

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert in the Directorate for Interinstitutional Relations, Policy Coordination and Public Diplomacy (AFFGEN)

Policy Officer, AFFGEN.7

COST-FREE

AD level post

Job No 270566

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:

The post of a “cost-free” Seconded National Expert on the position of “Information and Communication officer – Russia / Eastern Partnership strategic communications”.

The successful candidate will join the Strategic Communications 2: Task Forces and Information Analysis Division (AFFGEN.7), which supports, through strategic communication, the implementation of EU external policies and programs in priority regions (Southern and Eastern Neighborhood and the Western Balkans). The Division also plays a leading role in addressing disinformation and foreign interference and raising awareness about them.

Functions and Duties:

Under the guidance of the Head of East Stratcom Task Force, the Seconded National Expert is expected to perform the following tasks:

- Analysing and presenting trends of pro-Kremlin disinformation in diverse communication products and campaigns;
- Raising awareness on the disinformation through the development of communication materials for the EUvsDisinfo website and dedicated campaigns, including products for the EUvsDisinfo campaign on social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, etc.);
- Implementing EU's proactive communications in the Eastern Neighborhood through engagement with relevant stakeholders, EU delegations and especially with a newly established network of Stratcom officers at EU Delegations, media and civil society partners;
- Raising awareness on the disinformation by appearing on the expert panels, giving background briefings to journalists, conducting training workshops and participating at the public events;
- Contributing to the content production (analytical, creative) and management of the www.euvsdisinfo.eu website;

- Strengthening the institutional network of those working on disinformation issues and liaising with national government officials, including through Rapid Alert System;
- Conducting social media analytics, evaluation and support to EUvsDisinfo social media accounts, including online advertising on Facebook, Twitter and Google.

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).

Based within the Strategic Communications 2: Task Forces and Information Analysis Division at the EEAS, the expert will join a dedicated East Stratcom Task Force team working in support of overall EU communication efforts, including countering pro-Kremlin disinformation, in relation to the Eastern Neighbourhood countries and Russia. He/she will be required to work closely with relevant policy divisions of the EEAS, the expert community, EU MS representatives, EU Delegations in the region, Commission DGs, Commission and EP offices in the member states, external contractors, EC Spokespersons Service and other network of EU's communicators.

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:

- Be drawn from public administrations in Member States, from international organisations or, only in exceptional cases and with prior authorisation from other sources;
- 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;
- Have a thorough knowledge of one Union language and a satisfactory knowledge of a second language for the performance of his/her duties;
- Have a security clearance of minimum level **EU-SECRET/SECRET-UE** for the functions that he/she will carry out;
- Remain in the service of the employer throughout the period of secondment and shall be paid by that employer;
- 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;

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>

- 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.

Selection criteria:

Candidates should:

A. Professional knowledge

- Have to demonstrate experience in the area of pro-Kremlin disinformation and the use of it as a tool of influence among other hybrid tools.
- Have experience in communications and campaign planning, social media work or in creative writing (for instance journalism, strategic communications, campaigning, content production, advertising, online marketing, social media management or graphic design).
- Knowledge of Russia's foreign policy and/or experience from the field would be essential.
- Good working knowledge of the EU (institutional) environment, related decision-making processes, EU external action and policies towards Eastern Partnership countries and Russia would be an asset.

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 solid analytical capability as well as drafting and reporting skills. Rapid grasp of problems and capacity to identify issues and solutions. Creativity and flexibility would be valuable assets.
- Capacity to present the topic to a wide range of audiences as well as appearing in expert panels. Experience with communication campaigns, social media or advertising would be an asset.

C. Languages

- Thorough knowledge (capacity to write and speak) in English is required. Knowledge of Russian or another EU language would be an asset.

D. Personal Qualities

- Be dynamic. Motivated and flexible personality. Able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges, including missions in conflict area.
- Have the ability to work in a team, to coordinate with other teams and to communicate effectively.

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: 1 year, renewable up to 4 years in total

Vacancy available from: 16/06/2021

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

For further information, please contact:

SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu
