

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Cost-free Seconded National Expert

EU Delegation in Strasbourg (Council of Europe)

AD level post

Job No 314904

We are:

The European External Action Service (EEAS) supports the High Representative in the exercise of her 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 her capacity as Vice-President of the Commission with regard to her 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 (Political and Legal Advisor) at the EU Delegation in **Strasbourg (Council of Europe)**, a “cost-free” secondment, i.e. salary, insurances, schooling and other costs to be paid by the EU MS as appropriate.

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) (Political and Legal Advisor) at the EU Delegation of Strasbourg (COE).

Overall purpose:

Under the direct supervision of the Head of Delegation:

- Analyse and report on the overall situation and developments in the Council of Europe, namely as regards the institutional partnership between the European Union and the Council of Europe in legal terms;
- Promote EU strategic objectives and priorities.

Functions and Duties

Monitoring, reporting, advising and negotiating:

- Participate in and report on all relevant CoE meetings in the above field to Headquarters or EU Member States' Missions in Strasbourg; this may include: participating in and reporting on the CoE Committee of Minister's meetings on the execution of ECtHR judgements (CM-DH), and report on ECtHR case law; under the supervision of the Head of Delegation, contributing to the preparation and participating in negotiations meetings on behalf of the EU, including with regard to the EU's accession to CoE conventions;

- Contribute to the formulation of a coherent EU strategy in relation with the CoE;
- Monitor and analyse the activities of the CoE as regards the institutional partnership between the European Union and the Council of Europe in legal terms;
- Advise the HoD; draft early warnings, briefings, information notes and flash reports, and “think pieces” for that purpose;
- Organise and report on internal EU coordination meetings at expert level in his/her field of expertise.
- Back up and support for other members of the legal and political sections of the EU Delegation.

Networking and co-ordination:

- Develop contacts with the Council of Europe secretariat and bodies and with representatives of EU Member States' diplomatic missions;
- Assist in the organisation of and follow up to visits to Strasbourg of EU interlocutors;
- Contribute to the Delegation's reporting, liaising as appropriate with headquarters, etc.
- Information and communication:
 - Where mandated to do so by and under the HoD supervision, contribute to explain and defend the EU positions & EU policies to Council of Europe counterparts and Member States;
 - Contribute to the Press and Information activities of the Delegation in all relevant areas;
 - Present EU positions and EU thematic policies or operational responses in meetings and to EU Member States, CoE bodies, third countries and civil society in Strasbourg.

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 source
- 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) Remain in the service of the employer throughout the period of secondment and shall be paid by that employer.

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

- e) 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
- f) 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

Knowledge and Experience: Experience of at least 3 years in the above mentioned areas at institutional level; legal/judicial experience, including in the field of human rights; expertise in human rights and ECtHR case-law, and experience with the CoE is an asset; good capacity to analyse and report on complex subject matters; sound knowledge of EU institutions, JHA, EU external action. .

B. Skills

- Communication skills: Capacity to work and communicate under time constraints in an international diplomatic and multilingual environment.
- Teamwork, coordination and communication skills.
- Solid analytical capability as well as drafting and reporting skills. Rapid grasp of problems and capacity to identify issues and solutions.

C. Personal Qualities

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 for certain security costs and missions' costs incurred by the SNE posted in the EU Delegation. **Costs such as accommodation, removal costs, salary, insurance, schooling, etc. shall not be covered by the EEAS.**

Vacant available from: 16/06/2025

For further information, please contact:

SNE-DELEGATIONS@eeas.europa.eu