

Vacancy notice 2017- 69 HQ (AD) Head of Division SG.AFFGEN.1
EEAS Vacancy Notice – Head of Division
Strategic Communications

(EU Staff Members – AD 9-14 – Candidates from the Member States – AD 12)

Job no. 165731

We are:

the European External Action Service (EEAS), which supports the work of the High Representative in defining and implementing an effective and coherent foreign policy of the European Union. The EEAS supports her tasks of conducting the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy and chairing the Foreign Affairs Council. It also supports the High Representative in her capacity of Vice President of the Commission for her 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 Member States, the Council and relevant services of the European Commission.

We propose:

the position of Head of Division "SG.AFFGEN.1" .

Under the authority of the Director, the Head of Division holds the overall management responsibility for the activities of the Division.

Main responsibilities:

- Manage all aspects of strategic communications for EEAS HQ and across the network of EU Delegations.
- Provide professional support and advice to the HR/VP and the EEAS management on all aspects of EEAS strategic communications in the EU and in third countries, including on Public, Digital and Cultural Diplomacy.
- Communicate EU policy through ensuring proactive communications planning, and engaging in public speaking at seminars and conferences.
- Ensure close liaison with the Managing Directorates and other EEAS entities, with the Private Office of the HRVP and the Spokespersons Service.
- Coordinate all aspects of EU strategic communications relations in close cooperation with EU Member States, the Council, the Commission and the European Parliament.
- Coordinate activities of regional strategic communications teams, notably those covering EaP countries, Arabic-speaking countries and the Western Balkans.
- Manage, organise and coordinate the activities of the Division and its staff: translating EU policy and priorities into specific communication campaigns, with measurable goals and targets.
- Monitor and ensure the timely implementation of goals and tasks assigned to the Division.
- Motivate, coach and lead a multinational team of 50 people; ensure efficient staff and personnel administration in the Division.
- Represent the EEAS in contacts with Member States, other third countries as well as EU institutions and international organisations.
- Ensure sound financial management, by acting as Authorising officer.
- Chair the External Relations Information Committee (ERIC)

We look for:

Eligibility Criteria¹

In accordance with Article 98 of the Staff Regulations (SR)² and in order to meet the needs of the service candidates **must**:

1. be officials of the institutions of the European Union, temporary staff to whom Article 2 (e) of the Conditions of the Employment of Other Servants of the European Union (CEOS)² applies or staff from diplomatic services of the Member States;
2. have management experience, commensurate with the responsibilities of the post³;
3. have the capacity to work in languages of CFSP and external relations necessary for the performance of their duties. Excellent knowledge of English and French is required. Knowledge of other EU languages would be an asset;
4. have at least five years' proven, pertinent experience in communications.

Also, in order to satisfy the requirements set out in Article 12 of the CEOS, **Member State applicants must**:

1. be nationals of one of the EU Member States;
2. 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
 - 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.⁴
3. have gained at least 12 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;

Furthermore, **EU staff members** (i.e. EU officials, and temporary staff to whom Article 2(e) of the CEOS applies) applying for this post **must** be either AD9, AD10, AD11, AD12, AD13 or AD14.

EU staff members at AD8 are eligible to apply if they have at least 2 years seniority at that grade.

Selection Criteria

The ideal candidate should have:

- a highly developed ability to establish and execute a strategy for the responsibilities described above;
- excellent inter-personal skills and proven ability to work in a multi-cultural environment;
- documented management skills and diplomatic experience, including in EU institutions dealing with external relations, working with EU Delegations and/or Embassies of EU Member States in third countries;
- documented strategic communications experience;

¹ All the eligibility criteria must be met on the closing date for applications to this post.

² http://ec.europa.eu/civil_service/docs/toc100_en.pdf and <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2010:311:0001:0008:EN:PDF>

³ In their CVs applicants should indicate management experience in terms of: (1) title and role of management positions held, (2) numbers of staff overseen in these positions, (3) the size of budgets managed, and (4) numbers of hierarchical layers above and below and number of peers.

⁴ 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 3.

- good knowledge of EU communications and public diplomacy tools and policies
- excellent understanding of the EU's CFSP, CSDP and other external relations' policies and challenges facing the EEAS, including risks and opportunities;
- solid knowledge of EU internal policies and their external aspects;

TYPE AND DURATION OF CONTRACT

If the successful candidate is an EU staff member, (s)he will be appointed in his/her existing grade.

If the successful candidate is from a national diplomatic service, (s)he will be offered a contract as temporary agent under Article 2(e) of the CEOS. The duration of the contract may not exceed four years, with the possibility of renewal. The appointment will be at AD 12 level.

In accordance with Article 6(11) of Council Decision 427/2010, each Member State shall provide its officials who have become temporary agents in the EEAS under Article 2(e) of the CEOS with a guarantee of immediate re-instatement at the end of the period of service to the EEAS.

Applicants should note the requirement under the CEOS for all newly engaged temporary staff to complete successfully a six-month probationary period⁵. A nine-month management probationary period will also be required.

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT

Brussels, Belgium

JOB AVAILABLE FROM

1 September 2017

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The successful candidate will be required to undergo security vetting if (s)he does not already hold security clearance to an appropriate level, in accordance with the relevant security provisions.

The successful candidate will be required to act independently in the public interest and to make a declaration of any interests which might be considered prejudicial to his/her independence, as set out in the Staff Regulations and the CEOS.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The European External Action Service applies an equal opportunities policy.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE⁶

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

1. Application

⁵ After the entry into force on 1 January 2014 of the changes agreed by the European Parliament and Council to the SR and CEOS, this probationary period will be nine months. These changes are set out in Council Document 11243/1/13 of 27 June 2013.

⁶ Your personal data will be processed in accordance with Regulation (EC) 45/2001, as implemented by decision of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of 8 December 2011. The privacy statement is available on EEASzone (<http://webgate.eeas.testa.eu/eeas/eeaszone/?q=node/26247>) and on the EEAS website (http://eeas.europa.eu/data_protection/rights/index_en.htm).

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

Candidates must apply through the on-line 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 on-line system.

During the on-line application procedure candidates will have to upload their CV and motivation letter (in English or French). Candidates from the Member States will, in addition, have to upload a copy of their passport/ID and a recent statement by their Ministry for Foreign Affairs (issued within the past 6 months) confirming their membership of a diplomatic service.

All candidates will have the opportunity to follow the progress of their application through the on-line system.

Applications may be made at any point during the period from **2 June 2017 until 19 June 2017 at 12h00 (Brussels time)**. Please note that the only way to submit an application is using the on-line 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 procedure, please use the following email address:

PUBLICATIONS@eeas.europa.eu

2. Pre-selection

The selection panel will make a pre-selection on the basis of the qualifications and the professional experience described in the CV and motivation letter, and 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 for a final decision by the relevant Appointing Authority. He/she may decide to interview the candidates on the final shortlist before taking this decision.

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

Shortlisted candidates might be invited to an Assessment Centre.

CONTACT

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