

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert in the Directorate Global Agenda and Multilateral Relations

Policy Officer - Democracy and electoral observation with a focus on Artificial Intelligence and digital (GLOBAL.VMR.2)

COST-FREE

AD level post

Job No 254367

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 "cost-free" Seconded National Expert on the position of Policy Officer for Democracy policy and electoral observation, with a focus on the nexus between democracy, elections, artificial intelligence and new technologies.

The successful candidate will join Democracy and Electoral Observation Division (GLOBAL.VMR2).The Division is responsible for:

- Contributing to the formulation of EU's overall democracy support policy and the mainstreaming of democracy support principles and objectives into EU external policies.
- In close cooperation with the Directorate-General for International Partnerships, identify priorities and contribute to the formulation of programmes to implement the Human Rights and Democracy Action Plan in support for democracy.
- Liaise with EEAS departments and Commission services on all issues pertaining to democracy support in external action and the articulation between the external and internal dimensions of democracy support.
- Developing the EU election observation policy and the methodology of EU electoral missions
- In close co-operation with the Service for Foreign Policy Instrument and the European Parliament, deploying and steering Election Observation Missions (EOMs), Election Expert Missions (EEMs) and Election Follow-up Missions (EFMs).
- Ensuring the follow-up of Election Observation Missions and promoting effective implementation of electoral missions' recommendations in cooperation with EU Delegations.

Functions and Duties:

Under the authority of the Head of Division, the Seconded National Expert will focus her/his work on the risks and opportunities for democracy and elections stemming from the rapid development of new technologies, including Artificial Intelligence. S/he will contribute to formulate policy responses to these new challenges and help mainstream democracy support policy, in particular as regards digital aspects, in EU external action. The SNE will perform the following tasks:

1. Contribute towards the implementation of the 2019 Council Conclusions on Democracy in EU's external relations and the 2020 Human Rights and Democracy Action Plan (in particular its section 4: New technologies, harnessing opportunities and addressing challenges) as well as the reflection on the next Action Plan, in particular as regards digital / new technologies aspects;
2. Analyse new trends and challenges stemming from the increasing or potential role of digital technologies, including the potential impact of Artificial intelligence on democratic practices and institution, as well as election processes.
3. Contribute to the formulation of EU external policy concerning democratisation including responses to these new risks or opportunities, in co-ordination with the EEAS thematic / geographical services, Commission DGs (in particular DG INTPA), Council Working Groups, and the European Parliament.
4. Help develop political and methodological aspects of EU Electoral observation missions on how to address new challenges resulting from the impact of the digital transformation on election processes, including the potential deceptive use of AI;
5. Prepare and lead exploratory missions in view of possible EU EOMs in order to assess the pre-election context and assist with the decision on whether and how to support the election process and, subsequently, lead the implementation of the corresponding EOMs..
6. Follow and draw lessons from the outcomes of EU Election Observation Missions on issues relating to new technologies.

We are looking for:

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

The candidate should have a good understanding of EU policy-making and decision-making processes, and an understanding of inter-institutional relations as well as have relevant political experience in the proposed areas.

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;

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>

- 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;
- 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

- University diploma International relations, law, political science, economy, development
- Have a professional experience of at least 5 years, preferably in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or Development, in policy formulation and / or analysis of and reporting on external relations issues (e.g. posting in an Embassy, International organization, NGO, etc.);
- Knowledge of democracy support or human rights policy as a whole or at country level;

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 teamwork, 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.

C. Languages

- A thorough knowledge (capacity to write and speak) in English is required. Knowledge of French and/or Spanish and / or Portuguese 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 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: 2 years (please select), renewable up to 4 years in total

Other expenses such as removal costs, allowances, salary, insurance, schooling (while the SNE maintains the right to enrol the children in an European School Type I)² and costs related to the enrolment to the Interinstitutional nurseries or the After-school centre managed by the early childhood centre of the European Commission shall not be covered by the EEAS. However, in case the SNE makes use of these two facilities for their dependent children, the EEAS shall recover any invoiced cost (including the institutional and the parental contribution, estimated at approximately EUR 18,000 per year and per child) from the Seconded National Expert concerned on a yearly basis. For further information, please contact RM-01-COORDINATION@eeas.europa.eu.

Vacancy available from: Immediately

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

For further information, please contact:

SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu

² <https://www.eursc.eu/en/Accredited-European-Schools/About>

