

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert in the Office of the Deputy Secretary General for Peace, Security and Defence (EEAS.DSG-DEF)

Policy Officer - Political Assistant to the Deputy Secretary General

CO-FINANCED

AD level post

Job No 415577

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.

The Deputy Secretary General (DSG) for Peace, Security and Defence provides strategic direction and management of the work of the EEAS on the EU Security and Defence agenda in all its dimensions, ensuring effective co-ordination between the concerned departments in Headquarters, as well as with the Union Delegations and CSDP missions and operations, maintaining high-level communication with key stakeholders including in particular in the Member States.

We propose:

The post of a "co-financed" Seconded National Expert on the position of Political Assistant to the Deputy Secretary General.

The main responsibilities of this challenging position are as follows:

- Support the DSG on key policy areas and in his daily work: prioritise work and commitments; coordinate, review and draft briefing material; attend and follow up on meetings; prepare speaking material; accompany the DSG to meetings and on missions abroad as and where necessary.
- Ensure follow up on work within the Directorates and MD under the DSG's responsibility through allocating and assigning tasks; managing and coordinating delivery and output.
- Provide policy advice and input on security and defence policies, civilian and military CSDP, and any other files of relevance for the daily work of the DSG.
- Liaise with the office of the EEAS Secretary General, offices of other DSGs, Cabinet of the HRVP and other senior management in the EEAS and Commission as appropriate.
- Liaise with Member States' representatives in Brussels.
- Develop and maintain a network of contacts across the Institutions and in Brussels.

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 this 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. He/she will have to work in an international and multicultural environment in close synergy with Member States and EU institutions.

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 Union¹ or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level.²;
- 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; [Decision ADMIN\(2023\) 18 on the security rules for the European External Action Service](#)
- 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.

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.

² 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>

Selection criteria:

Candidates should:

A. Professional knowledge

- have an excellent ability to develop diplomatic relations in a complex, multicultural environment;
- have an excellent capacity to create constructive working relations with national authorities, international organisations and EU Member States;
- have excellent knowledge of external relations, internal policies and functioning of the Union;
- have experience and knowledge of CFSP and CSDP-related issues.
- have knowledge and/or proven experience in the areas of security and defence.

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 strong drafting, communication and analytical skills combined with sound judgement;

C. Languages

- A thorough knowledge (capacity to write and speak) of French and English is required.

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.
- 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;

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 in order to accommodate any special needs and provide assistance to ensure the possibility to pass the selection procedure with equal opportunities as 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 1(d) (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. The EEAS will provide for the allowances in order to contribute to cover the SNE's living expenses in the place of secondment on a flat-rate basis. These allowances shall not be construed as remuneration paid by the EEAS.

Co-financed SNEs shall be entitled to:

- daily allowance (**43.84 €/per calendar day for the distance 0-150km or 175.38 €/calendar day for the distance >150 km³**) throughout the period of secondment;
- monthly allowance calculated on the basis of the distance between the place of origin (the employer's head office) and the place of secondment (**between 0 to 989.64 €/month⁴**);
- reimbursement of travels take up duties/end of secondment on a flat-rate basis (if not paid by the employer).
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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 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](#))^[5] 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.

Duration of the secondment: 2 years, renewable up to 4 years

Vacancy available from: immediately

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

For further information, please contact:

Administrative questions: SNE-CSDP@eeas.europa.eu

Selection and profile related questions:

Giuseppe FAMÀ, Political Assistant to the DSG – giuseppe.fama@eeas.europa.eu

³ Daily allowance Decision of the Director General for Budget and Administration of the European External Action Service adjusting the allowances provided for in Decision HR DEC(2014) 01 of 4 February 2014 - ADMIN(2025) 14 of 07/05/2025

⁴ Monthly allowance Decision of the Director General for Budget and Administration of the European External Action Service adjusting the allowances provided for in Decision HR DEC(2014) 01 of 4 February 2014 - ADMIN(2025) 14 of 07/05/2025

^[5] <https://www.eursc.eu/en/Accredited-European-Schools/About>