

Vacancy notice 2021 - 276 HQ (AD) – Head of Division ASIAPAC.2

EEAS Vacancy Notice – Head of Division Afghanistan and Pakistan

Type of post "Head of Unit or equivalent"

EU Staff Members – AD 9-14– Candidates from the Member States¹ – AD 12

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), to represent the EU and to chair the Foreign Affairs Council.

It also supports the High Representative in his capacity as Vice-President of the Commission with regard to his 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 Head of Division of ASIAPAC.2, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Under the administrative authority of the Managing Director and Deputy Managing Director, the Head of Division exercises the overall management responsibility for the activities of the Division.

Within the EEAS' mission to promote the EU's role as a global actor, the Division is in charge of relations with Afghanistan and Pakistan. It monitors political and economic developments in Afghanistan and Pakistan and contributes to defining and coordinating the EU's overall strategy towards these countries in close consultation with the EU Special Envoy for Afghanistan and Commission services. It also leads on political dialogue, foreign policy, security and global issues.

The main responsibilities are as follows:

- Contribute to strategic planning, conception and implementation of EU's policies vis-à-vis Afghanistan and Pakistan; provide professional support and advice to the HR/VP and the EEAS management on all aspects of EU's policies regarding these countries.
- Coordinate all aspects of EU policies on and (if applicable) relations with these countries and territories in close cooperation with EU Member States, the Council, the Commission and the European Parliament.
- Manage, organise and coordinate the activities of the Division and its staff: translating EU policy and priorities into specific goals, tasks and internal procedures.
- Monitor and ensure the timely implementation of goals and tasks assigned to the Division.
- Motivate, coach and lead a multinational team; ensure efficient staff and personnel administration in the Division.
- Contribute to managing crises situations, if and when they arise in the countries concerned, in consultation with relevant entities at EEAS, Commission, the Council, and other partners, as needed.
- Negotiate new and follow-up on existing bilateral agreements, or other joint documents, with these countries and territories.
- Participate in programming and implementation of EU's assistance.

¹ Candidates from the Member States are candidates from the national diplomatic services or from other public administration bodies whose tasks at the national level are similar to the core tasks of this position

- Liaise with the diplomatic missions of these countries and territories and their representatives (as appropriate) in Brussels
- Represent the EEAS in contacts with Member States, other third countries as well as EU institutions and international organisations.
- Communicate EU policy towards the authorities of the concerned countries through ensuring proactive communications planning, and engaging in public speaking at seminars and conferences.
- Coordinate activities with the EU Special Envoy for Afghanistan, and support his/her work in the spirit of an EU Team.
- Provide steer and feedback to Heads of Delegations in Kabul and Islamabad.

This position is classified as a “head of unit” type of post² in the grade bracket AD9-14.

Candidates from the diplomatic services of Member States would be recruited at AD 12 level.

The duration of the assignment to the post shall be, in principle, four years.

Legal Basis for the recruitment to this position

The successful candidate for this position will be:

- appointed in accordance with Article 29 of the Staff regulations (SR) if he or she is an official or a temporary agent to whom Article 2(e) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants (CEOS) applies.
- recruited in accordance with Article 98(1), first subparagraph, of the SR if the candidate comes from the national diplomatic service of a Member State; such candidates shall be recruited at the level of AD 12.
- recruited in accordance with Article 98(1), second subparagraph, of the SR if the candidate comes from one of the public services of the Member States whose tasks at the national level are similar to the core tasks of this position; such candidates shall be recruited at the level of AD 12.

We look for:

Eligibility Criteria³

General

Further to the conditions set out in Art 28 of the Staff Regulations (SR) or Art 12 of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants (CEOS), candidates must:

1. be officials of the Union institutions, or temporary agents to whom Article 2(e) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants (CEOS) applies, or staff from diplomatic services of the Member States. In exceptional cases and after having exhausted the possibilities to recruit from the above categories, the EEAS may examine, pursuant to Article 98(1), second subparagraph of the SR, applications from candidates from other public services of the Member States whose professional experience at the national level is directly relevant to the core tasks of this position;
2. have the capacity to work in the languages (English and French) of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and external relations, necessary for the performance of their duties. Knowledge of other EU languages would also be an asset;
3. have three years' management experience, commensurate with the responsibilities of the post;⁴
4. have at least six years' proven, pertinent external relations experience - for staff from national diplomatic services this experience must have been gained from working in a national administration of one of the Member States.

² According to the Annex I of the Staff Regulations

³ All the eligibility criteria must be met on the closing date for applications to this post

⁴ 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.

- SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR EU OFFICIALS AND TEMPORARY AGENTS FROM NATIONAL DIPLOMATIC SERVICES TO WHOM ARTICLE 2(E) OF THE CEOS APPLIES ("EU STAFF")

1. 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 AD9–AD14:

EU staff members (i.e. EU officials, and temporary staff to whom Article 2(e) of the CEOS applies) at AD 8 are eligible to apply if they have at least 2 years seniority at that grade.

In the event of a successful application, EU staff members at AD9-14 will be appointed at the same grade. EU staff members at AD8 will be promoted to AD9
2. Due to the need to ensure sound financial management of the limited financial resources and given the fact that the assignment of a staff member to a Delegation has important budgetary and business continuity implications, applications from staff members currently serving in a Delegation who are not in rotation in 2022, are in principle not eligible and may only be considered in the interest of the service or in case of an application for a higher type of post (further on, "career progression").⁵ In addition, if they wish to apply for a post on the basis of career progression they should have spent at least 2 years on their current post when they take up duty.
3. Candidates who at the moment of the application are EU officials, independently of their administrative status (including officials on leave on personal grounds), cannot request to be recruited as temporary agents under Article 2(e) of the CEOS,

In the case of applications from EU officials on leave for personal grounds, successful candidates will be reinstated into active employment in accordance with Articles 35 (a) and 40 of the Staff Regulations.
4. Candidates who at the moment of the application are Temporary Agents to whom Article 2(e) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants (CEOS) applies must provide a statement issued by their Ministry of Foreign Affairs containing the elements provided for by the specific eligibility criteria for candidates from member states.

- SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CANDIDATES FROM THE MEMBER STATES TO BE RECRUITED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 98 SR.

In line with Art 12 of the CEOS and in accordance with the needs of the service, candidates from the diplomatic services of Member States of the Union must:

1. 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.⁶
2. 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;

Candidates must indicate their level of education and professional experience on the application form.

Candidates from national diplomatic services and current temporary agents engaged under Article 2(e) CEOS must be able to return to active service with their Member State after the end of their period of service to EEAS.

The candidates shall provide a statement issued by their Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which contains at least the following elements:
 - a. for candidates to be recruited under Art. 98 (1), first subparagraph, SR:

⁵ 'Career progression' refers to applications of for a higher type of post according to Annex I SR. It is designed to allow staff to develop within the organisation. In this case, it refers to "Administrators" AD8 who are applying to a "Head of Unit or equivalent" type of post for the first time.

⁶ 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.

- the post to which the candidate applies
- that the candidate is a staff member in active service in the Foreign Ministry at the time of application, either as an official or under a permanent employment relation.
- that the Foreign Ministry endorses his/her application to the post
- A guarantee of immediate reinstatement in the Foreign Ministry after the end of their contract with the EEAS/the end of their secondment.

b. for candidates to be recruited under Art. 98(1), second subparagraph, SR:

the post to which the candidate applies

- that the candidate is a staff member in active service in their Ministry/public administration at the time of application, either as an official or under a permanent employment relation.
- that the Foreign Ministry endorses their application to the post in question.
- that the Member State in question/the Ministry of origin guarantees the immediate reinstatement of the candidate in question (to the national public service/public administration/the Ministry of origin) after the end of their contract/secondment to the EEAS.

If candidates are unable to provide this document from their Ministry of Foreign Affairs, their application will be deemed ineligible.

Furthermore, candidates which would be recruited as temporary agents under Article 2(e) of the CEOS and the temporary agents under Article 2(e) CEOS currently employed in the EEAS must be in a position to serve during the full duration of their assignment within the maximum duration of engagement in the EEAS

3. Candidates from the Member States should be in active employment in their public service of origin at the moment of the application.

Selection Criteria

The ideal candidate should have:

- a highly developed ability to establish and execute a strategy for the responsibilities described above;
- excellent diplomatic skills to manage a Division in charge of countries facing major political, social, security, economic and environmental challenges;
- excellent inter-personal skills and proven ability to work in a multi-cultural environment;
- ability to exercise sound judgement and function in crises situations (incl. managing teams under pressure);
- 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;
- 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;
- comprehensive knowledge and understanding of these countries, including domestic and foreign policy as well as of the political, economic, trade, security and cultural context.

Furthermore:

- experience of working with Afghanistan or Pakistan or with another country with a similar level of conflict, internal violence and strong international assistance;
- experience of working in a team in multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural environment;
- being highly motivated, able to work under pressure and manage tight deadlines, being an excellent team worker and a person with excellent analytical and drafting skills;
- a creative approach to problem-solving;

would be strong assets.

TYPE AND DURATION OF CONTRACT FOR NEW TEMPORARY AGENTS

If the successful candidate is not an EU staff member, he or she will be required to undergo a medical examination to ensure that she or he is physically fit to perform the duties.

The successful candidate will be offered a temporary contract under Article 2(e) of the CEOS. Such contracts may not exceed 4 years in duration; their expiry will as far as possible be aligned to the usual date of mobility at Headquarters (currently 31 August each year).

All newly engaged temporary staff are required to complete successfully a probationary period of 9 months. A management probationary period of the same duration is also required.

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT

Brussels (Belgium)

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The successful candidate will be required to undergo security vetting if he/she does not already hold EU SECRET level security clearance, in accordance with the relevant security provisions.

Successful candidates from the Member States will be required to make a declaration of their commitment to act independently in the public interest and a declaration of any interests which might be considered prejudicial to their independence.

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 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 the functional mailbox (CCA-SECRETARIAT@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.

PROCEDURE⁷

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

1. Application

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.

⁷ Your personal data will be processed in accordance with Regulation (EC) 2018/1725. The privacy statement is available on EEAS webpage: http://eeas.europa.eu/data_protection/rights/index_en.htm

In case of connection problems, you can also refer to the complete EU Login user guide:

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/manuals/EU_Login_Tutorial.pdf

During the on-line application procedure candidates will have to upload their CV and motivation letter (in English or French). Candidates are invited to use the "Europass" CV format

(<https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/documents/curriculum-vitae>) for their applications.

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, or endorsement in case of candidates to be recruited under Art. 98(1), second subparagraph, SR.

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

The closing date for the submission of applications is **15 December 2021 at 12.00 midday** (CET - 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 procedures, please use the following email address: cca-secretariat@eeas.europa.eu

2. Pre-selection

The pre-selection will be done by a panel 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 (the Consultative Committee on Appointments) 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 to the AIPN, who will make the final selection.

Shortlisted candidates might be invited to an Assessment Centre.

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.

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POST AVAILABLE: 1 January 2021