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Vacancy Notice
Seconded National Expert

Policy Officer / Partnerships sector,
Peace, Partnerships and Crisis Management Directorate (MD-PSD.PCM)
PCM.2 Division

AD level post – cost-free

Job no. 494446

WE ARE:

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is the European Union's diplomatic service. Since 2011, the EEAS carries out the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) to promote peace, prosperity, security, and the interests of the EU across the globe. It brings together European civil servants, diplomats from EU Member States, national experts and local staff worldwide.

The EEAS supports the High Representative in the exercise of her mandate to steer the Union's CFSP, including the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), to represent the EU on issues relating to the CFSP and to chair the Foreign Affairs Council. It also supports her as Vice-President of the Commission with regard to her responsibilities within the Commission, including the coordination of other aspects of the EU's external action. The EEAS works in close cooperation with the EU Member States, the General Secretariat of the Council, the services of the Commission and the Secretariat General of the European Parliament.

The EEAS Headquarters are in Brussels. It is also responsible for the management of the network of 145 Union Delegations and Offices worldwide. These Diplomatic Representations play a vital role in representing the EU in the country where they are based, in promoting the values and interests of the EU, and in building networks and partnerships. They are responsible for all policy areas of the relationship between the EU and the host country/organisation.

WE PROPOSE:

The post of **Policy Officer** in the Peace, Security and Defence Partnerships Division (PCM.2) in the Managing Directorate Peace, Security and Defence (MD PSD). Our future colleague will be:

- a dynamic professional, passionate about peace mediation and conflict prevention;
- a collaborative team player with excellent inter-personal and communication skills and a flexible attitude with regard to quickly changing agenda and travel;
- a self-motivated person interested in constantly improving his/her skills through continuous learning.

The "**Peace, Partnerships and Crisis Management Directorate**" (PCM) ensures effective coordination of EU response throughout the entire conflict cycle, from early warning and horizon scanning to political-strategic planning for crisis management and stabilisation. PCM ensures that the EU response is conflict sensitive and is based on a proper analysis with a focus on delivering stabilization and peace.

Within PCM, the PCM.2 Division is in charge of developing EU peace, security and defence partnerships with third states, international and regional organisations, and informing EU conflict prevention and peace mediation, dialogue and negotiations. In line with the Strategic Compass, PCM.2 aims to make the EU a stronger and more reliable global partner in security and defence working for international peace and stability.

The Division is the centre of expertise on conflict prevention, peace mediation and dialogue. PCM.2 identifies countries at risk of violent conflict through Early Warning and conducts conflicts analyses to identify triggers of violence, notably related to gender and electoral violence. It then mobilises EU Early Action to activate mitigation measures. This includes active identification of entry points for mediation opportunities, paving the way for involvement by EU foreign policy actors, especially EUSRs/EUSEs, Senior Management and Heads of Delegation. Close partnerships with EU Member States and civil society underpin all aspects of our work. PCM2 also provides operational support and capacity building for a wide range of actors to ensure that peace processes are inclusive and sustainable, while cementing a global network of bilateral and multilateral partners to coordinate our response.

The Policy Officer will promote EU's bilateral relations in peace, security and defence with partner countries; as well as work on horizontal issues pertaining to EU partnerships in peace, security and defence. The Policy Officer will join the **Security and Defence Partnerships Sector** in PCM.2.

Functions and Duties

Under the functional authority of the Head of Division and the supervision of the Head of Sector, the Policy Officer will perform the following main functions and duties:

- Contribute to the development and implementation of EU's peace, security and defence dialogue and cooperation with partners, in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as with the United Nations, including the EU-UN Strategic Partnership on Peace and Security.
- Provide advice and analysis on political/security/defence related developments in partner countries within his/her mandate and contribute to the definition of related strategic objectives.
- Prepare bilateral dialogues/consultations, other events and negotiations with international and regional organisations and non-EU partner countries, as well as contribute to the preparation of relevant meetings of the Council and its preparatory working groups.
- Follow up policy proposals through the inter-institutional decision-making process, including adoption by the Commission and High Representative, European Parliament and / or Council of the European Union.
- Assist in the representation of the EU, participate in ministerial and high level and working meetings with partner countries/international organisations, as well as in other relevant engagements.
- Develop and maintain good relations with representatives of the partner countries/international organisations.

