

## **Vacancy notice 2024/009 – HQ (AD)**

### **EEAS Vacancy Notice – Administrator**

#### **Political Officer for Togo and Benin in the West Africa Division, AFRICA.3 of the EEAS**

**(Eligibility grade for EU officials and current temporary agents under Article 2(e) of the CEOS: AD 5 – AD 12 / Grade of recruitment for candidates from the Member States<sup>1</sup>: AD 7)**

**Job no. 153026**

#### **We are**

The European External Action Service (hereafter, the “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 (hereafter, the “CFSP”), to represent the EU and to chair 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 EU Member States as well as the General Secretariat of the Council, the services of the Commission and the Secretariat General of the European Parliament.

The AFRICA.3 Division is responsible for relations with the 16 countries in West Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cote d’Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo) as well as regional organisations, such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), and the G5 Sahel. The Division is composed of 14 colleagues.

#### **We propose:**

We are seeking a highly motivated colleague who will, under the supervision of the Head of Division, lead the overall coordination of two country files covering political/diplomatic, security, development co-operation, human rights, humanitarian, economic and trade, migration issues, and communication. The main tasks to meet this overall objective are as follows:

- ensuring the overall coordination and coherence of the of EU’s engagement in the two countries including the politics, security, development, humanitarian, human rights, economic and trade, migration issues, and communication as appropriate in line with a politically-led integrated approach;
- contributing, in close collaboration with relevant services, to ensure the coherence of the EU’s engagement with the two countries;
- permanent and proactive liaising with the various EEAS Managing Directorates, EU Delegations, Commission DGs, Council services, European Parliament services, and EU Member States;
- liaising with the Embassies of the two countries to the EU, and regional (ECOWAS, UEMOA) and international partners (such as US, UN, WB, IMF etc.) as appropriate;

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<sup>1</sup> Candidates from the Member States are candidates from the national diplomatic services, in line with Article 98(1), first subparagraph, of the Staff Regulations.

- preparing briefings, statements, letters, replies to parliamentary questions, contributions to EEAS weekly and periodic reports, and dossiers for high level visits and missions to and from the region in a manner that meets the required deadlines;
- Follow closely all reporting from the EU Delegations of the two countries, follow-up and provide commentary as appropriate;
- represent the EEAS in internal and external meetings as appropriate;
- coordinating the organisation of EU events on the two countries, including high-level events as appropriate; and
- such other tasks that meet the objectives of the post.

This position is classified as an "Administrator" type of post<sup>2</sup> in the grade bracket AD 5 – AD 12.

If selected for the post, candidates from the Member States (i.e. from the national diplomatic services will be recruited at grade AD 7.

In case of recruitment of a temporary agent, the duration of the assignment to the post shall, in principle, be four years.

If selected for the post, the contract of candidates who, at the time of their application, are temporary agents to whom Article 2(e) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants (CEOS) applies, will be amended and, if their grade is below the one set for candidates from the Member States, they will be reclassified at grade AD 7.

Current EEAS temporary agents to whom Article 2(e) of the CEOS applies and who have a higher grade than the one determined above for candidates from the Member States shall retain their current grade in case of selection for the post.

### **Legal basis for recruitment to this position:**

The vacancy is to be filled in accordance with the following articles of the Staff Regulations (hereafter, the "SR"): Article 29(1)(a) and Article 98(1); Article 29(1)(b); Article 29(1)(c).

The successful candidate for this position will be:

- appointed in accordance with Article 29(1)(a) of the SR if he/she is currently assigned to the EEAS as an EU official or as a temporary agent to whom Article 2(e) of the CEOS applies;
- recruited in accordance with Article 29(1)(a) and Article 98(1), first subparagraph, of the SR and Article 2(e) of the CEOS if the candidate comes from the national diplomatic service of a Member State;
- appointed in accordance with Article 29(1)(b) of the SR if he/she is an EU official from another institution;
- recruited in accordance with Article 29(1)(c) of the SR if it was not possible to fill the vacant post through any of the previous possibilities mentioned.

### **WE LOOK FOR:**

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA<sup>3</sup>**

##### **- General**

In addition to the conditions set out in Article 28 of the SR for EU officials or in Article 12 of the CEOS for temporary agents, candidates must:

<sup>2</sup> According to Annex I to the Staff Regulations and the relevant EEAS internal rules.

<sup>3</sup> All the eligibility criteria must be met on the closing date for applications for this post.

1. Be an EU official, a temporary agent to whom Article 2(e) of the CEOS applies or a member of staff from the national diplomatic service of a Member State. EPSO competition laureates who are on a valid reserve list established in accordance with Article 30 of the SR may have their applications considered only in the event that no suitable candidate can be found among candidates covered by Article 29(1)(a) and Article 98(1) of the SR, or by Article 29(1)(b) of the SR.
2. Have the capacity to work in the languages (English and French) of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and external relations, necessary for the performance of their duties. Knowledge of other EU languages would also be an asset;
3. Have at least two years' proven, pertinent external relations experience - for staff from national diplomatic services this experience must have been gained from working in a national administration of one of the Member States.

**- Specific eligibility criteria for EU officials and temporary agents to whom Article 2(e) of the CEOS applies**

1. EU officials or temporary staff to whom Article 2(e) of the CEOS applies must occupy a post in the grade bracket AD 5 – AD 12, or have occupied such a post before their change in administrative status in accordance with Article 35 of the SR, or occupy an AST post and be on the list drawn up according to Article 45a(c) of the SR (certification list).
2. Due to the need to ensure sound financial management of the limited financial resources and given the fact that the assignment of a staff member to a Delegation has important budgetary and business continuity implications, applications from staff members currently serving in a Delegation are not eligible unless they are included in the rotation or mobility exercises and if the day for submitting the applications for the vacancy notice is less than six months from the end of their ongoing posting. Other applications may only be considered in the interest of the service or in duly justified situations.
3. Candidates who, at the time of the application, are EU officials, independently of their administrative status under Article 35 of the SR, cannot request to be recruited as temporary agents under Article 2(e) of the CEOS. In the case of applications from EU officials on leave for personal grounds, successful candidates will be reinstated into active employment within the meaning of Article 35(a) of the SR.
4. Candidates who, at the time of the application, are temporary agents to whom Article 2(e) of the CEOS applies, must provide a new certificate issued by their Ministry of Foreign Affairs<sup>4</sup> (hereafter, the "MFA") containing the same elements as requested for candidates from the Member States (see specific eligibility criteria for candidates from the Member States, point 2(a)).

**- Specific eligibility criteria for candidates from the Member States to be recruited in accordance with Article 98(1) of the SR**

In line with Article 12 of the CEOS and in accordance with the needs of the service, candidates from the Member States must:

1. Possess a level of education:
  - a. which corresponds to completed university studies attested by a diploma when the normal period of university education is four years or more; OR

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<sup>4</sup> Notwithstanding national terminology that may vary from one Member State to another.

b. which corresponds to completed university studies attested by a diploma and relevant professional experience of at least one year when the normal period of university education is at least three years<sup>5</sup>.

2. Have gained at least 6 years' full time professional experience. This experience must have been gained after obtaining the four-year diploma or after obtaining the three-year diploma and the one year relevant professional experience.

Candidates must indicate their level of education and professional experience on the application form.

The candidates shall provide a certificate issued by the MFA of their Member State of origin, which contains the following elements:

- a. for candidates to be recruited under Article 98(1), first subparagraph, of the SR and Article 2(e) of the CEOS:
- the post for which the candidate applies;
  - confirmation that the candidate is a staff member in active service in their national diplomatic service at the time of the application, either as a government official/civil servant or under a permanent employment relationship with the MFA; or that they have the same status/employment relationship at another national administration of their Member State and are on formal secondment to their MFA or an entity placed under the authority of the MFA such as an embassy, a permanent representation or a mission of the Member State accredited to an international organisation;
  - endorsement by the MFA of their application for the post;
  - a guarantee of immediate reinstatement at the end of their period of service with the EEAS, as required under Article 50b(2) of the CEOS.

