

Legal Expert Training – 17-21 May 2010 - Brussels

Notification:

The Network for Enhanced Electoral and Democratic Support Project (NEEDS), a project funded by the European Commission, will carry out training for Legal Experts from Monday 17 to Friday 21 May 2010. The training is for a maximum of 16 candidates and will take place at the NEEDS office, 15-17 Rue Belliard, Brussels 1040. The duration is five full days and the language of the training is English. Performance at the Legal Expert Training will be continuously evaluated and assessed according to the level of readiness to participate in an EU EOM in this position.

1. The NEEDS Project will cover the travel and living expenses attached to participation in the training.
2. Focal Points are asked to propose a MAXIMUM of TWO candidates with ONE reserve.
3. Please rank the candidates according to your own level of preference with 1 meaning first ranked, 2 second etc. If you rank your candidate 0, this is understood as 'no preference'.
4. The deadline for proposals is [28 April 2010](#).

General Terms of Reference for Candidates:

- previous experience of election monitoring and/or other relevant experience or know-how and specific training, national and/or international – good experience of working languages of EU EOMs (either English, French, or Spanish or a combination of those languages);
- interpersonal skills (e.g. capacity of balanced judgement, ability to work in teams, ability to cope with difficult situations, respect for local attitudes, good communication skills, readiness to work in a multicultural environment);
- ability to maintain professional independence and strict impartiality in the conduct of duties in the host country;
- demonstrated commitment to democracy and human rights;
- EU Member State citizenship;
- familiarity and experience with electoral laws and procedures, electoral administration practices and operations (including inter alia electoral rolls, national electoral committees), not limited to a single electoral tradition;
- special knowledge of human rights and democratisation issues;
- basic knowledge of institutional aspects of the EU;
- analytical and drafting skills.

Specific guidelines for Legal Expert Candidate profile:

- advanced University degree in Law;
- at least 3 years' work experience in the field of electoral assistance and electoral observation and analysis, preferably as part of an EU Election Observation Mission or an EU Election Technical Assistance project, or with other international bodies;
- familiarity with the legal and regulatory framework for elections as well as international and regional standards for elections. In this context the "Compendium of International Standards for Elections" is an important background document;
- proven work experience in electoral legislation is an advantage;

- experience in the field of international public law and/or comparative analysis of different electoral frameworks around the world would be useful;
- excellent understanding of election dispute resolution systems;
- good reporting skills;
- proven knowledge of and field experience in EU policies and programmes in the area of human rights, democratisation and good governance.

General Selection Criteria:

- experience working on an election observation mission as a Long or Short Term Observer (for EU EOM, OSCE/ODIHR or other international election observation missions) would be an advantage;
- Although the training will be carried out in English, preference will be given to candidates with sufficiently proficient French and/or Spanish to participate in an EU EOM in either of those languages;
- Candidates should indicate that they are able and willing to apply for Core Team positions in 2010;
- Candidates must indicate in their CV that their availability for missions is six weeks or longer.
- It is strongly recommended that candidates update their Roster CVs to ensure that all contact information, departure airport and availability information is current and correct.