



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT

DG – Directorate – Unit	DG Trade and Economic Security – Directorate TRADE.C - Unit TRADE.C.1, African, Caribbean and Pacific, Overseas Countries and Territories
Post number in sysper:	111930
Contact person: Provisional starting date: Initial duration: Place of secondment:	Cristina MIRANDA GOZALVEZ (Head of Unit TRADE.C.1) 4 quarter 2025 2 years <input type="checkbox"/> Brussels <input type="checkbox"/> Luxemburg <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Pretoria, South Africa
Type of secondment	<input checked="" type="radio"/> With allowances <input type="radio"/> Cost-free
<p>This vacancy notice is open to:</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> EU Member States as well as</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The following EFTA countries: <input type="checkbox"/> Iceland <input type="checkbox"/> Liechtenstein <input type="checkbox"/> Norway <input type="checkbox"/> Switzerland</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The following third countries:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The following intergovernmental organisations: ...</p> <p><input type="radio"/> EFTA-EEA In-Kind agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway)</p>	
Deadline for applications	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 2 months <input type="radio"/> 1 month Latest application date: 25-07-2025

Entity Presentation (We are)

DG Trade and Economic Security has the task of conducting the EU trade policy, one of the exclusive competences of the EU. Trade policy plays a critical role in building global

partnerships, enhancing the EU's economic competitiveness, and defending the EU from unfair trade practices and threats to its economic security.

The Unit TRADE.C.1 is responsible for trade relations with African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and regions, as well as overseas countries and territories. We are negotiating, implementing and monitoring Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and contributing to the overall policy definition in areas related to EPAs and trade cooperation with these regions.

The Trade Section of the EU Delegation to South Africa, based in Pretoria, has a small but energetic team consisting of one Head of Section, two local agents and one Seconded National Expert (SNE). The Trade section deals with implementation of the EU's trade and investment policy on the ground, including enhancing of EU businesses' market access and investment conditions in South Africa, monitoring and reporting about trade and economic developments and liaising with local authorities and other stakeholders.

Job Presentation (We propose)

Under the overall guidance of the Head of Delegation and the direct supervision of the Head of the Trade Section at the EU Delegation to South Africa, and working in full transparency and synergy with the other sections of the Delegation (mainly the political and co-operation sections), the seconded national expert will:

1. Report to and inform headquarters, EU Delegation staff concerned and EU member states trade and economic counsellors based in Pretoria
2. Represent the EU and participate in meetings/events
3. Monitor and analyse mainly but not exclusively matters in the following areas:
 - Macro-economic and economic developments in South Africa and Southern African region
 - International, regional and bilateral trade relations for goods and services
 - Trade and investment facilitation and customs issues
 - Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) issues
 - Trade Defense Instruments
 - Intellectual Property Rights
 - Extraction and analysis of statistical data relevant to the above matters
 - Ongoing work in international organizations when relevant for South Africa in the above areas
4. Contribute to the management and planning of the Trade Section
5. Contribute from a trade perspective, when needed, to the work of other members of the Trade and of the Operations Sections on investments, in particular in certain strategic clean supply chains (e.g. critical raw materials, green hydrogen and renewable energy), relations with business, digital technologies, agriculture, climate and environment.
6. Contribute to the work of other sections of the EU Delegation whenever required

Jobholder Profile (We look for)

We are looking for a motivated, proactive candidate, with:

- Strong analytical, organisational and research skills
- Excellent communication skills, orally and in writing, in English
- Proficiency in stakeholder engagement
- Knowledge of EU trade and investment policies and international trade legal frameworks, as well as the South African economy
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work autonomously and as part of a team
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment
- Flexibility and adaptability to a dynamic and high-pressure working environment.

Eligibility criteria

The secondment will be governed by the **Commission Decision C(2008) 6866** of 12/11/2008 laying down rules on the secondment to the Commission of national experts and national experts in professional training (SNE Decision).

Under the terms of the SNE Decision, you need to comply with the following eligibility criteria at **the starting date** of the secondment:

- **Professional experience:** at least three years of professional experience in administrative, legal, scientific, technical, advisory or supervisory functions which are equivalent to those of function group AD.
- **Seniority:** having worked for at least two years with your current employer on a permanent or contract basis.
- **Employer:** must be a national, regional or local administration or an intergovernmental public organisation (IGO); exceptionally and following a specific derogation, the Commission may accept applications where your employer is a public sector body (e.g., an agency or regulatory institute), university or independent research institute.
- **Linguistic skills:** thorough knowledge of one of the EU languages and a satisfactory knowledge of another EU language to the extent necessary for the performance of the duties. If you come from a third country, you must produce evidence of a thorough knowledge of the EU language necessary for the performance of your duties.

Conditions of secondment

During the full duration of your secondment, you must remain employed and remunerated by your employer and covered by your (national) social security system.

You shall exercise your duties within the Commission under the conditions as set out by aforementioned SNE Decision and be subject to the rules on confidentiality, loyalty and absence of conflict of interest as defined therein.

In case the position is published with allowances, these can only be granted when you fulfil the conditions provided for in Article 17 of the SNE decision.

Staff posted in a European Union Delegation are required to have a security clearance (up to SECRET UE/EU SECRET level according to [Commission Decision \(EU, Euratom\) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015](#)). It is up to you to launch the vetting procedure before getting the secondment confirmation.

Submission of applications and selection procedure

If you are interested, please follow the instructions given by your employer on how to apply.

The European Commission **only accepts applications which have been submitted through the Permanent Representation / Diplomatic Mission to the EU of your country or through the channel(s) it has specifically agreed to**. Applications received directly from you or your employer will not be taken into consideration.

You should draft your CV in English, French or German using the **Europass CV format** ([Create your Europass CV | Europass](#)). It must mention your nationality.

Please do not add any other documents (such as copy of passport, copy of degrees or certificate of professional experience, etc.). If necessary, these will be requested at a later stage.

Processing of personal data

The Commission will ensure that candidates' personal data are processed as required by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾. This applies in particular to the confidentiality and security of such data. Before applying, please read the attached privacy statement.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39)