- Respond to inter-service consultations to secure coherence with the EU's partnership policy on partner countries.
- Draft of briefing and policy documents, strategic analysis, options and food for thought papers, correspondence with key partners within the area of responsibility; handle and draft replies to oral and / or written questions from Members of the European Parliament, letters and questions from third parties.
- Assist the Head of Sector for Security and Defence Partnerships with regard to horizontal issues pertaining to EU partnerships in peace, security and defence;
- Conduct outreach activities on EU peace, security and defence actions, organise and contribute as speaker in public diplomacy events such as seminars, conferences and training activities;
- Prepare and assist as appropriate in negotiations of Framework Participation Agreements, Security and Defence Partnerships or other binding/non-binding documents in the geographical area of competence and support the negotiation of Partnership priorities in the field of peace, security and defence;
- Contribute to other tasks and follow other areas and regions within the remit of the Division as necessary, in the interest of the service.

Allowances and financial coverage

Seconded National Experts (hereinafter "SNEs") shall be entitled to:

- reimbursement of mission expenses incurred during the secondment;
- accident insurance policy[1], however accident coverage is not extended to family members.
- where applicable[2], standby duty allowance or shiftwork allowance.

Start date and duration of secondment

The start date of the secondment shall be the first day of service at the place of secondment.

The initial period of secondment may not exceed two years and may be extended successively up to a period not exceeding four years in total. At the request of the relevant Managing Director or equivalent, the Director responsible for Human Resources may authorise, in exceptional cases and in the interest of the service, one or more extensions of the secondment for a maximum of two years at the end of the four-year period. The total duration of the secondment shall in no case exceed six years.

Position available immediately.

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

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 of 20/07/2026 on the rules applicable to National Experts seconded to the European External Action Service – ADMIN(2026) 18.

[1] European Union and Institutions FWC PMO/2021/OP/0004.
[2] Article 12(4) of the EEAS SNE Decision (Decision ADMIN(2026) 18 of 20/07/2026).

WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

Eligibility criteria

Candidates must:

a) Have the nationality of an EU Member State, unless a derogation is granted by the Director-General for Resource Management for duly justified reasons in the interest of the service. Such a derogation may only be granted for SNEs assigned to posts in Brussels;

b) Be drawn from Member States' public administrations. In exceptional cases, and with prior authorisation by the Director General for Resource Management, the EEAS may agree to the secondment of national experts from non-EU States' public administrations, non-profit organisations (such as research centres or think tanks) or from international organisations;

c) Be in the active service of the employer on a permanent or contract basis;

d) Have a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies of at least three years attested by a diploma, or where justified in the interest of the service, professional training of an equivalent level;

e) Have at least three years' full-time experience of administrative, scientific, technical, advisory or supervisory functions equivalent to those of function group AD as defined in the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union (hereinafter the "Staff Regulations");

f) Have the capacity to work in the languages of the CFSP and external relations (English and French) at a level necessary for the performance of their duties;

g) Have a security clearance issued by the national security authority of an EU Member State that is equivalent at least to the EU classified information level required for the published post[3], notwithstanding the authorised delayed submission of such security clearance as per Article 6(3) of Decision ADMIN(2025) 42 of the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service of 20 November 2025[4];

h) Not have been seconded to the EEAS during a period of two years preceding the application for the post. When the former secondment lasted less than six years, a new secondment, which does not exceed the unexpired part of the total six-year period, may exceptionally be accepted less than two years after the end of the prior secondment.

Selection criteria:

A. Professional knowledge

- ideally professional experience in multinational organisations;

[3] Ref. Appendix B 'Equivalent of Security Classification' to the Council Decision of 23 September 2013 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (2013/488/EU) (OJ L 274, 15.10.2013, p. 1). A description of the EU classified information levels is also available under Decision ADMIN(2025) 42 of the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service of 20 November 2025 on Implementing Rules and Procedures for Personnel Security measures for protection of EU Classified Information, and in Annex A I of the Decision ADMIN(2023) 18 of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of 19 June 2023 on the security rules of the EEAS (OJ C 263, 26 July 2023, p.16).

[4] Decision ADMIN(2025) 42 of the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service of 20 November 2025 on Implementing Rules and Procedures for Personnel Security measures for protection of EU Classified Information.

- have knowledge and experience of the EU external policies and instruments, notably in the area of the CFSP and CSDP;
- relevant experience of security and defence cooperation with bilateral and multilateral partners.

