

ESDC Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert at the European Security and Defence College

Project Manager/Training Manager

CO-FINANCED

**AD-level post
Job No 303112**

We are

As set out in Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/1515 of 19 October 2020, the mission of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) is to provide training and education in the field of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) in the wider context of the European Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), in order to develop and promote a common understanding of CFSP and CSDP among civilian and military personnel and to identify and disseminate best practice on CFSP- and CSDP-related issues through its training and education activities.

The ESDC works under the overall responsibility of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR). The European External Action Service (EEAS) supports the HR in the exercise of his mandate, which consists of conducting and implementing an effective and coherent EU CFSP, representing the EU in international fora and chairing the Foreign Affairs Council. The EEAS also supports the HR in his capacity as Vice-President of the Commission with regard to his responsibilities within the Commission in the external relations field, including coordination of other aspects of the EU's external action. The EEAS works closely with the General Secretariat of the Council, the Commission's services and the Secretariat of the European Parliament.

We offer

The post of a 'co-financed' seconded national expert (SNE) as a training manager. The successful candidate will report to the Head of the European Security and Defence College. You will be a member of the ESDC team mainly focusing on CSDP missions and operations-related training, but will also take on cross-cutting responsibilities and provide support to other members of staff within the ESDC. You will be in charge of organising training and education courses, seminars, conferences and events, as well as liaising with EU Member States, the EEAS, EU institutions, CSDP Missions and Operations, NATO and other stakeholders.

Functions and duties

Under the authority of the ESDC management, the SNE is expected to perform the following tasks:

- organise, support and lead training courses, seminars and conferences on, but not limited to: education and training for CSDP in relations to the Working Group on CSDP Missions and Operations-Related Training (WGMOT), in particular pre-deployment training for CSDP missions and operations (PDT) and Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT);
- support the meetings of the WGMOT, which is a board configuration of the Executive Academic Board (EAB);
- take responsibility for all relevant files and projects assigned to them from start to finish, at all stages of the project cycle;
- contribute to the ESDC's lessons learned process;
- proactively develop and implement programmes and initiatives, plans, partnerships, activities and training courses in the area of CSDP;
- actively engage with multilateral, regional and bilateral partners, civil society and academia when identifying best practice and gaps in CSDP training and education;
- contribute to the drafting of policy documents;
- follow and contribute to training requirements analysis coming from the Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management/EU Civilian Training Group as it relates to current ESDC training;
- leverage analysis to identify trends, insights, and gaps in CSDP training and education; identify areas of opportunity with the greatest impact; and propose and implement measures to improve CSDP training and education;
- contribute to making the ESDC an inclusive and diverse workplace with regard to sexual orientation, gender identity, disability and ethnicity and other aspects;
- perform additional tasks upon instruction by the hierarchy.

We are looking for

A dynamic, flexible and proactive colleague with a strong sense of service and a good knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts and approaches relating to the common security and defence culture, best practice and partnerships. The successful candidate will have a keen ability to identify gaps in existing civilian training and will be able to develop training courses, workshops and tools to efficiently address those gaps. They will also have the requisite knowledge and expertise to address interconnections, opportunities and risks relating to peace, security and defence.

Legal basis

This vacancy is to be filled in accordance with the Decision of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy HR DEC(2014) 01 of 4/2/2014 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 European Union¹ or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level²;
- 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 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 the event 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

A. Qualifications and experience required

- University degree or equivalent level of education. Ideally an interdisciplinary education in and/or knowledge of both natural and social sciences;
- Five years' full-time professional experience in the field of training and education and/or research;
- Knowledge of civilian crisis management and of planning processes in the field of CSDP;

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>

- Experience and knowledge of EU policies, values and priorities, including but not limited to the CFSP and CSDP, would be an advantage;
- Experience of working in multicultural, international teams;
- Experience in the organisation of sustainable conferences and seminars;
- Experience of agile, inclusive and gender-responsive working methods in diverse, multinational teams, using the latest ICT tools;
- Successful completion of at least one ESDC course would be an advantage;
- Experience of working in a CSDP mission, or other mission setting via different multilateral organisation would be an advantage.

