

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert in the Security and Defence Policy Directorate (MD-PSD.SECDEFPOL)

Maritime Security Policy Officer in support of the Senior Coordinator for Maritime Security in the Maritime Security Division MD-PSD.SECDEFPOL.6

COST-FREE

AD level post

Job No 427671

We are:

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

Within the Managing Directorate for Peace, Security and Defence, the Maritime Security Division (SECDEFPOL.6) has lead responsibility within the EEAS for coordinating and implementing the EU's maritime security policy in the framework of its external relations. In close cooperation with relevant Commission services, the division supports the implementation of the EU's Maritime Security Strategy (revised in October 2023) and engages in dialogue and consultations with international organisations (e.g. NATO) and partner countries on maritime security-related issues. Under the authority of the Head of Division/ Senior Coordinator for Maritime Security, the division also supports the implementation of the Coordinated Maritime Presences in the Gulf of Guinea and in the North West Indian Ocean.

We propose:

The position of a Maritime Security Policy Officer supporting the work of the Senior Coordinator for Maritime Security, with a particular focus on the Gulf of Guinea, within the EEAS Maritime Security Division (SECDEFPOL.6)

Functions and Duties:

- Advise and support the Senior Coordinator for Maritime Security on strategic orientations for the Gulf of Guinea (i.e. Member States of the Yaoundé Architecture, from Senegal to Angola);
- Support the outreach effort regarding the EU Coordinated Maritime Presences, towards Member States, EU institutions, Gulf of Guinea Coastal States, and External partners;
- Coordinate with EU delegations in the region in the organization of events and activities relating to maritime security;
- Support other EEAS services, such as Geographical Divisions and EU Delegations, with maritime security expertise on the Gulf of Guinea;
- Help prepare dialogues with third states in the maritime security domain;
- Liaise with the Maritime Area of Interest Coordination Cell (MAICC) and Member State naval representatives;
- Monitor and report on issues of relevance for Gulf of Guinea maritime security;
- Contribute to strategic communication on EU maritime security activities in the region;
- Support the implementation of the EU Maritime Security Strategy;

- Support Member State authorities in the organization of EU maritime security exercises and ensure coordination with relevant EU institutions and agencies;
- Support the work of colleagues in all other areas of activity of the division as needed

We are looking for:

A highly motivated colleague and a good team player with an extensive experience in the field of maritime security, EU Common Foreign and Security Policy, and/or an extensive knowledge of EU-Africa relations with a focus on Security issues in West and Central Africa. He/She will work in a result oriented flexible environment with occasional travel and extra working hours.

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 Union¹ or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level.²;
- 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:

¹ Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 259/68 of the Council of 29 February 1968 (OJ L 56, 4.3.1968, p.1) and successive amendments.

² 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>

A. Qualifications and experience required

- university diploma;
- three years' relevant professional experience and ideally professional experience in multinational organisations;
- experience and knowledge of CFSP and CSDP;
- sound knowledge of EU maritime policy and global security issues, and understanding of the linkages with other related policies;

Previous naval or coastguard (or similar) experience would be an asset.

B. Skills required

- have the ability to remain objective in complex scenarios and to display sensitivity and sound judgement;
- have good organisational skills, the ability to work under pressure and with tight deadlines and to manage multiple tasks and unexpected demands;
- have excellent drafting and communication skills;
- have excellent negotiating skills in a multinational environment;
- have the ability to work professionally as a member of the division, in mixed-composition task forces and working groups, in an interesting but challenging environment;
- good computer skills are essential, notably in word processing, spreadsheets, presentations software, Internet / Intranet and email systems. Knowledge of other IT tools would be an asset.
- national security clearance at SECRET UE level. Such clearance needs to be obtained from the competent authorities before secondment to the European External Action Service. It must be valid for the entire period of secondment. In its absence, the EEAS reserves the right to refuse the secondment as a national expert.

C. Languages

- thorough knowledge of one EU working language and satisfactory knowledge of another one are required; in practical terms, in order to perform required duties, that means an excellent command of written and spoken English, in particular good report-writing skills; good knowledge of written and spoken French is desirable;

D. Personal Qualities

- maintain the highest standards of personal integrity, impartiality and self-discipline. The expert must exercise the greatest discretion with regard to all facts and information coming to his/her knowledge in the performance of his/her duties;
- possess dynamic motivated and flexible personality. Be able to adapt quickly to new situations and deal with new challenges, including missions in conflict area.

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-CSDP@eeas.europa.eu in order to accommodate any special needs and provide assistance to ensure the possibility to pass the selection procedure with equal opportunities as 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 1(d) (4) of the Staff Regulations.

Conditions of secondment

Cost-free 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 four years.

The EEAS will cover:

- costs of professional travels (missions) incurred by the SNE posted in the EEAS HQ;
- accident insurance 24/7 for SNE (not family members).

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](#))^[3] 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.

Vacancy available from: 1 June 2025

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

For further information, please contact:

Administrative questions: SNE-CSDP@eeas.europa.eu

Selection and profile related questions: Alison WESTON, Head of Division, +32 2 584 5178, alison.weston@eeas.europa.eu

[3] <https://www.eursec.eu/en/Accredited-European-Schools/About>