

EEAS Vacancy Notice

**Cost-free
Seconded National Expert/Political Officer
European Economic and Trade Office (Taiwan)
Job number 426538
AD level post**

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 position of Seconded National Expert (SNE) at the **European Economic and Trade Office in Taiwan (EETO)** as a "cost-free" secondment, i.e. salary, insurances, schooling and other costs to be paid by the EU MS as appropriate.

The selected SNE will assist the EETO in political reporting and monitoring, as well as follow-up political developments in Taiwan and the region. S/he will help establish and maintain EU relations with local counterparts working on political issues, including cross-strait relations, political developments on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, press freedom, gender issues, human rights, disinformation and cybersecurity. The SNE will work under the direct supervision of the Head of the Political, Press and Information Section, and the general guidance of the Head of Office. S/he will contribute to analysis and reporting, focusing on all issues of interest for the EU. S/he will be based in Taipei.

We are looking for:

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is seeking a highly motivated colleague to occupy the post of Seconded National Expert (SNE) at the European Economic and Trade Office in Taiwan (EETO). The expert will assist/contribute, among others:

- To follow the political situation in Taiwan, China and the region;
- To develop and maintain a network of Taiwan-based interlocutors working on political issues, including cross-strait relations and political developments on both sides of the Taiwan Strait;
- To support the Head of Office and Head of Political, Press and Information Service in liaising with Member States and like-minded partners in Taiwan;
- To analyse and report on political developments on both sides of the Taiwan Strait;
- To promote and raise awareness among local interlocutors on EU policies, strategies and initiatives, including through public diplomacy events and social media;
- To help oversee the implementation of Foreign Policy Instrument projects in Taiwan, in particular those aimed at supporting the EU Indo-Pacific Strategy and the Human Rights Action Plan;
- To contribute to preparing and participate in EU-Taiwan dialogues;
- To contribute to other tasks as needed.

Legal basis:

This vacancy is to be filled in accordance with 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 Union¹ or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level.
- 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** for the functions that s/he 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.
- g) Ensure that there is no conflict of interest and that they 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 relevant professional experience of at least 3 years.
- Have a good understanding of regional politics, security issues, EU policy in the region, and China-Taiwan relations;
- Have excellent reporting and analysis capacity.

Good working knowledge of the EU (institutional) environment and instruments in the area of external policy would 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 the ability to work in a team, to coordinate and to communicate effectively.
- Have solid analytical capability as well as drafting and reporting skills. Rapid grasp of problems and capacity to identify issues and solutions.

¹ 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.

C. Languages

A thorough knowledge (capacity to write and speak) of English is required. Knowledge of Mandarin is not necessary but 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.

Equal opportunities

The EEAS is committed to an equal opportunities policy for all its employees and applicants for employment. As an employer, 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 that 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-Delegations@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: Initial period up to two years, renewable up to 4 years.

The EEAS will cover certain security costs and mission costs incurred by the SNE posted in an EU Delegation. Other costs such as removal costs, salary, insurance, schooling, etc. shall not be covered by the EEAS.

Vacant from: Immediately

For further information, please contact:

SNE-DELEGATIONS@eeas.europa.eu