B. Skills required

- Excellent ability to maintain diplomatic relations and to represent the ESDC and communicate well in a complex, multicultural environment;
- Excellent ability to create constructive working relations with governmental and non-governmental entities, including military bodies, law enforcement agencies, government representatives and civil society organisations;
- Strong drafting, communication and analytical skills combined with sound judgement;
- Ability to remain objective in complex scenarios and to display sensitivity;
- Good organisational skills, ability to work under pressure to tight deadlines and ability to manage multiple tasks and unexpected demands;
- Ability to work professionally as a member of the ESDC, in mixed-composition task forces and working groups, in an interesting and challenging environment;
- Good computer skills are essential, in particular in word processing, spreadsheet and presentation software, internet/intranet and email systems; knowledge of other IT tools would be an asset.

C. Languages

- A thorough knowledge of one EU working language and a satisfactory knowledge of another is required. In practical terms, in order to perform the required duties, this means an excellent command of written and spoken English, and, in particular, good report-writing skills. A good knowledge of written and spoken French is desirable.

D. Personal qualities

- The highest standards of personal integrity, impartiality and self-discipline, as SNEs must exercise the greatest discretion with regard to all information that becomes known to them in the performance of their duties;
- Dynamic, motivated and flexible, and able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges, including missions in conflict areas.

Equal opportunities

- The EEAS/ESDC is committed to an equal opportunities policy for all its staff and applicants. The EEAS/ESDC 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 so that the EEAS can accommodate any special needs and provide assistance to ensure that they can take part in the selection procedure on a basis of 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 Article 1(d)(4) of the Staff Regulations.

Conditions of secondment

SNEs will remain in the service of their employer throughout the period of secondment and will continue to be paid by that employer. The EEAS/ESDC will provide allowances to contribute to covering the SNE's living expenses in the place of secondment on a flat-rate basis. These allowances are not to be construed as remuneration paid by the EEAS/ESDC.

Duration of the secondment: an initial period of up to 2 years, renewable up to 4 years (to be adapted if 1 year)

Co-financed SNEs will be entitled to:

- daily allowance (EUR 41.61/per calendar day for a distance of 0-150km, or EUR 166.48 /calendar day for a 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 EUR 0.00 and EUR 939.39 /month⁴);
- reimbursement of travel expenses required to take up duties/at end of secondment on a flat-rate basis (if not paid by the employer).

The EEAS/ESDC will cover:

- costs of professional travel (missions) incurred by the SNE posted to EEAS HQ;
- 24/7 accident insurance for the SNE (not for family members).

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(2024) 18 of 04/07/2024

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(2024) 18 of 04/07/2024

Other expenses, such as removal costs, allowances, salary, insurance, schooling (while the SNE maintains the right to enrol the children in a Type I European School Type I)⁵ and costs related to enrolment in the interinstitutional nurseries or after-school centre managed by the early childhood centre of the European Commission, will not be covered by the EEAS. However, if the SNE makes use of these two facilities for their dependent children, the EEAS will 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

Vacancy available from: 1 May 2025

Closing date for submission of applications: 13 January 2025 at 13:00 (CET)

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

Data protection

The personal information requested from candidates will be processed in line with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC.

The purpose of the processing of candidates' personal data is to manage applications with a view to possible pre-selection and recruitment. More information on personal data protection can be found on the EEAS website: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/3032/-transparency-and-data-protection_en.

For further information, please contact:

- **for administrative questions:** SNE-CSDP@eeas.europa.eu
- **for selection and profile-related questions:** ESDC-VACANCIES@eeas.europa.eu

⁵ <https://www.eursec.eu/en/Accredited-European-Schools/About>