

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Cost-free Seconded National Expert

European Union Delegation to the United Kingdom

Post no 519217

AD-level post

We are:

The European External Action Service (EEAS) supports the High Representative in the exercise of his 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 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 General Secretariat of the Council, the services of the Commission and the Secretariat General of the European Parliament.

The EU Delegation to the UK plays an important and active role in monitoring the implementation of the agreements which underpin the EU-UK relationship and to promote the EU's interests, values and policies in the United Kingdom. The Delegation advances EU relations at all levels, informs the EU institutions about relevant political, legislative and economic developments in the UK, and fosters close cooperation and coordination with the EU27 Diplomatic Missions in London on all aspects of the EU's relations with the United Kingdom.

The Press and Public Diplomacy section in the EU Delegation is responsible for strategic communication, media relations and public diplomacy, promoting the EU's priorities and strengthening the visibility and understanding of the EU in the United Kingdom.

We propose:

The position of Seconded National Expert (Strategic Communications and Public Diplomacy Officer) to the EU Delegation to **the United Kingdom** as a "cost free" secondment, i.e. salary, insurances, accommodation and other costs are to be paid by the EU MS as appropriate.

This is a unique opportunity for an experienced professional to work at the intersection of **policy, media, and diplomacy**, contributing directly to the EU's visibility, influence, and strategic positioning in the United Kingdom.

The overall purpose:

The Seconded National Expert (SNE) will be based at the EU Delegation to the United Kingdom as a Political Officer in charge of Strategic Communications and Public Diplomacy. Under the direction of the Head of Delegation and under the direct supervision of the Head of the Press and Public Diplomacy Section, he/she will contribute to the **development, coordination and projection of the EU's strategic messaging and policy positions in the UK.** The role combines **media and political analysis, strategic communications, and stakeholder engagement** in a complex and high-profile bilateral context.

The post offers a unique platform to:

- Shape EU narratives in a key partner country,
- Engage directly with influential UK stakeholders and opinion multipliers,

- Contribute to high-level communication strategies and public diplomacy.

Functions and duties

The officer will notably:

- Support the development of coherent and forward-looking communication strategies on EU priorities in the UK, including by contributing to the design and implementation of communication campaigns, outreach activities and visibility initiatives.
- Monitor, analyse and report on developments relevant to EU interests, including by contributing to the Delegation's daily press review and identifying key narratives shaping the UK public debate.
- Translate complex EU policies into clear, targeted and impactful narratives for external audiences
- Participate in public events and meetings, and prepare key messages, speaking points, briefings and communication materials for senior officials
- Develop and maintain a strong network of UK interlocutors across media, academia, think tanks and policy circles, and support senior management in outreach and engagement with key stakeholders

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.
- 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 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 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 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 have:

A. Professional knowledge

- Experience of at least 3 years in international relations, diplomacy and/or strategic communication and public diplomacy;
- Analysis and reporting skills;
- Working experience in third countries (Embassy, international organisations, NGO, etc.);
- Strong analytical, drafting and communication skills;
- Good knowledge of the UK political system and/or previous experience in press and public diplomacy is a strong asset.

B. Skills

- Have the capacity to work and communicate under time constraints in an international diplomatic environment.
- Be a team player and have good coordination and communication skills.
- Have solid analytical capability as well as drafting and reporting skills. Rapid grasp of problems and capacity to identify issues and solutions.

C. Languages necessary for the performance of the duties:

Excellent oral and written command of English is essential.

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 of **two years**, renewable up to 4 years in total.

For further information, please contact:

SNE-DELEGATIONS@eeas.europa.eu

Post available from : **Immediately**

