

## **TO PSC AMBASSADORS**

### **SUBJECT:**

**CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE EUSR FOR THE SOUTH CAUCASUS AND THE CRISIS IN GEORGIA FOR :**

- 1. POLITICAL ADVISER - BASED IN YEREVAN (ARMENIA)**
- 2. POLITICAL ADVISER - BASED IN BAKU (AZERBAIJAN)**

### **ANNEXES:**

- **TERMS OF REFERENCE**
- **APPLICATION FORM**

Dear Ambassador,

I would like to inform you about two vacancies in my team for the seconded Political Advisers , based in Yerevan (Armenia) and Baku (Azerbaijan), and kindly ask for your assistance in bringing the announcement to the attention of your national authorities.

### **A. BACKGROUND**

Following the COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2015/2118 of 23 November 2015 extending the mandate of the European Union Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia until 28 February 2017, based on the policy objectives of the EU for the South Caucasus, as described in the conclusions of the European Council of 1 September 2008, 15 September 2008 and 27 February 2012, specifically including:

- (a) in accordance with the existing mechanisms, including the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and its Minsk Group, to prevent conflicts in the region, to contribute to a peaceful settlement of conflicts in the region, including the crisis in Georgia and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, by promoting the return of refugees and internally displaced persons and through other appropriate means, and to support the implementation of such a settlement in accordance with the principles of international law;
- (b) to engage constructively with the main interested actors regarding the region;
- (c) to encourage and to support further cooperation between Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, and, as appropriate, their neighbouring countries;
- (d) to enhance the Union's effectiveness and visibility in the region.

In order to achieve the policy objectives, the mandate of the EUSR shall be:

- (a) to develop contacts with governments, parliaments, other key political actors, the judiciary and civil society in the region;

(b) to encourage the countries in the region to cooperate on regional themes of common interest, such as common security threats, the fight against terrorism, illicit trafficking and organised crime;

(c) to contribute to the peaceful settlement of conflicts in accordance with the principles of international law and to facilitate the implementation of such settlement in close coordination with the United Nations, the OSCE and its Minsk Group;

(d) with respect to the crisis in Georgia:

(i) to help prepare for the international talks held under point 6 of the settlement plan of 12 August 2008 ("Geneva International Discussions") and its implementing measures of 8 September 2008, including on arrangements for security and stability in the region, the issue of refugees and internally displaced persons, on the basis of internationally recognised principles, and any other subject, by mutual agreement between the parties;

(ii) to help establish the Union's position and represent it, at the level of the EUSR, in the talks referred to in point (i); and

(iii) to facilitate the implementation of the settlement plan of 12 August 2008 and its implementing measures of 8 September 2008;

(e) to facilitate the development and implementation of confidence-building measures;

(f) to assist in the preparation, as appropriate, of Union contributions to the implementation of a possible conflict settlement;

(g) to intensify the Union's dialogue with the main actors concerned regarding the region;

(h) to assist the Union in further developing a comprehensive policy towards the South Caucasus;

(i) in the framework of the activities set out in this Article, to contribute to the implementation of the Union's human rights policy, in cooperation with the EUSR for Human Rights, and the Union Guidelines on Human Rights, in particular with regard to children and women in areas affected by conflicts, especially by monitoring and addressing developments in this regard.

## **B. AIM**

Both posts should be filled in as soon as possible. The duration of the deployment will follow the mandate of the EUSR, which will run until 28 February 2017, with a view to possible extension.

With the adoption of Commission Communication C(2009)9502 of 30 November 2009, staff seconded to the EU Special Representative shall receive a daily allowance. Seconded personnel from Belgium or Brussels-based institutions or organisations to CSDP or EUSR Missions employed in Brussels are not entitled to receive this daily allowance. The daily allowances for Armenia amount and Azerbaijan amount €92,48 and €88,78 respectively. These amounts may be subject to adjustment every six months.

The remuneration of personnel seconded by a Member State or an EU institution to the EUSR shall be covered by the Member State or the EU institution respectively.

## **C. METHODOLOGY**

Member States and EU institutions are invited to provide secondment offers as follows:

- a) The personal profiles of the proposed candidates should meet the listed criteria described in the attached relevant Terms of Reference.
- b) The closing date for receipt of offers of secondments is Friday 19 February, COB.**
- c) The interviews will take place as soon as possible following the closing date.

- d) Member States and EU institutions should submit their secondment offers/applications by email, including a detailed curriculum vitae based on the attached form, to the following addresses:

Mr Björn Kühne  
Office of the EUSR for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia:  
European External Action Service  
Email: [Bjoern.Kuehne@ext.eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Bjoern.Kuehne@ext.eeas.europa.eu)  
Tel: +32 (0) 2 584 20 05

And

Ms Joanna Rau  
Office of the EUSR for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia:  
Email: [Joanna.Rau@ext.eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Joanna.Rau@ext.eeas.europa.eu)  
Tel: +32 (0) 2 584 91 83

- e) For seconded candidates, only personnel nominations received through official channels from Member States and institutions of the European Union will be considered.
- f) The Office of the EUSR for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia will be responsible for notifying Member States of personnel who have been selected.

#### **D. GENERAL INFORMATION**

- a) Nominated personnel should undergo an extensive medical examination, appropriate vaccinations and be certified medically fit for mission duty by a competent authority from the Member State. A copy of this certification must accompany deployed seconded international experts.
- b) The selected candidates will have to be in possession of the necessary level of security clearance (**EU SECRET** or equivalent). The original certificate of the national security clearance must accompany deployed seconded international experts.
- c) Member States seconding personnel to a EUSR office are kindly reminded that European Commission rules for Special Advisers specify that the concerned Special Adviser/EUSR is solely responsible for the management of seconded personnel, and that seconding Member States are therefore requested not to instruct seconded personnel to undertake any activity on their behalf for the duration of secondment. The seconded will be required to sign a corresponding 'undertaking' to this effect upon taking up the position. European Commission rules for Special Advisers also require a certification by Member States who second personnel to a EUSR office that the seconded staff will remain subject throughout the period of secondment to the social security legislation applicable and that the employer will assume expenses incurred abroad.
- d) Any further information required may be obtained from the Office of the EUSR for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia (coordinates as above).

Thank you very much in advance.

Yours sincerely,

Herbert Salber

c.c. COEST Delegates