

## **EEAS Vacancy Notice**

### **Seconded National Expert in the Directorate for Asia and Pacific (ASIAPAC)**

#### **Policy Officer, Afghanistan and Pakistan Division (ASIAPAC.2)**

**COST-FREE**

**AD level post**

**Job No 349940**

#### **We are:**

The European External Action Service (EEAS) supports the High Representative in the exercise of his/her mandate to conduct and implement an effective and coherent EU Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), of representing the EU and of chairing the Foreign Affairs Council.

It also supports the High Representative in his/her capacity as Vice-President of the Commission with regard to his/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 the General Secretariat of the Council, the services of the Commission and the Secretariat General of the European Parliament.

#### **We propose:**

The post of a “cost-free” Seconded National Expert on the position of Political Officer – Relations Afghanistan – responsible for multilateral issues, the UN process, regional contacts and contacts with the Taliban in line with the EU policy outlined in the relevant Council Conclusions; in AsiaPac.2 Division.

The successful candidate would join the division within the Asia-Pacific department responsible for relations with Afghanistan and Pakistan. We work in close cooperation with Member States, European Parliament and European Commission services.

We are looking for a dynamic and flexible colleague to deal with EU-Afghanistan relations under the instructions and the direct supervision of the Head of Division and the EU Special Envoy for Afghanistan and whose main tasks will include:

- To contribute to and support the work of the Division and the EU Special Envoy for Afghanistan;
- To monitor and contribute to analyses, reporting and action-oriented work on the developments in Afghanistan and its region, keeping in mind the changed context since the Taliban take-over;
- To focus on policy issues linked to the UN-led international discussions on increasing engagement with Afghanistan and follow the implementation of UNSC 2679;
- To monitor and contribute regional and international efforts to create a stable Afghanistan honouring international commitments and international conventions Afghanistan is party to;
- To contribute to the EU's work with the regional players in managing the spill-over effects of the crisis in Afghanistan including by provision of humanitarian and socio-economic support;
- To contribute to the Division's coordination tasks and the development of the EU's policies for Afghanistan and its region, promote the EU's activities and interests, including by coordinating with the relevant Commission services;
- To ensure effective coordination and liaison with other EEAS departments/EU Delegations, Member States and relevant Commission Directorates-General;
- Provide briefing notes, reports, assessments, analysis, draft policy decisions/suggestions in the area of competence.

### **We are looking for:**

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is seeking a dynamic, proactive and highly motivated colleague with strong analytical and networking skills to occupy the post of Seconded National Expert (SNE).

The candidate should have a good understanding of EU policy-making and decision-making processes, and an understanding of inter-institutional relations as well as have relevant political experience in the proposed areas. The candidate will be working in a politically challenging and interesting post in a friendly, supportive and efficient working environment. He/she will have to work in an international and multicultural environment in close synergy with Member States and EU institutions.

### **Legal basis:**

- This vacancy is to be filled in accordance with the EEAS Decision of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy HR DEC(2014) 01 of 04/02/2014 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 Union or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level.<sup>1</sup>;
- 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 shall 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 case 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:**

Candidates should:

#### **A. Professional knowledge**

- At least three years in a similar position and in the areas mentioned in the job content;

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<sup>1</sup> 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>

- Very good knowledge in the field of Afghan politics and EU policies towards Afghanistan;
- Relevant background on international relations, multilateral fora, conflict and post-conflict situations ;
- Sound knowledge of EU institutions and institutional relations with EU Member States including in the field of CFSP and ESDP, decision-making processes, external action and related EU external policies;
- Excellent command of English, including the ability to draft and edit reports.

## **B. Skills**

- Have the capacity to work and communicate under time constraints in an international diplomatic and multilingual environment. Intercultural sensitivity skills are required.
- Have the ability to work in a team, to coordinate and to communicate effectively.
- Have solid analytical capability as well as drafting and reporting skills. Rapid grasp of problems and capacity to identify issues and solutions.

## **C. Languages**

- A thorough knowledge (capacity to write and speak) in English and French is required. Knowledge of Dari or Pashto is not a requirement but could be considered an advantage.

## **D. Personal Qualities**

- Be dynamic. Motivated and have a flexible personality. Able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges, including missions in Afghanistan and its region.

## **Equal opportunities**

- The EEAS is committed to an equal opportunities policy for all its staff and applicants. 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 [SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:SNE-HQ@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 Staff Regulations.

## **Conditions of secondment**

SNEs shall remain in the service of their employer throughout the period of secondment and shall continue to be paid by that employer.

Duration of the secondment: 2 years, renewable up to 4 years in total

**Vacancy available from: 16 November 2024**

**Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium**

**For further information, please contact:**

**[SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu)**