Model of the abovementioned certificate is provided in Annex 1 of this vacancy notice.

If candidates are unable to provide this document from the MFA of their Member State of origin, their application will be deemed ineligible.

Furthermore, candidates who would be recruited as temporary agents under Article 2(e) of the CEOS must be in a position to serve during the full duration of their assignment within the maximum duration of engagement in the EEAS.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

Candidates should:

- have an excellent ability to maintain diplomatic relations and to ensure representation, communication in a complex, multicultural environment;
- have an excellent capacity to create constructive working relations with national authorities, international organisations and EU Member States;
- have strong drafting, communication and analytical skills combined with sound judgement;
- have knowledge of external relations, internal policies and functioning of the Union;
- have excellent communication skills and the ability to establish and maintain a network of contacts both within and outside the EEAS;
- have experience and knowledge of CFSP and CSDP related issues;

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<sup>5</sup> The minimum of one year of professional experience required under (b) counts as an integral part of the above qualification and cannot be included in the professional experience required under point 2.

- 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;
- have a strong service attitude;
- be fluent in English and in French (both orally and in writing); and
- be a flexible team player.

Furthermore:

- experience of working in a team in multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural environment;
- experience in working with or within other EU institutions;
- experience of negotiations;
- Knowledge of and experience working in Africa and/or West Africa

would be considered assets.

### **TYPE AND DURATION OF CONTRACT FOR NEW TEMPORARY AGENTS**

If the successful candidate is not an EU official or a temporary agent currently employed under Article 2(e) of the CEOS, he/she will be required to undergo a medical examination to ensure that he/she is physically fit to perform the duties.

As regards candidates who applied under Article 98(1), first subparagraph, of the SR (i.e. candidates from the national diplomatic services), the successful candidate will be offered a contract of temporary agent under Article 2(e) of the CEOS. Such contracts may not exceed 4 years in duration; their expiry will as far as possible be aligned with the usual date of mobility at Headquarters (currently 31 August each year). The contract of successful candidates who are temporary agents under Article 2(e) of the CEOS currently employed in the EEAS will be amended and renewed for a 4 year period, within the limits provided for by Article 50b(2) of the CEOS.

All newly engaged temporary staff will be required to complete a probationary period of 9 months, in accordance with Article 14 of the CEOS.

### **PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT**

Brussels, Belgium

### **SPECIFIC CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

This post is currently not identified as a post which requires Personnel Security Clearance (PSC) to access EU classified information (EUCI) in accordance with point 7 of Annex A I of the [Decision ADMIN\(2023\) 18 on the security rules of the EEAS<sup>6</sup>](#) and as implemented by [Decision ADMIN\(2019\) 7 on Security Clearance Requirements and Procedures for the EEAS of 08 March 2019](#) and its implementing decisions.

Nonetheless, candidates are informed that the list of posts requiring a PSC in the EEAS Headquarters is subject to regular review and that the current post might be identified in the future as a post which requires PSC.

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<sup>6</sup> OJ C 263, 26 July 2023, p.16.

If required after the taking of duty, the selected candidate will need to be in a position to obtain a valid PSC issued by the competent authority of their Member State in accordance with national laws and regulations.

In case of failure to obtain or renew the required PSC, the AACC may take the appropriate measures in accordance with Article 3(3) of the [Decision ADMIN\(2019\) 7 on Security Clearance Requirements and Procedures for the EEAS of 08 March 2019](#).

Description of the EU classified information levels is available under Article 2 of Annex A of the [Decision ADMIN\(2023\) 18 on the security rules of the EEAS](#).

Successful candidates from the Member States will be required to sign a conflict of interest form as part of the recruitment process.

## **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 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 the functional mailbox ([EEAS-HQ-APPLICATIONS-AD@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:EEAS-HQ-APPLICATIONS-AD@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 1d(4) of the SR.

## **PROCEDURE<sup>7</sup>**

The selection procedure will take place in three different and successive steps:

### **1. Application**

Before submitting their application, candidates should carefully check whether they meet all the eligibility criteria applicable to their situation in order to avoid automatic exclusion from the selection procedure.

