

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert in the Directorate for Africa

Policy Officer, Central Africa division (AFRICA.4)

COST-FREE

AD level post

Job No 432826

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 desk officer for the Great Lakes in the Central Africa division.

The successful candidate will join the Central Africa division, Africa.4. This division is responsible for the management and coordination of political relations with 10 countries in Central Africa and the Great Lakes region, namely Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, the Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and São Tomé and Príncipe as well as with regional organisations such as ECCAS, CEMAC, and the ICGLR.

Functions and Duties:

Under the authority of the Head of Division, the Seconded National Expert (SNE) is expected to perform the following tasks:

- Contribute to the implementation of the EU's Great Lakes Strategy (adopted in the form of Council Conclusions in February 2023) by way of analysis, data gathering, drafting of proposals, in close coordination with the rest of the division, MD Africa and the rest of the EEAS;
- Closely liaise with EU Member States in order to explore and assess the potential and opportunities for synergies between the EU and Member States' actions in the Great Lakes region;
- Help prepare, take part and report on relevant discussions of the Council working groups and in exchanges with third parties (States, IOs, civil society at large) as well as EU Delegations in Central Africa;
- Prepare and/or contribute to briefings and policy notes related to the Great Lakes region, the EU's Great Lakes Strategy, the regional policies of partners in Central Africa and beyond, from both a geographical and thematic perspectives as needed;

- Contribute to the workflow of the division, especially but not exclusively in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi and Rwanda.

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, decision-making processes, and inter-institutional relations as well as relevant political experience relating to Great Lakes and/or Africa. The candidate should furthermore have a good understanding of Member States' policy and actions in the Great Lakes region. The candidate will be working in a friendly and dynamic environment and contribute to the work of Africa.4 and MD Africa as a whole. 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 Union or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level.¹;
- 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.

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>

Selection criteria:

Candidates should:

A. Professional knowledge

- Have a professional experience of at least 3 years, preferably in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, and/or Development Cooperation and/or Defence.
- Have extensive knowledge of the above mentioned policy areas, including conflict sensitive analytical capacities, foreign and security policies of Member States and international organizations, work and function of diplomatic representations. Good working knowledge of the EU (institutional) environment and instruments in the area of external and security policy. Proven reporting and analysis capacity.
- Have experience in DDR / SSR processes / analysis of illegal trafficking (bilateral resources, natural weapons) would be 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, coordinate and 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 very good knowledge (capacity to write and speak) in English and French is required. Knowledge of the local language(s) would be an asset.

D. Personal Qualities

- Be dynamic, flexible, curious and motivated. Ability to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with multiple challenges at the same time. Ability and willingness to work in and with conflict areas.

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, renewable up to 4 years in total.

Vacancy available from: Immediately

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

For further information, please contact:

SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu
