategic Communication, Task Forces and Information Analysis Division (SG.STRAT.2)

COST-FREE

AD level post

Job No 249593

We are:

The European External Action Service (EEAS) supports the High Representative in the exercise of his mandate to conduct and implement an effective and coherent EU Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), of representing the EU and of chairing the Foreign Affairs Council. It also supports the High Representative in his capacity as Vice-President of the Commission with regard to his responsibilities within the Commission in the external relations field, including the coordination of other aspects of the EU's external action. The EEAS works in close cooperation with the General Secretariat of the Council, the services of the European Commission and the Secretariat General of the European Parliament.

We propose:

The post of a "cost-free" Seconded National Expert for the position of "Policy Officer".

The successful candidate will join the Strategic Communication, Task Forces and Information Analysis Division (SG.STRAT.2), which supports, through strategic communication, the implementation of EU external policies and programmes in the priority regions (Southern and Eastern Neighbourhood and the Western Balkans). The Division also plays a leading role in addressing disinformation and foreign information manipulation and interference and in raising awareness about them. The successful candidate will work in the East Stratcom Task Force (ESTF), part of SG.STRAT.2 Division.

Functions and Duties:

The Seconded National Expert is expected to perform the following tasks:

- Analysing and explaining trends in foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI), including disinformation;
- Contributing to the development of diverse communication products and communication campaigns in order to raise awareness about disinformation, notably through the EUvsDisinfo campaign;
- Advising and planning EU's proactive communications in the Eastern neighbourhood through engagement with relevant stakeholders, EU delegations and a network of Stratcom officers at EU Delegations, media and civil society partners;
- Raising awareness of disinformation through partnerships with strategic communication teams in the EU member states and partner countries, academia, online platforms and research organisations;

- Raising awareness of disinformation and FIMI by appearing on the expert panels, giving background briefings to journalists, drafting articles, conducting training workshops and participating at the public events.

We are looking for:

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is seeking a dynamic, proactive and highly motivated colleague with strong analytical, project management and networking skills to occupy the post of Seconded National Expert (SNE).

Based within the Strategic Communication, Task Forces and Information Analysis Division (STRAT.2) at the EEAS, the expert will support overall EU efforts to counter foreign information manipulation and interference, including disinformation, and strengthen international cooperation and communication efforts. The expert will be required to work closely with relevant policy divisions of the EEAS, the expert community, EU MS representatives, EU Delegations in the priority regions, European Commission services and Representations in the member states, EC Spokespersons Service, EP press team, external contractors and other relevant networks.

Legal basis:

- This vacancy is to be filled in accordance with the EEAS Decision of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy HR DEC(2014) 01 of 04/02/2014 establishing the rules applicable to National Experts seconded to the European External Action Service.

Eligibility criteria:

Candidates must:

- a) Be drawn from public administrations in Member States, from international organisations or, only in exceptional cases and with prior authorisation, from other sources;
- b) Have at least three years' full-time experience of administrative, scientific, technical, advisory or supervisory functions equivalent to those of function groups AD or AST as defined in the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union and the Conditions of Employment of other servants of the Union or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level.¹;
- c) Have a thorough knowledge of one Union language and a satisfactory knowledge of a second language for the performance of his/her duties;
- d) Have a security clearance of minimum level **EU-SECRET/SECRET-UE** for the functions that he/she will carry out;
- e) Remain in the service of the employer throughout the period of secondment and shall be paid by that employer;
- f) Remain subject to the social security legislation applicable to the public administration, international administration or entity which employs the SNE and which will assume responsibility for expenses incurred abroad. In case of posting to an EU Delegation, the employer certifies that the SNE is covered for medical expenses incurred at the place of secondment, as well as costs of repatriation on health grounds throughout the full period of secondment;

¹ Staff Regulations of Officials (SR) and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union (CEOS). For reference, see: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1570023902133&uri=CELEX:01962R0031-20190101>

- g) Ensure that there is no conflict of interest and that he/she will, at all times, safeguard the independence and coherence of EU foreign policy as well as the integrity and confidentiality of EU documentation, information and procedures.

Selection criteria:

Candidates should:

A. Professional knowledge

- Have a thorough knowledge of countries in the EU's Eastern neighbourhood, including foreign and security policy of these countries. Expert knowledge on Ukraine, its foreign and domestic policies as well as strategic communications approach will be considered an asset. The experience of working in one of those countries will be considered an asset.
- Have in-depth knowledge of foreign information manipulation and interference, including disinformation, with its main narratives, tactics, techniques and procedures.
- Have professional experience in strategic communications and communications.
- Have professional experience in project management.
- Good working knowledge of the EU (institutional) environment and decision-making processes and understanding of the EU's policies towards Eastern neighbourhood will be considered an asset.

B. Skills

- Have the capacity to work and communicate under time constraints in an international diplomatic and multilingual environment. Intercultural sensitivity skills are required;
- Have solid analytical and drafting skills. Rapid grasp of problems and capacity to identify issues and solutions. Creativity and flexibility would be valuable assets.
- Have experience of independently leading and managing projects, including in the field of communications;
- Experience in digital communication campaigns would be an asset.

C. Languages

- Thorough knowledge (excellent capacity to write and speak) of English is required. Knowledge of Russian or other language of EU's Eastern neighbourhood will be considered an asset. Knowledge of another EU language would be an asset.

D. Personal Qualities

- Be dynamic. Motivated and flexible personality. Able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges, including missions in conflict area.
- Have the ability to work in a team, to coordinate with other teams and to communicate effectively.

Equal opportunities

- The EEAS is committed to an equal opportunities policy for all its staff and applicants. The EEAS is committed to promoting gender equality and to preventing discrimination on any grounds. It actively welcomes applications from all qualified candidates from diverse backgrounds and from the broadest possible geographical basis amongst the EU Member States. We aim at a service which is truly representative of society, where each staff member feels respected, is able to give their best and can develop their full potential.
- Candidates with disabilities are invited to contact SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu in order to accommodate any special needs and provide assistance to ensure the possibility to pass the selection procedure in equality of opportunities with other candidates. If a candidate with a disability is selected for a vacant post, the EEAS is committed to providing reasonable accommodation in accordance with Art 1d.4 of the Staff Regulations.

Conditions of secondment

SNEs shall remain in the service of their employer throughout the period of secondment and shall continue to be paid by that employer.

Duration of the secondment: 1 year, renewable up to 4 years in total

Vacancy available from: 15/03/2023

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

For further information, please contact:

SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu
