

## EEAS Vacancy Notice

### Seconded National Expert in the Security and Defence Policy Directorate (SECDEFPOL)

#### Policy Officer (Defence) SECDEFPOL.1 / Defence sector

**COST-FREE**

**AD level post**

**Job No 345897**

#### **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 Commission and the Secretariat General of the European Parliament.

#### **We propose:**

The post of a Policy officer whose main tasks and responsibilities will be to:

- Contribute to the work of the EEAS in the field of security and defence policy with a focus on strategic and horizontal issues.
- Provide direct support to the Director for Security and Defence Policy and coordinate cross cutting issues within the directorate.

#### Functions and Duties:

Under the authority of the Head of the Security and Defence Policy Division and as part of the Strategic and Coordination Sector, the expert will deal with defence issues and his/her main tasks will include:

- Prepare and/or contribute to policy documents and briefings related to the external security policy of the EU, in close cooperation with geographic services and with other institutions, member states and international organisations.
- Coordinate with EU actors and external stakeholders to maximise coherence and effectiveness of relevant EU security and defence policies in particular with regard to cross-cutting topics or themes;
- Analyse, follow-up and give regular assessments on relevant political, economic and sectoral developments in the areas of responsibility, identifying implications for EU priorities and interests in this domain;
- Support the coordination of relevant ministerial and other high level meetings;
- Support and assists the HoD in planning for the Political and Security Committee (PSC) and other Council bodies; maintain overview of the Divisions topics to facilitate their planning in PSC and other Council bodies;

- Support the HoD in horizontal tasks and at the division level cooperate closely with other policy officers and team members and ensure effective back-up within the division as required;
- Establish and maintain regular contacts and exchanges with other EU institutions, Member States, third countries, public and/or private international organisations and/or with research institutions and the academic community at large in the area of responsibility.

### **We are looking for:**

We are looking for a dynamic, proactive and motivated candidate with strong coordination and analytical skills who has a good understanding of the EU policy making processes and decision-making procedures, as well as understanding of inter-institutional relations in addition to relevant policy experience in areas of security and defence;

The policy officer will be working in a dynamic environment and contribute to EU actions in the area of security and defence in the context of the implementation of the EU Strategic Compass. He/she will have to work in an international and multicultural environment in close synergy with Member States and EU institutions and bodies.

### **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 four 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<sup>1</sup> or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level.<sup>2</sup>;
- 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

<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 259/68 of the Council of 29 February 1968 (OJ L 56, 4.3.1968, p.1) and successive amendments.

<sup>2</sup> 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>

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;

- 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:**

### **A. Qualifications and experience required**

- university diploma;
- at least 3 years of experience in foreign affairs, or security and defence policy;
- good analysis, policy making and reporting skills;
- knowledge of the EU institutions and their decision making procedures;
- experience of working with CFSP/CSDP policies;

### **B. Skills required**

- have the ability to remain objective in complex scenarios and to display sensitivity and sound judgement;
- have good organisational skills, the ability to work under pressure and with tight deadlines and to manage multiple tasks and unexpected demands;
- have excellent drafting and communication skills;
- have excellent negotiating skills in a multinational environment;
- have the ability to work professionally as a member of the division, in mixed-composition task forces and working groups, in an interesting but challenging environment;
- good computer skills are essential, notably in word processing, spreadsheets, presentations software, Internet / Intranet and email systems. Knowledge of other IT tools would be an asset.
- national security clearance at **EU-SECRET/SECRET-UE** level. Such clearance needs to be obtained from the competent authorities before secondment to the European External Action Service. It must be valid for the entire period of secondment. In its absence, the EEAS reserves the right to refuse the secondment as a national expert.

### **C. Languages**

- thorough knowledge of one EU working language and satisfactory knowledge of another one are required; in practical terms, in order to perform required duties, that means an excellent command of written and spoken English, in particular good report-writing skills; good knowledge of written and spoken French is desirable;

### **D. Personal Qualities**

- maintain the highest standards of personal integrity, impartiality and self-discipline. The expert must exercise the greatest discretion with regard to all facts and information coming to his/her knowledge in the performance of his/her duties;
- possess dynamic motivated and flexible personality Be able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges, including missions in conflict area.

## **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-CSDP@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:SNE-CSDP@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**

Cost-free 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:** Initial period up to two years, renewable up to four years.

**The EEAS will cover:**

- costs of professional travels (missions) incurred by the SNE posted in the EEAS HQ;
- accident insurance 24/7 for SNE (not family members).

Other costs such as removal costs, allowances, salary, insurance, schooling (other than the European School fee), etc. shall not be covered by the EEAS.

**Vacancy available from: 1 May 2023**

**Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium**

**For further information, please contact:**

**Administrative questions:** [SNE-CSDP@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:SNE-CSDP@eeas.europa.eu)

**Selection and profile related questions:** STANIECKI Wiktor, Deputy Head of Division, +32 2584-4646; [wiktor.staniecki@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:wiktor.staniecki@eeas.europa.eu)

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