B. Skills required

- have the ability to maintain diplomatic relations and to ensure representation and communication in a complex, multicultural environment;
- have the 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 remain objective in complex scenarios and to display sensitivity and sound judgement;
- have good organisational skills, the ability to work under pressure and with tight deadlines and to manage multiple tasks and unexpected demands;
- have excellent drafting and communication skills;
- have excellent negotiating skills in a multinational environment;
- have the ability to work professionally as a member of the Division, in mixed-composition task forces and working groups, in an interesting but challenging environment;
- good computer skills are essential, notably in word processing, spreadsheets, presentations software, Internet / Intranet and email systems. Knowledge of other IT tools would be an asset.

C. Languages

- excellent command of written and spoken English, in particular good report-writing skills; good knowledge of written and spoken French.
- knowledge of additional language(s) would be a strong asset.

D. Personal Qualities

- 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;
- possess dynamic, motivated and flexible personality Be able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges, including missions in conflict area.

CONDITIONS OF SECONDMENT:

Conflict of interest

The EEAS shall examine whether candidates have any actual or potential conflict of interest or personal interest such as to impair their independence. To that end, candidates shall inform the EEAS of any actual or potential conflict of interest, taking also into account their professional situation and their family circumstances, in particular their own or their family's professional activities or financial interests. In this context, all candidates shall fill with their application a declaration of potential conflict of interest (Annex I).

As a matter of policy, applications by individuals who have dual nationality of which one of a non-EU country, will be considered on a case-by-case basis taking account in particular of the functions attributed to the vacant post.

Personnel Security Clearance (PSC)

The requested level of security clearance for this post is: **EU-SECRET/SECRET-UE**. A 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[5].

The selected candidate should hold a valid PSC issued by the national security authority of an EU Member State that is equivalent at least to the level indicated in the preceding paragraph, for the duration of the secondment to the EEAS.

Accordingly, all candidates shall fill with their application a declaration of possession of a PSC at the appropriate level (Annex II).

In exceptional cases, for reasons duly justified by the seconding authority and after approval by the EEAS Security Authority, the required PSC issued by the national security authority of an EU Member State may be submitted no later than 6 months after the start date of the secondment[6].
Please note that the necessary procedure for obtaining a PSC can be initiated on request of the employer only, and not by the individual candidate.

School fees

Costs related to nurseries and after-school centres managed by the early childhood centre of the European Commission or by any other EU institution, as well as transportation costs to school, shall not be covered by the EEAS. Schooling costs related to the enrolment in a European School Type I shall be covered by the EEAS in compliance with the Convention defining the Statute of the European Schools of 21 June 1994[7]. For further information, please contact RM-01-COORDINATION@eeas.europa.eu.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES:

The EEAS strives to be a dynamic, respectful and inclusive Service. We value the talent and professional excellence of our staff, and are committed to building an organisation where gender equality and the respect of diversity are core values, as set out in the EEAS Mission Statement and the EEAS Agenda for Diversity and Inclusion. The EEAS is committed to achieving gender balance within its workforce and strives to avoid any form of discrimination during this selection procedure, as per Article 1(d) of the Staff Regulations. We actively welcome applications from all qualified candidates without any discrimination based on any ground. We commit to recruit candidates with the highest standard of ability, efficiency and integrity, carrying out a selection based on merits required for the post and from the broadest possible geographical basis among the EU Member States.

The EEAS is committed to working with people with disabilities in the terms of the Staff

[5] OJ C 263, 26 July 2023, p.16.

[6] During such a period, specific measures shall be taken, including but not limited to those described in Article 7 of the Decision ADMIN(2025) 42 of the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service of 20 November 2025 on Implementing Rules and Procedures for Personnel Security measures for protection of EU Classified Information. Until the PSC is issued by the competent authority of the Member State concerned, the selected candidate will not be authorised to access EUCI at the level of CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL or above, or to participate in any meetings or workflow where EUCI is processed.

[7] Convention defining the statute of the European schools (OJ L 212, 17.8.1994, p. 3–14).

Regulations. If, by virtue of your medical condition or special needs, you require reasonable accommodation for a part or the entirety of this selection process, please send us an email to SNE-CSDP@eeas.europa.eu . Your request will be treated in strict confidence and no record will be kept. 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.

All selected candidates are expected to adhere to the Principles of Professional Behaviour of the EEAS, which outline the need for integrity, transparency, respect, professionalism and accountability, and a zero-tolerance approach to any form of harassment.

For queries related to the functions and duties please refer to:
Guillem Riutord Sampol, Head of Division, +32 2 584 11 73
Guillem.RIUTORD-SAMPOL@eeas.europa.eu

For administrative queries related to the selection process, please refer to:
SNE-CSDP@eeas.europa.eu

ANNEX I

DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST TO BE FILLED BY CANDIDATES

The Decision ADMIN(2026) 18 of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of 20 July 2026 establishing the rules applicable to National Experts seconded to the EEAS (hereinafter, the 'EEAS SNE Decision') states:

- in Article 2(3): "*The EEAS shall examine whether candidates have any actual or potential conflict of interest or personal interest such as to impair their independence. To that end, candidates, using a dedicated form, shall inform the EEAS of any actual or potential conflict of interest, taking also into account their professional situation and their family circumstances, in particular their own or their family's professional activities or financial interests. On the basis of the assessment conducted, the EEAS may decide not to proceed with the secondment".*

- in Article 8(1)(c): "*During the secondment, the SNE shall immediately inform their line manager if, in the performance of their duties, they become aware of an actual or potential conflict of interest, or are called upon to give a decision on the handling or the outcome of a matter in which, directly or indirectly, they have a personal interest such as to impair their independence, and, in particular, family's professional activities or financial interests".*

It is the candidates' duty to inform through this form the EEAS of any actual or potential conflict of interest regarding their future tasks. They shall be broad in their identification of actual or potential conflict of interests. It is reminded that it will be up to the administration, and not to the candidates themselves, to assess on this basis whether they are sources of conflict of interests and, if applicable, whether they constitute an issue for the secondment.

Title/First Name/Last Name:

……

Position applied for:

……

Job number:

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Division:

……

Candidate status: ☐ Candidate from a Member State ☐ Candidate from a non-EU country ☐ Candidate from an international organisation ☐ Candidate from a non-profit organisation	
Current and former EU/non-EU nationality(ies):	
Current employer:	
Spouse/partner's EU/non-EU nationality(ies:	
Spouse/partner's professional activities:	
Dependents' nationality(ies):	

In your opinion, do you have any personal interest, in particular a family or financial interest, or do you represent any other interests of third parties which could actually or potentially impair your independence in the course of your duties in the specific vacancy at the EEAS and which may thus lead to any actual or potential conflict of interest relevant to that position?

YES ☐ NO ☐
If yes, please detail:

I hereby certify that the information provided in this form is correct and complete and that my curriculum vitae is correct and duly updated.

I understand that any infringement of the above requirements under the EEAS SNE Decision may lead to the withdrawal of a secondment offer or the termination of the secondment.

Date and signature:

PLEASE FILL IN, PRINT, SIGN AND SCAN

To be returned <u>with the application</u>

ANNEX II

DECLARATION OF POSSESSION OF A PERSONNEL SECURITY CLEARANCE (PSC)

Pursuant to point 19 of Annex A I to the EEAS Security Rules[8] and Article 6(1) of the Decision ADMIN(2025) 42 of the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service of 20 November 2025[9], national experts seconded to the EEAS for a position listed under Article 3(1) and (2) of Decision ADMIN(2025) 42 shall have a valid PSC for access to EUCI in the EEAS prior to taking up their assignment.

I, Mr/Ms _____, hereby declare to be in possession, for the duration of my secondment to the EEAS, of a valid PSC issued by the national security authority of an EU Member State that is equivalent at least to the EU level requested for the published post.

YES ☐ NO ☐

If no, please detail:

I hereby certify that the information provided in this form is correct and complete.

I understand that any infringement of the above requirements under the EEAS SNE Decision may lead to the withdrawal of a secondment offer or the termination of the secondment.

Date and signature:

PLEASE FILL IN, PRINT, SIGN AND SCAN

To be returned with the application

[8] Decision ADMIN(2023) 18 of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of 19 June 2023 on the security rules for the European External Action Service.

[9] Decision ADMIN(2025) 42 of the Secretary-General of the European External Action Service of 20 November 2025 on Implementing Rules and Procedures for Personnel Security measures for protection of EU Classified Information.