

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Cost-free Seconded National Expert

Delegation of the European Union to Colombia

AD level post – Post No 431943

<u>Job Title:</u>	Political Officer
<u>Job Location:</u>	European Union Delegation to Colombia, Bogotá
<u>Job Number:</u>	431943
<u>Area of activity:</u>	Political, Press and Information (PPI) Section – peace process
<u>Category:</u>	Seconded National Expert (SNE)
<u>Duration of secondment:</u>	2 years (extension possible up to 4 years)

We are

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is the European Union's diplomatic service, acting under the responsibility of the High Representative/Vice-President of the European Commission. Since 2011, the EEAS carries out the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy to promote peace, prosperity, security, and the interests of Europeans across the globe. All over the world, the EEAS, in coordination with other European Union institutions, addresses EU foreign policy priorities, including civilian and military planning and crisis response.

The Delegation of the European Union to Colombia

The Delegation of the European Union to Colombia employs around 60 staff to carry out its mission of representing the values and interests of the European Union in Colombia, contributing to the prosperity, peace, development and stability of the country and its citizens. Our vision is a solid and plural EU-Colombia relationship, built on mutual respect, shared values and our joint commitment to multilateralism. Our values are solidarity, peace, commitment to democracy and human rights, including gender equality, and good governance. We work in close coordination with our Member States and value transparency, respect and integrity in all our relationships. Support to peace, human rights and environmental sustainability are at the core of our engagement.

The Political, Press and Information Section

The section covers a very wide range of areas of interest for the EU in Colombia and comprises a Head of Section, two political officers covering as main areas broad political relations, human rights, peace process, security, culture and education and a seconded national expert covering security, rule of law and drugs. Two press officers are covering press, information and communication. The section has an assistant and two interns. We work closely with the cooperation and trade sections as well as ECHO. We value a good respectful work environment and high quality in our work with timely results.

We propose

The position of Seconded National Expert (Political, Peace and Security Officer in the Political, Press and Information Section), at the EU Delegation to Colombia as a "cost-free" secondment, i.e. salary, insurances, accommodation and other costs are to be paid by the EU MS as appropriate.

We are looking for

The European External Action Service (EEAS) is seeking a highly motivated and dynamic colleague to occupy the post of Seconded National Expert (SNE) to the EU Delegation to Colombia. The person should be of high personal integrity, flexible and ready to travel in Colombia.

Overall purpose

To monitor, and contribute to analysis and reporting on, the political situation and developments in Colombia and in its regions, with particular focus on peace (progress in the implementation of the 2016 Peace Agreement and other peace initiatives and processes carried out by the Colombian Government), under the direct supervision of Head of Section and/or Head of Delegation.

Functions and duties

Political analysis:

- carry out analyses, studies and diagnoses in the fields of justice, the rule of law, human rights as well as good governance in the host country, especially to the extent that they relate to or may affect the progress in the implementation of the 2016 Peace Agreement and other peace initiatives and processes carried out by the Colombian Government;
- in particular, conduct focused analysis on local peace processes directly accompanied by the EU Delegation (as of date of publication, for reference: negotiations with the FARC-dissidence "Estado Mayor Central" (EMC) and urban peace processes in the cities of Quibdó and Buenaventura.

Monitoring and representation:

- monitor issues related to armed groups (guerrillas, paramilitary groups etc.) and criminal gangs active in Colombia;
- monitor the implementation of 2016 Peace Agreement and other peace initiatives and processes carried out by the Colombian Government;
- under the authority of the Head of Delegation, participate in EU related events, both in Bogotá or in Colombian territories, most notably in relation to processes directly accompanied by the Delegation.

Organisation of events, meetings and missions:

- help organise events, meetings and missions in relation to EU support to the Colombian peace process, including operational and policy support to the HV/VP's Special Envoy for the Peace Process in Colombia.

Liaison and networking:

- ensure contacts and good coordination with relevant counterparts and stakeholders at Headquarters, Member States and third countries, the host country's administration, the United Nations System, regional and sub-regional organisations, civil society and other partners involved in the peace process, with emphasis on actors involved in peace processes directly accompanied by the EU Delegation;
- act as a link between the PPI Section and other parts of the Delegation, particularly the Co-operation and Trade Sections and the colleague in charge of the Foreign Policy Instrument (FPI), on all matters related to the peace process.

Reporting:

- contributing to the various political reporting tasks of the Delegation;
- prepare technical notes, analysis and briefings;
- write any other note or speech related to his field of activity at the request of the Head of Section or the Head of the Delegation.

Whenever needed, act as resource person for all sections of the Delegation in the area of expertise of the post.

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 Decision 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 they will carry out;
- e) remain in the service of the employer throughout the period of secondment and 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 – as this is a posting to an EU Delegation, the EEAS 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.

Selection criteria

A. Professional knowledge

- Experience in the above-mentioned areas at institutional level, analysis and reporting – preferably working in third countries (embassy, international organisation, NGO, etc.).
- Good knowledge of EU institutions and EU decision-making process, EU Common Foreign and Security Policy / European Security and Defence Policy; EU external action and policies (geographic and thematic) and relevant geographic area.
- Priority will be given to candidates with prior experience of working on peace processes.

B. Skills

- Capacity to work and communicate under time constraints in an international diplomatic and multilingual environment. Intercultural sensitivity skills are required.
- Teamwork, coordination and communication skills.
- Solid analytical capability as well as drafting and reporting skills. Rapid grasp of problems and capacity to identify issues and solutions
- Manage high workload efficiently under time constraint and pressure coupled with the capacity to multi-tasking in a volatile and politically charged environment. Must be able to motivate others (including local staff) and work collaboratively in a team across sections.

C. Security

Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT) is mandatory for this posting, but can be acquired during functions.

D. Languages

Thorough knowledge (capacity to write and speak) in Spanish and English.

E. Personal Qualities

- Dynamism.
- Highly motivated and flexible personality
- Ability to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges in a complex multicultural environment.

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/TEXT/?qid=1570023902133&uri=CELEX:01962R0031-20190101>

F. 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 Article 1d.4 of the Staff Regulations.

G. 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 for certain security costs and missions' costs incurred by the SNE posted in the EU Delegation. Other costs such as removal costs, salary, insurance, schooling, etc. **shall not be covered by the EEAS.**

Post available: 01/01/2024