Candidates must apply through the online system:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/eapplication/index.cfm>

To log on to the system, an ECAS (European Commission Authentication Service) password is required; candidates without a password can register to get one through the afore-mentioned link. EU staff members with a professional ECAS account should use that account for their application. A helpdesk facility is available via the "Contact Support" function within the online system.

In case of connection problems, you can also refer to the complete EU Login user guide: [https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/manuals/EU\\_Login\\_Tutorial.pdf](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/manuals/EU_Login_Tutorial.pdf)

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<sup>7</sup> Your personal data will be processed in accordance with Regulation (EC) 2018/1725. The privacy statement is available on EEAS webpage: [http://eeas.europa.eu/data\\_protection/rights/index\\_en.html](http://eeas.europa.eu/data_protection/rights/index_en.html)

During the online application procedure, candidates will have to upload their CV and motivation letter (in English or French). Candidates are invited to use the "Europass" CV format (<https://europa.eu/europass/en/create-europass-cv>) for their applications.

Candidates from the Member States to be recruited in accordance with Article 98(1) of the SR will, in addition, have to upload a copy of their passport/ID and the certificate issued (within the past 6 months) by the MFA of their Member State of origin.

Candidates will have the opportunity to follow the progress of their application through the online system.

The closing date for the submission of applications is **12 February 2024 at 12:00** (CET - Brussels' time). Please note that the only way to submit an application is using the online system.

As the system may experience peak activity around the deadline, candidates are strongly advised to submit their application as early as possible. Late applications will not be accepted.

For correspondence concerning the selection procedures, please use the following email address: [EEAS-HQ-APPLICATIONS-AD@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:EEAS-HQ-APPLICATIONS-AD@eeas.europa.eu)

## **2. Pre-selection**

The pre-selection will be done by a panel on the basis of the qualifications and the professional experience described in the CV and motivation letter. The panel will produce a shortlist of a limited number of eligible candidates who best meet the selection criteria for the post.

## **3. Selection**

The candidates who have been shortlisted will be invited for an interview so that the selection panel can evaluate them objectively and impartially on the basis of their qualifications, professional experience and linguistic skills, as listed in the present vacancy notice. The selection panel will recommend a shortlist of candidates to the Appointing Authority/Authority Authorised to Conclude Contracts of Employment that will make the final selection.

It is recalled that, if the interest of the service so requires, the selection procedure can be terminated at any stage and the post be filled by a transfer in accordance with Article 7 of the SR.

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**POST AVAILABLE AS OF:** 01/02/2024



## ANNEX I

### CERTIFICATE OF ADMINISTRATIVE STATUS, ENDORSEMENT AND REINSTATEMENT<sup>1</sup>

#### Staff from national diplomatic services of the Member States (Article 98(1), first subparagraph, of the Staff Regulations)

It is certified herewith that for the purposes of the application for the post(s) of *Click or tap here to enter text.*, Mr/Ms *Click or tap here to enter text.* is employed on a permanent basis by the national diplomatic service<sup>2</sup> of *insert Member State*.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs<sup>3</sup> of *insert Member State* endorses the application of Mr/Ms *Click or tap here to enter text.* for the above post(s).

In accordance with Article 6(11) of the Decision 2010/427/EU of the Council and Article 50b(2) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, Mr/Ms *Click or tap here to enter text.* has a guarantee of immediate reinstatement in active service at the end of his/her period of service to the EEAS.

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<sup>1</sup> To be completed and certified by the competent authority of the national diplomatic service.

<sup>2</sup> Candidates having a permanent employment relationship with a government ministry of their Member State, other than the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or equivalent, and who, at the time of their application, are on formal secondment to their Member State's MFA or an entity placed under the authority of the MFA (such as a Permanent representation or a mission of the Member State accredited to an international organisation) may also be considered as member of the national diplomatic service of that Member state.

<sup>3</sup> Notwithstanding national terminology that may vary from one Member State to another.

