

High/Critical Threat Non-Family Mission

EUBAM Rafah bears a High/Critical Threat Non-Family Mission status due to the present threat rating of the mission area as high/critical. As such, international seconded and contracted mission members shall at no time receive visits or be habitually accompanied by any family member in the mission area for the duration of their present tour of duty or contract.

Please note that the Country Threat Assessment (CTA) of the country might change at any point during the call for contribution cycle. It may have an impact on conditions, including financial and leave entitlements. The CTA mentioned in this call for contribution is valid on the date of its publication.

Seconded personnel - For seconded positions, only personnel nominations received through official channels from EU Member States will be considered. EU Member States will bear all personnel-related costs for seconded personnel, including salaries, medical coverage, travel expenses to and from the Mission area (including home leave) and allowances other than those paid according to the Council documents ST 7291/09 (10 March 2009), as amended by ST 9084/13 (30 April 2013) and by ST 14108/25 (30 October 2025).

Seconded personnel from Contributing Third States (CTS) - Based on a political decision, Contributing or Invited Third States may be considered. Personnel seconded from Contributing Third States are not entitled to receive allowances paid according to Council Documents ST 7291/09 (10 March 2009), as amended by ST 9084/13 (30 April 2013) and by ST 14108/25 (30 October 2025).

Contracted personnel Council Decisions establishing civilian CSDP missions stipulate that the missions will consist primarily of staff seconded by EU Member States or EU institutions and the EEAS. International and local staff may exceptionally be recruited on a contractual basis if the functions required cannot be provided by personnel seconded by EU Member States.

The OPLAN and the employment contract with the Mission establishes the conditions of employment, rights and obligations, remuneration, allowances, travel and removal expenses and the applicable high/critical threat insurance policy.

In line with the policy on increasing the presence of secondment experts in civilian CSDP to strengthen the ownership of EU Member States over missions, the overall duration of subsequent contracts with one mission cannot exceed a maximum cumulative period of six years.

Moreover, the duration of any contract cannot exceed the duration of the mandate of the mission and is in addition limited to a maximum duration of 24 months. There is no legitimate expectation or a right for a new contract. This rule will apply to all types of missions (low, moderate, significant, high and critical threat missions).

Once the maximum cumulative period of subsequent contracts of six years in a mission has been exhausted, the international contracted staff will not be eligible for a post in that mission and cannot be offered a new contract in that mission. However, she or he may apply to other missions.

Specificities for high or critical threat missions

International contracted staff having exhausted their maximum cumulative period of six years

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of subsequent contracts in one or more high or critical threat missions can apply for posts in other high or critical threat missions only after a period of one year has passed since the end at the date of their application. For the purpose of this paragraph, consecutive contracts are defined as contracts between which the time elapsed is less than one year.

Should the threat assessment of a mission change during the contract of an international contracted staff from lower, moderate or significant to high or critical or vice versa, only the high or critical threat periods will be accounted for the maximum cumulative period of six years. The period will be counted from the date when the CivOpsCdr informs the respective mission about the change in the threat level.

For the purpose of counting the maximum cumulative period referred in the paragraph(s) above, the date from which this period should be counted is 20 December 2023 when the mission was re-classified from medium to high-risk environment.

Contracted candidates for which the selection procedure and/or deployment would result in exceeding the maximum cumulative period as described above, preventing a full twelve-month deployment, will not be eligible.

Documents supporting educational qualifications and work experience should be accompanied by certified translations of the original documents in the English language, if issued in another language, in accordance with the European Commission Guidelines for Lifelong Learning, which ensures transparency in higher education and fair and informed judgements about qualifications.

Tour of duty/contract period Subject to the adoption of the Council Decision extending the Mission mandate and approving the appropriate Budgetary Impact Statement, the duration of the deployment should be of 12 months.

The Civilian Operation Commander requests that EU Member States and Contributing Third States (Contributing States) propose candidates for the following international expert positions for EUBAM Rafah, according to the requirements and profiles described below:

I. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Citizenship - Candidates must have a citizenship of an EU Member State or of a Contributing Third State.

Integrity - Candidates must maintain the highest standards of personal integrity, impartiality and self-discipline within the Mission. Selected candidates are not allowed to provide or discuss any information or document as a result of access to classified and/or sensitive information relating to the Mission or respective tasks and activities. They shall carry out their duties and act in the interest of the Mission.

Flexibility and adaptability - Candidates must be able to work in arduous conditions with a limited network of support, with unpredictable working hours and a considerable workload. They must have the ability to work professionally as a member of a team, in task forces and working groups with mixed composition (e.g. civilian and military staff) and be able to cope with extended separation from family and usual environment.

Availability - Candidates must be able to undertake any other tasks related with the

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competencies, responsibilities and functions of the respective position within the Mission, as required by the Head of Mission.

Serious deficiencies in any of these general conditions may result in repatriation/termination of the secondment/contract.

