

EEAS Vacancy Notice

COST-FREE

Seconded National Expert

European Economic and Trade Office (Taiwan)

AD level post

Job No 400231

We are:

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is the EU's diplomatic service. The EEAS supports the High Representative in the exercise of her mandate to conduct and implement an effective and coherent Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), to represent the EU and to chair the Foreign Affairs Council. It also supports the High Representative in her capacity as Vice-President of the Commission with regard to 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 EU Member States, the General Secretariat of the Council, the services of the Commission and the Secretariat General of the European Parliament.

The EU currently has 145 Delegations, 9 of which are to international organisations. In all, 6000 staff are currently serving in these Delegations. The Delegations are placed under the authority of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, who is also Vice President of the European Commission. The work of a Delegation varies from country to country but, in general, covers political matters, press and information, trade, aid management and the external aspects of internal EU policies.

We propose:

The position of Seconded National Expert (SNE) covering issues related to regional geopolitical and security issues at the **European Economic and Trade Office in Taiwan (EETO)** as a "cost-free" secondment, i.e. salary, insurances, schooling and other costs to be paid by the EU MS as appropriate.

The selected SNE will assist the EETO in monitoring political and security developments in Taiwan and the region. S/he will help establish and maintain EU relations with local and regional counterparts working on security, military, intelligence, cybersecurity, and the security aspect of cross-strait relations. Under the direct supervision of the Head of the Political Press and Information Section, and the general guidance of the Head of Office, the selected SNE will contribute to analysis and reporting, focusing on regional political and security issues, regional developments affecting the stability of the Taiwan Strait, and other issues of interest for the EU. S/he will be based in Taipei.

We are looking for:

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is seeking a highly motivated colleague to occupy the post of Seconded National Expert (SNE) at the European Economic and Trade Office in Taiwan (EETO). The expert will assist/contribute, among others:

- To follow the political and security situation in Taiwan, China and the region;
- To develop and maintain a network of Taiwan-based interlocutors working on non-military and military security, intelligence, disaster preparedness (incl. consular affairs), and the security aspect of cross-strait relations;

- To act as the EETO's focal point on security matters, representing the Office when needed and liaising with Member States and like-minded partners that have a security/intelligence presence in Taiwan;
- To analyse and report on regional political and security developments (including relevant economic aspects), with a particular focus on cross-strait issues, conflict prevention, , hybrid warfare, grey-zone tactics, cybersecurity, disaster preparedness (incl. consular affairs), and intelligence analysis;
- To prepare regular and timely reports on the abovementioned topics, including early warnings, specific requests, info flashes, "think pieces", etc.;
- To promote and raise awareness among local interlocutors on EU policies, strategies and initiatives;
- To contribute to the preparation of relevant exchanges with interlocutors in Taiwan;;
- To advise on relevant EU policies; and
- To contribute to other tasks of the Political, Press and Information Section and the EETO, as needed

Legal basis:

This vacancy is to be filled in accordance with 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 Union¹ or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level.²
- 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** for the functions that s/he 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 they 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.

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>

Selection criteria:

Candidates should:

A. Professional knowledge

- Have relevant professional experience of at least 3 years.
- Have a good understanding of security issues, regional politics and EU policy in the region;
- Good working knowledge of the EU (institutional) environment and instruments in the area of external and security policy would be an asset.
- Excellent reporting and analysis capacity.

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) of English is required. Knowledge of Mandarin Chinese would be a strong asset.

D. Personal Qualities

Be dynamic. Motivated and flexible personality. Able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges.

Equal opportunities

- The EEAS is committed to an equal opportunities policy for all its employees and applicants for employment. As an employer, 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 that 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-Delegations@eeas.europa.eu in order to accommodate any special needs and provide assistance to ensure the possibility to pass the selection procedure in 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 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: Initial period up to two years, renewable up to 4 years

The EEAS will cover certain security costs and mission costs incurred by the SNE posted in an EU Delegation. Other costs such as removal costs, salary, insurance, schooling, etc. shall not be covered by the EEAS.

Vacant available from: 1 January 2026

For further information, please contact:
SNE-DELEGATIONS@eeas.europa.eu

