

EEAS Vacancy Notice

Seconded National Expert in the European Security and Defence College

Training Manager (Climate Security and Defence)

COST-FREE

AD level post

Job no 410806

We are

As set out in the Council Decision (CFSP) 2024/3116 of 9 December 2024, the mission of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) is to provide training and education in the field of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and in the wider context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) at the European level, in order to develop and promote a common understanding of CFSP and CSDP among civilian and military personnel, and to identify and disseminate best practice in relation to various CFSP and CSDP issues through its training and education activities.

The ESDC works under the overall responsibility of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR). The European External Action Service (EEAS) supports the HR in the exercise of her mandate to conduct and implement an effective and coherent EU CFSP, of representing the EU and of chairing the Foreign Affairs Council.

What we are offering

The post of a "cost-free" Seconded National Expert (SNE) as training manager with the focus on Climate Security and Defence, who will report to the Head of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC).

A key task will be to support the build-up of the EU Climate Security and Defence Training Platform¹, set out in the Joint Communication with a new outlook on the climate and security nexus of 28 June 2023 and fully in line with the 2022 Strategic Compass as well as the Civilian CSDP Compact adopted on 22 May 2023. The objectives include to develop expertise on environmental law and crime, environmental engineering, and climate-related security risk analyses, but also to strengthen climate and environment informed planning, decision-making and implementation, through enhanced evidence-based analysis and foresight. Further, the

¹ Climate Change, Environment, Security and Defence (CCESD) Configuration.

platform aims to enhance climate adaptation and mitigation measures for the development of Member States' civilian and military capabilities, and related infrastructure.

In addition to providing expertise on Climate Security and Defence matters into the work of the ESDC, the successful candidate will also be in charge of organising training and education courses, seminars, conferences and events, as well as liaise with EU Member States, the EEAS, EU institutions, NATO, UN and other stakeholders on environment, climate, security and defence-related topics.

Functions and duties

Under the authority of the ESDC management, the SNE is expected to perform the following tasks and responsibilities:

- Organise, support and lead training courses, seminars and conferences with a focus on, but not limited to, education and training for CSDP in terms of Climate Security and Defence-related trainings (i.e., Energy Security, Environmental Crime, Environmental Peacebuilding, Environmental Management);
- Contribute to the development and management of the EU Climate Security and Defence training Platform (Climate Change, Environment, Security and Defence Configuration);
- Maintain and enhance the cooperation with key partners in the domain of Climate Security and Defence both internationally as well as within the EU, such as the EEAS, relevant Commission services, the European Defence Agency (EDA) and the EU Satellite Centre;
- Take responsibility for all relevant files and projects attributed to them from start to finish at all stages of the project cycle;
- Contribute to the ESDC's lessons learned process;
- Proactively develop and implement programmes and initiatives, plans, partnerships, activities and training courses in the area of CSDP;
- Actively engage with multilateral, regional and bilateral partners, civil society and academia when identifying best practice and gaps in CSDP training and education;
- Contribute to the drafting of policy documents;
- Contribute to publications on the ESDC website;
- Follow and contribute to the training requirements analysis coming from the Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management/EU Civilian Training Group relating to current ESDC training;
- Coordinate ESDC reports (e.g. annual reports); develop, maintain and monitor benchmarks; and report results;
- Leverage analysis to identify trends, insights, and gaps in CSDP training and education; identify areas of opportunity with the greatest impact; and propose and implement measures to improve CSDP training and education;
- Contribute to making the ESDC an inclusive and diverse workplace, including with regard to sexual orientation, gender identity, disability and ethnicity;

- Perform additional tasks upon instruction by the hierarchy.

What we are looking for:

A dynamic, flexible and proactive colleague with a developed sense of service and solid knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts and approaches related to the interplay between environmental exploitation and degradation, climate change, security and defence. The successful candidate shall have a high ability to identify gaps in existing trainings, knowledge and expertise to address the linkages, opportunities and risks relating to Peace, Security, Defence and Climate Change, and be able to successfully create trainings, workshops and tools to efficiently address those gaps. A thorough knowledge of the most efficient and proven pedagogical techniques for addressing interdisciplinary societal and global challenges would be an asset.

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, 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 Union² or, where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level.³;
- 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;

² 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.

³ 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>

- 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

A. Qualifications and experience required

- university diploma,
- three years of relevant professional experience, including at least two years in the organisation of high-level events, conferences, seminars and trainings, at the EU and the international level;
- to have proven understanding of environmental degradation and climate change impacts on peace, security and defence and the need to mainstream these aspects into peace, security and defence related operations, policies and projects;
- to be able to identify appropriate entry-points, methods and approaches to integrate environmental and climate change aspects into peace, security and defence related operations, policies and projects;
- to have a good understanding and knowledge of the design and development of the climate change and environmental research models;
- experience in working with high-level representatives from the EU, as well as regional and international organisations (such as NATO/UN);
- experience in working in multicultural, international teams;
- experience in sustainable conference and seminar organisation;
- experience in agile, inclusive and gender-responsive team working methods in diverse, multinational teams, using the latest ICT tools;
- experience and knowledge of EU policies, values and priorities, including but not limited to CFSP and CSDP.

A. Skills required

- Excellent ability to maintain diplomatic relations and to represent the ESDC and communicate well in a complex, multicultural environment;

- Excellent ability to create constructive working relations with governmental and non-governmental entities, including military bodies, law enforcement agencies, government representatives and civil society organisations;
- Strong drafting, communication and analytical skills combined with sound judgement;
- Ability to remain objective in complex scenarios and to display sensitivity;
- Good organisational skills, ability to work under pressure to tight deadlines and ability to manage multiple tasks and unexpected demands;
- Ability to work professionally as a member of the ESDC, in mixed-composition task forces and working groups, in an interesting and challenging environment;
- Good computer skills are essential, in particular in word processing, spreadsheet and presentation software, internet/intranet and email systems; knowledge of other IT tools would be an asset.

B. 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.

C. 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;
- Be a dynamic, motivated and flexible individual;
- 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 from the Seconded National Expert concerned on a yearly basis. For further information, please contact RM-01-COORDINATION@eeas.europa.eu.

Vacancy available from: ASAP

Closing date for submissions of applications: 27 February 2026 at 13:00 (CET)

Place of secondment: Brussels, Belgium

For further information, please contact:

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

Selection and profile related questions: ESDC-VACANCIES@eeas.europa.eu

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