II. REQUIREMENTS

II.A Essential requirements

The following are essential requirements in respect of civilian international experts to the Missions for all Job Descriptions:

Physical and mental health - Candidates must be physically fit and in good health without any physical or mental problems or substance dependency which may impair operational performance in the Mission and in its Area of Operation. Selected candidates should undergo an extensive medical examination as requested by the seconding authority or the Mission in that they comply with the requirement.

To ensure duty of care in the CSDP Mission, selected seconded/contracted candidates shall be able to serve the full period of secondment/contract before reaching the normal age of retirement in Contributing States/country of residence.

Education and training - Candidates should have a recognised qualification under the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), or equivalent, at a level specified in the individual job descriptions. Candidates are advised to verify their compliance through the link: <https://ec.europa.eu/ploteus/content/descriptors-page>.

Knowledge Candidates should have knowledge of the EU Institutions and Mission Mandate, particularly related to the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), including the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

Skills and abilities

Language skills - Candidates must have the understanding, speaking, and writing proficiency in the working languages of the Mission. Certain positions may require higher language skills further specified in the individual job descriptions. The Mission may seek to facilitate language training and where appropriate, specialist language training, for newly recruited mission staff members. Candidates are advised to verify their proficiency through the following link: <https://europa.eu/europass/en/common-european-framework-reference>.

Communication and interpersonal skills - Candidates must have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, both written and oral.

Organisational skills - Candidates must have excellent organisational skills, with the ability to prioritise work to meet deadlines, and a concern for order and accuracy.

Digital skills - Candidates must have basic digital skills in the competency areas: information and data literacy, communication and collaboration, digital content creation, safety and problem solving. Candidates are advised to verify their proficiency through the following link: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/test-your-digital-skills-and-thrive-digital-world>.

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Driving skills Candidates must be in possession of a valid including Mission area civilian driving licence for motor vehicles (Category B or equivalent). They also must be able to drive any 4-wheel-drive vehicle.

Serious deficiencies in any of these general conditions may result in repatriation/termination of the secondment/contract.

II.B Desirable requirements

Knowledge of the Mission area - Candidates should have a good knowledge of the history, culture, social and political situation of the region and also knowledge of the police, judiciary and governmental structures, as applicable.

Knowledge and experience of Security Sector Reform - Candidates must be acquainted with Security Sector Reform concepts and practices, especially in the Mission area, as applicable.

Training and experience - Candidates should have attended a Civilian Crisis Management Course or equivalent.

Language - Knowledge of local language(s), depending on the job tasks and responsibilities.

Driving licence - Category C driving licence.

III. ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT FOR SELECTED CANDIDATES

Passport - Selected candidates must have a biometric passport from their respective national authorities valid for at least six months. If possible, a Service Passport or Diplomatic Passport should be issued.

Visas - Contributing States and selected candidates must ensure that visas are obtained for entry into the Mission area prior to departure from their home country. It is also essential to obtain any transit visas, which may be required for passage through countries on route to the Mission.

Education diploma(s)/certificate(s) and/or professional certificate(s) - Selected international contracted candidates must have and present to the Mission the university diploma or the professional certificate/diploma, depending on the job description, before signing the contract or taking up their duties.

Required Personnel Security Clearance (PSC) or Certificate of Good Conduct - Selected candidates will have to be in possession of the necessary level of a Personnel Security Clearance (PSC) as specified in the respective job descriptions. In case of lack of such requirement in the job description, selected seconded candidates are required to present a valid official document from their respective competent National Authority confirming the lack of convictions for crimes or offences under common law, not older than 3 months (the so-called **Certificate of Good Conduct**) to their relevant National Seconding Authority. Selected contracted candidates present the certificate to the mission.

In case of the PSC requirement: seconded experts must provide the original certificate of the national security clearance or a proof of the initiation of the process upon deployment. For

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contracted experts, the process will be initiated by the Mission upon deployment. Please note that the role of the Mission is limited to initiation of the process and the Mission declines all responsibility regarding its final outcome.

In any case, the final PSC certificate must be presented within 12 months from the date of deployment. Failing to meet this requirement will result in the termination of the secondment/contract and no extension can be granted. Please note that Heads of Mission, Deputy Heads of Mission and Heads of Security and Health must always provide a valid PSC upon their deployment a proof of initiation of the PSC is not accepted.

In case of the ***Certificate of Good Conduct***, seconded experts must deliver such a certificate to their respective Seconding Authority. Contracted experts must deliver such a certificate to possession of multiple nationalities, or if a candidate has or had his/her residence in a country, which is not his/her country of origin, a certificate must be issued by every country where the selected candidate has had his/her residence for a period longer than 1 year during the last 5 years preceding the deployment (except if he/she resided there prior to reaching the age of 18 years).

For Contributing Third States selected candidates, an equivalence to access to the required level of EUCI will be delivered on the basis of Security of Information Agreement or Administrative Arrangements with EU or, in their absence, on the basis of the Framework Participation Agreements.

Certificate/booklet of vaccination - Selected candidates must be in possession of a valid certificate/booklet of vaccination showing all vaccinations and immunisations received. They also must be vaccinated according to the required immunisations for the Area of Operation of the Mission.

Medical certificate - Selected candidates should undergo an extensive medical examination and be certified medically fit for Mission duty. A dental examination should be certified, stating that no imminent dental issues are foreseen.

For selected contracted candidates, in compliance with "Fit to work clearance procedure" a copy of the result of the medical examinations as well as the fitness to work certificate, for seconded selected candidate, the fitness to work certificate must be sent to the Medical Adviser of the Mission before joining the Mission. Medical data will be handled with confidentiality and in line with EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the Standard Operating Procedure on the protection of personal data (CivOpCdr Instruction 12-2018 as amended.)

The Heads of Mission reserve the right to reject the recruitment of any selected candidate that proves to be medically unfit to work in a civilian CSDP Mission.

Personal protection equipment - It is recommended that national authorities provide seconded selected candidates with protection equipment.

Deficiencies in any of the documents requested for a specific position may result in failure of the selection process.

IV. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Equal opportunities - The EEAS and Civilian CSDP Missions are committed to an equal opportunities policy for all its staff and applicants for posts. The EEAS and Civilian CSDP missions are committed to promoting

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gender equality and to preventing discrimination on any grounds. They actively welcome applications from all qualified candidates from diverse backgrounds and from the broadest possible geographical basis amongst the EU Member States. It aims 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.

Gender balance - The EU strives for improved gender balance in CSDP operations in compliance with EU policy and UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). The CivOpsHQ encourages the EU Member States and European Institutions to take this into account when putting forward candidates at all levels.

Application form - Only applications in English or French language will be considered, and when using the online application form (AF) accessible on the Goalkeeper-Registrar software module, indicating which position(s) the candidate is applying for. Candidates seconded by Contributing Third States will apply using the dedicated AF.

Selection process - Candidates considered to be most suitable will be shortlisted and, if needed, interviewed in Brussels, at the Headquarters of the Mission or via video conference before the final selection is made. If seconded candidates are required to travel to Brussels/Mission Headquarters for interviews, the Contributing States will bear any related costs. Candidates should be selected on the basis of relevant competence and experience, while strict priority shall be given to seconded candidates. Contracted candidates will be selected only on exceptional basis.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) - Interviews and written tests/assignments must reflect candidate's own capability and work. Use by the candidate of AI tools, including but not limited to chatbots (such as, for example, Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer known as ChatGPT), or any other language generating or automated system capable of producing and refining written or oral submissions, is forbidden during interviews and written tests/assignments.

This prohibition includes, but is not limited to:

- Using assistance in formulating answers during interviews (such as real-time AI interview assistants)
- Generating or refining responses for any written tests/assignments.

Use of such tools may result in termination of the interview and/or written test/assignment, and subsequent non-selection or rejection without further consideration. The decision on the consequence of using AI is at the discretion of the EEAS / CivOpsHQ and civilian CSDP Missions. They also reserve the right to take appropriate further steps in such cases. CivOpsHQ and civilian CSDP Missions reserve the right to perform checks during interviews and written tests/assignments to identify the use of such tools.

Identity Verification - Candidates are requested to bring a valid identification document (e.g. a national identity card, passport, or driving license) to the interview. The identity may be verified at the beginning of the interview. The document or data contained therein will not be stored.

Information on the outcome - Contributing States and contracted candidates (applying for seconded/contracted positions) will be informed about the outcome of the selection process after its completion.

Training - The selected candidates should complete Missionwise and e-SAFE modules,

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which are designed for the delegations or an equivalent course. The modules can be accessed in the following link: <https://securitylearning.eeas.europa.eu/>.

HEAT Training - For high/critical threat missions/areas of operations, selected candidates must have undergone a Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT), or a national equivalent, no more than five years earlier. What is considered a recognised HEAT course, or its national equivalent, will be assessed in terms of content, duration and methodology, towards the curriculum agreed by the European Security and Defence College (<https://esdc.europa.eu/en/listapi/2026-096%20ESDC%20Course%20Curriculum%2048.a%20HEAT.pdf>). In any case, regarding secondments, the necessary training is the responsibility of the seconding authorities.

In case of short-term deployments (e.g. Visiting Experts, Specialised Teams, Civilian Response Teams) for high/critical threat missions/areas of operations, the mandatory HEAT requirement may following a thorough case-by-case assessment by CivOpsHQ be substituted with alternative preparatory and risk-mitigation measures or trainings. These measures may be implemented either by the seconding agency before deployment or upon arrival through the Mission's own protocols. Nonetheless, the overall objective remains that these selected candidates should, as feasible, receive full HEAT certification or its national equivalent in accordance with the standards outlined above.

Pre-Deployment Training (PDT) - The selected candidates should have undergone Pre-Deployment Training in accordance with the CSDP agreed Training Policy, or a national alternative of the course.

Data protection - The EEAS/CivOpsHQ processes personal data pursuant to Regulation (EC) 2018/1725 on the protection of individuals with regards to the processing of personal data by the EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. Mission handles personal data whilst respecting the Standard Operating Procedure on the protection of personal data (CivOpCdr Instruction 12-2018 as amended).

The Privacy Statement is available on the EEAS website.