

EEAS Vacancy Notice

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

Policy Officer (two posts): China, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, Mongolia Division (ASIAPAC.4)

COST-FREE

AD level post

Job No 320870

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 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:

Two posts for "cost-free" Seconded National Experts, as Policy Officers in the China, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan and Mongolia Division, EEAS ASIAPAC.4. Precise portfolios to be determined – but a guarantee of being part of the core team handling one of the EU's most politically important and consequential bilateral relationships.

The successful candidates will contribute to the functioning of the division, under the supervision of the Head of Division and Deputy Head of Division, and in close coordination with other colleagues within the division. The activities of the division focus on the implementation of EU's strategy vis-à-vis China and on ensuring coherence in the development of EU-China relations.

Functions and Duties:

The successful candidates will be expected to perform the following tasks:

- Prepare accurate and timely briefings, speeches, statements, lines to take, notes and other documents as required, in view of political developments and planned events.
- Contribute to the preparation and implementation of EU dialogues with China, including EU-China high-level meetings.
- Contribute to the preparation of meetings, strategic discussions, roundtables on China.
- Analyse political, economic, social and other developments in, or relating to, China;
- Ensure effective coordination and contacts with other EEAS departments, relevant Commission Directorates-General, the European Parliament, EU Member States and other EU institutions;
- Maintain close contacts with a range of diplomatic missions and their capitals on China related issues;

- Develop and maintain contacts as appropriate with other relevant stakeholders (e.g. civil society, international organisations, think tanks).
- Flexibly carry out other tasks that may be required as part of the overall work of the Division, when requested by the management.

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 which can be deployed in the proposed areas. The candidate will be working in a friendly and dynamic environment and contribute to the work of ASIAPAC.4. 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.¹;
- 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.

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:

A. Professional knowledge

- Have a professional experience of at least 3 years, preferably in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or have experience in international relations or security matters in other ministries.
- Have solid knowledge of the EU external action, preferably with a focus on Asia and China.
- Have good working knowledge of the EU institutional environment and instruments in the area of external and security policy.

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 teamwork, 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

- Perfect command of English is required. Knowledge of Mandarin would be an asset.

D. Personal Qualities

- 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 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 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: 2 years, renewable up to 4 years in total

Vacancy available from: 1 September 2023

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

For further information, please contact:

SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu
