

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert in the Directorate for Americas

Policy Officer, United States and Canada Division (AMERICAS.4)

COST-FREE

AD level post

Job No 155613

We are:

The European External Action Service (EEAS) supports the High Representative in the exercise of his/her 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/her capacity as Vice-President of the Commission with regard to his/her 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.

The AMERICAS.4 division is responsible for setting out the overall strategic vision for the EU's relations with the United States and Canada, promoting the EU's interests vis-à-vis the two strategic partners and furthering transatlantic cooperation on global and regional challenges. We contribute to the formulation of the EU's policy towards the US and Canada and the implementation of EU-US and EU-Canada agreements and dialogues in co-ordination with the European Commission services and other EU institutions. We work closely with the European Parliament and other stakeholders. Our team consists of friendly, supportive and motivated colleagues who work together in an interesting and dynamic working environment.

We propose:

A challenging position as a desk officer for United States and Canada, which requires strong drafting, analytical and diplomatic skills, as well the ability to work under high pressure and very tight deadlines.

The main responsibilities of the post are as follows:

- Promote EU relations with the United States and/or Canada on multilateral matters; work with both partners on democracy and human rights, as well as on humanitarian affairs;
- Contribute to the preparation and implementation of EU dialogues with the United States and/or Canada in these domains;
- Analyse political developments in US and Canadian policy in relation to multilateral affairs, democracy and human rights, humanitarian aid policy and international development;
- Develop and maintain contacts at working level with the US and/or Canadian mission(s) to the EU, as well as relevant stakeholders (EU institutions, Member States, civil society, international organisations);
- Assist in the preparation and representation of Summits, ministerial and high-level meetings with the United States and Canada. Represent the division when needed in internal and external meetings;
- Ensure effective and timely coordination with relevant EEAS and Commission services, the EU Delegations in Washington and Ottawa, EU Member States, as well as with United States and Canada missions in Brussels;
- Prepare or contribute to briefings, speeches, statements, articles, notes, and other documents;
- Draft responses to Parliamentary questions, petitions and questions from the public and contribute to inter-service consultations;
- Perform other tasks and responsibilities as assigned by the Head of the Division.

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 in the proposed areas. The candidate will be working in a friendly and dynamic environment and contribute to the work of the US and Canada Division. 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.

Selection criteria:

Candidates should:

- have an excellent ability to maintain diplomatic relations and to ensure representation, communication 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/TXT/?qid=1570023902133&uri=CELEX:01962R0031-20190101>

- have an excellent capacity to create constructive working relations with national authorities, international organisations and EU Member States;
- have knowledge of external relations, internal policies and functioning of the Union;
- have experience and knowledge of CFSP and CSDP-related issues;
- have an excellent sense of organisation and ability to prioritise a diverse range of tasks;
- have knowledge of the political and institutional system of the United States and Canada;
- have knowledge of EU, US and Canada policies on multilateral matters; work with both partners on democracy and human rights, as well as on humanitarian affairs and international development;
- be resilient and have the ability to work in a team and autonomously if necessary;
- be dynamic; motivated and flexible personality; able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges.

Furthermore the following would be an asset:

- have a thorough knowledge and capacity to write and communicate in English and a working knowledge of French;
- experience of working in an Embassy, a Delegation (or equivalent in an international organisation);
- experience of working in a team in multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural environment;
- experience of negotiations.

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.

Other expenses such as removal costs, allowances, salary, insurance, schooling (while the SNE maintains the right to enrol the children in an European School Type I)[1] and costs related to the enrolment to the Interinstitutional nurseries or the After-school centre managed by the early childhood centre of the European Commission shall not be covered by the EEAS. However, in case the SNE makes use of these two facilities for their dependent children, the EEAS shall recover any invoiced cost (including the institutional and the parental contribution, estimated at approximately EUR 18,000 per year and per child) from the Seconded National Expert concerned on a yearly basis. For further information, please contact RM-01-COORDINATION@eeas.europa.eu

Duration of the secondment 2 years, renewable up to 4 years in total

Vacancy available from: immediately

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

For further information, please contact:
SNE-HQ@eeas.europa.eu
