

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert in the Directorate for Strategic Communication and Foresight (SG.STRAT)

[Policy Officer]
Information Environment Analyst (FIMI Focus)

COST-FREE

AD level post

Job No 423205

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.

The Directorate for Strategic Communication and Foresight steers communications and outreach to promote the role of the EU as a strong global actor, ensures the EEAS' contribution to EU efforts to fight disinformation, information manipulation and interference, and coordinates strategic policy analysis with a view to inform policy and decision-making. The Directorate develops Strategic Communication and Public Diplomacy activities across a wide range of geographic and thematic topics and works in close cooperation with EU Delegations, Member States, international partners and relevant services from other EU institutions. The Directorate also oversees internal communication in the EEAS.

We propose:

The post of a "cost-free" Seconded National Expert on the position of "**Information Environment Analyst Officer**".

The successful candidate will be based within the StratCom Task Force Sub-Saharan Africa, in the Directorate for Strategic Communication and Foresight (SG.STRAT). She/He will work on analysis of the information environment and Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference in the various countries of the sub-Saharan region to help design and enhance Strategic Communications in the region. Furthermore, she/he will act as focal point for cross-cutting issues in relation to North Africa, and ensuring synergies with the StratCom Task Force South.

The expert will support overall EU efforts to counter foreign information manipulation and interference and strengthen international cooperation and strategic communication efforts. The expert will be required to work closely with relevant divisions and entities of the EEAS, the expert community, EU MS representatives, EU Delegations in the priority regions, European Commission services and Representations in the member states, EU CSDP, EC Spokespersons Service, EP press team, external contractors and other relevant networks.

Functions and Duties

The Seconded National Expert is expected to perform the following tasks:

- Analysis of the information environment of sub Saharan countries including actors and channels; contribute to the design of communication campaigns, projects and capacity building activity to counter and/or mitigate communication issues and threats, and FIMI.
- Analysis of (online) information environments and emerging threats/actors, and detection of disinformation and foreign manipulative interference, in particular in the context of Sub-Saharan Africa;
- Increase awareness and understanding on operational elements of disinformation and foreign manipulative interference via providing assistance to, and act as reachback for EEAS HQ and EU Delegations in Sub-Saharan Africa;
- Design and develop support activities, including training and coaching, for EEAS HQ and EU Delegations in Sub-Saharan Africa, in order to increase their capacity to analyse their overall communication environment as well as to detect and analysis potential threats coming from disinformation and foreign manipulative interference;
- Manage a network of contracted and external experts in analysing information environment and emerging threats and actors in the context of disinformation and foreign manipulative interference;
- Manage projects with external contractors and/or partners;
- Raising awareness on the information environment in sub Saharan Africa and disinformation by appearing on the expert panels, giving background briefings to journalists, drafting articles, conducting training workshops and participating at in public events;
- Support other functions of the Task Force Sub-Saharan Africa, the Task Force South, and of SG.STRAT.

We are looking for:

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

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.

Selection Criteria

Candidates should:

A. Professional knowledge

- Have experience in analysing information environments including actors, channels and audience and use it for the formulation of recommendations. Experience on Sub-Saharan Africa would be an asset.
- Have experience in assessing information environments and/or communication driven threats, disinformation and foreign manipulative interference, including relevant analysis/monitoring methods and techniques. Experience on Sub-Saharan Africa would be an asset.
- Have experience in the field of online publicly available information analysis, including a specific focus on social media.
- Have the ability to assist the Directorate and its Task Forces in coordinating, streamlining and guiding knowledge production on countering disinformation and foreign manipulative interference, and information environment analysis.
- Have the ability to assist the Directorate and its Task Forces in increasing the analytical capacity on emerging threats and actors in the region.
- Have the ability to undertake support activity assisting EU Delegations in conflict regions in increasing their understanding of (online) communication threats, disinformation and foreign manipulative interference. This with a specific emphasis on Sub-Saharan Africa.

^[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>

B. Skills

- Have the capacity to work and communicate in an international diplomatic and multilingual environment. Intercultural sensitivity skills are required;
- Have solid analytical and drafting skills. Rapid grasp of problems and capacity to identify issues and solutions. Creativity and flexibility would be valuable assets;
- Have experience of independently leading and managing projects, including external partners and contractors;
- Have hands-on knowledge in developing and/or training on monitoring and analysing the threats of disinformation and foreign manipulative interference in an operational context;
- Have capacity to create constructive working relations in the field of external relations with national authorities, international organisations and EU Member States;
- Have the ability to communicate clearly on complex issues and the capacity to perform with accuracy and in a flexible manner a diversity of tasks in a complex institutional environment;
- Be able to coordinate (ad hoc) teams (also for projects and missions).

C. Languages

- Thorough knowledge of English and French (excellent capacity to write and speak).

D. Personal Qualities

- Be dynamic. Motivated and flexible personality. Able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges. Be ready to perform field missions.
- Have the ability to work in a team, to coordinate with other teams and to communicate effectively.

Furthermore:

- experience of working in a team in multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural environment;
- experience in working with or within other EU institutions;
- having prior experience working in the Sub-Saharan regional context;
- having prior experience in P-CVE and/or CT;
- having prior experience in working on North Africa with knowledge of Arabic;
- having prior experience in working on Turkey with knowledge of Turkish;
- have prior experience in managing small to medium sized teams in an analytical role;
- have prior experience in managing projects implemented by external contractors.

would be considered as strong assets.

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
