

Training for media analysts in EU EOMs Brussels, 07-11 April 2014

Notification

Election Observation and Democratic Support (EODS), a project funded by the European Commission, is organising a training **for media analysts in EU EOMs from Monday 07 until Friday 11 April 2014**. The training is for a maximum of **16** participants and will take place at the EODS office, located at 82 Rue de la Loi, 1040 Brussels, Belgium. The duration of the training is five days and its language is **English**.

The EODS project will **cover travel and living expenses** required for participation in the training.

Interested individuals should directly apply online to EODS through this link: www.eods.eu/application. To apply, please **fill-in** the online form and **include a CV and a motivation letter**. **Only online applications with the requested information and documents will be considered**.

EU Member States Focal Points do no longer propose candidates for trainings related to Core Team positions. However, they continue to disseminate the information contained in this notification amongst observers in their national database. Candidates are free to inform their national Focal Points about their application for the training but still need to apply through the EODS link. The list of Focal Points can be found [here](#).

The deadline for receipt of applications is **16 March 2014 at midnight (Brussels time)**.

A selection committee will be convened within 10 days of the deadline. Candidates will be informed of their selection or non-selection shortly after by email.

I. Selection Criteria

Please read carefully the general and specific requirements of the notification before considering your candidacy as only applications meeting the requirements will be considered. Due to the high level of interest for these trainings EODS may be unable to answer individual questions from prospective applicants.

1) General requirements



- **Be a national of an EU Member State.**
- **Be registered in the EU Roster of International Election Observers.** It is recommended to all applicants for EODS trainings to make sure that their CV in the roster is up to date before applying.
- **Fulfill the minimum requirements to become an EU election observer as defined in the EU Guidelines on Common Criteria for the Selection of Electoral Observers.**

2) Specific requirements for candidates to the EODS training for Media analysts in EU EOMs.

- University degree in **media studies, international relations, social science, political science, law**. An educational background in **content analysis** theories and practice will be considered an asset.
- Basic knowledge of **statistics**: descriptive analysis, types of variable and measurements, cross tables production, percentages.
- Computer skills: ability to work with **data matrixes, statistical applications and spreadsheets**
- Previous **relevant professional work experience in international organisations** and/or non-governmental and domestic organizations involved in election observation, **preferably as long-term observer or media analyst**.
- Language requirements:
 - **Fluency in English.** Ability to attend trainings, brief/debrief observers and draft EU EOM related reports in English.
 - **Fluency in either French, Spanish or Portuguese is highly desirable**, since this will be a necessary qualification for EU EOMs in French, Spanish or Portuguese speaking countries. Other language skills in areas where the EU conducts observation may also be considered an asset.
- Other considerations:
 - **Willingness and readiness to apply for EU Election Observation Missions** in the near future.
 - **Availability to join EU Election Observation Missions** for a period of two to six months at short notice.
 - Previous experience in EU Election observation missions will be an asset.

- Applicants who have not yet benefitted from previous similar NEEDS or EODS trainings.

In addition to experience as relates to the selection criteria, the Selection Committee takes into consideration nationality and gender balance among candidates.

Candidates must be available to attend the whole course.

II. Performance and Evaluation

Performance at the training will be continuously evaluated and candidates will be graded at the end, according to their level of readiness to participate in EU EOM. EODS evaluates according to criteria which include:

- Understanding of the course content
- Comprehension of elections and EU EOM role;
- Drafting and reporting skills
- Analytical skills
- Language skills.

The EODS evaluation of training participants mirrors the Guidelines for EU EOM Observers Evaluation. Therefore, trainees' performance will be assessed along three scores:

- **Recommended:** Good performance. The trainee demonstrates to fulfil all the criteria set above in a satisfactory manner and is ready to participate in EU EOMs in the position for which the training has been conducted.
- **Recommended with qualifications:** Same as above, but with some weaknesses to be mentioned in fulfilling the evaluation criteria. Taking into account the identified areas for improvement, the trainee is ready to participate in EU EOMs in the position for which the training has been conducted.
- **Not Recommended:** Inacceptable behaviour or misconduct during the training.

Evaluations will be posted on the trainee's Roster CV after the training, to assist the Focal Points and the European Commission in the selection process for EU Election Observation Missions. EODS will inform participants when their evaluations are posted.

Once the evaluation is posted on the Roster, the training participant has five calendar days to officially appeal their evaluation by email to the EODS project director. Upon reception of the appeal, the EODS project director has five working days to send his final decision to the observer, with a copy to the European Commission FPI. The appellant can then appeal

that decision within 10 calendar days to the European Commission FPI. Upon receipt of the observer's complaint, the FPI has 6 weeks to reply.

If the evaluated training participant refuses to accept the final decision of the EC/FPI on his/her evaluation, the evaluation will be uploaded to the roster with a comment 'observer did not accept the evaluation'.