

NOTIFICATION

Training for the position of

LEGAL ANALYST

in European Union Election Observation Missions

Brussels, 25 – 29 March 2018

Call for applications

Election Observation and Democracy Support (EODS II), a project funded by the European Commission, will organise a training for the position of Legal Analyst (LA) in European Union Election Observation Missions (EU EOMs) from **Monday 25 until Friday 29 March 2019**. The training, that will take place at **EODS offices (first floor, rue de la Loi 82, Brussels)**, aims at providing participants with knowledge and tools to work as LA in EU EOMs.

I. Training information

The training, that will last **five days**, is designed for a maximum of **12 participants from EU member States**.

The **EODS project covers travel and living expenses to training participants from EU member States**. Interested individuals fulfilling the required criteria in Section II of this notification should directly **apply online to EODS through this link: www.eods.eu/application**.

For a successful application, 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.**

Candidates may wish 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 https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/8775/eom-focal-points_en.

The deadline for receiving applications is 7 March at midday (Brussels time).

Shortly after the closing of the application period candidates will be informed of their selection/non-selection by email.

II. Application Requirements

1) General requirements for all training participants

- a) Be a **national of an EU Member State**.
- b) **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.

- c) **Fulfil the minimum requirements to become an EU election observer** as defined in the EU Guidelines on Common Criteria for the Selection of Electoral Observers. The Guidelines can be found http://www.eods.eu/template/default/files/EU_guidelines_on_criteria_forselection_observers.pdf.

2) Specific requirements for candidates to the EODS training for Legal Analyst in EU EOMs.

- a) University degree in **law, international relations, political science, or related field**.
- b) **Relevant professional experiences in European Union election observation missions, preferably as Long-Term Observer or as core team members (except for the position of legal analyst).**
- c) Language requirements:
- i. **Fluency in English** Excellent written and spoken proficiency (level C).
 - ii. **Fluency in French/Spanish/Portuguese:** Excellent written and spoken proficiency (level C) in one of the three languages is an asset.

Additional experience that would be an asset:

- d) Previous **core team experience in International Election Observation Missions other than EU EOMs.**
- e) Experience in **electoral technical assistance supporting Electoral Management Bodies.**
- f) Experience in **election mission formats other than EOMs (e.g. Election Assessment Teams, Election Expert Missions, Exploratory Missions, Follow-Up Missions, etc.).**

Other considerations:

- h) **Willingness and readiness to apply for EU Election Observation Missions** in the near future.
- i) **Availability to join EU Election Observation Missions** at short notice for 2-3 months' period.
- j) In addition to experience as relates to the selection criteria, the selection committee takes into consideration **nationality and gender balance** among candidates.
- k) Candidates must be **available to attend the whole course.**

III. Criteria for selection

For the selection of the training participants, the Selection Committee will consider the extent to which applicants fulfil the requirements listed in section II (Application Requirements), namely: the **educational background** in the requested fields; **previous professional experiences**; **language skills** and **performance in previous assignments**; **willingness and readiness to join EU Election Observation Missions at short notice.**

The Selection Committee will endeavour to establish a balanced representation of gender and nationalities among participants.

If a selected training participant confirms attendance and then cancels participation for reasons other than force majeure, all costs incurred by EODS meanwhile will be invoiced to the participant.

IV. Performance and Evaluation

Performance at the training will be **continuously evaluated**. Participants will be graded at the end of the training per their skills and knowledge acquired as necessary for the participation in an EU EOM. EODS evaluates according to criteria which include:

- Understanding of the course content and modules,
- Comprehension of election processes and EU EOM role,

- Comprehension of the role of an election analyst in the context of an EU EOM,
- Understanding of team dynamics,
- Analysis, report writing and editing skills,
- Communication skills, and
- Language skills.

The EODS evaluation of the participants mirrors the Guidelines for EU EOM Observers Evaluation. The Guidelines can be downloaded here: ec.europa.eu/dpo-register/download?metald=1452837.

Therefore, trainees' performance will be assessed along three scores:

- **Recommended:** Good performance. The participant 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 skills needing further strengthening to be mentioned. Considering the identified areas for enhancement, the participant is ready to participate in EU EOMs in the position for which the training has been conducted.
- **Not Recommended:** Unacceptable 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, training participants have 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 her/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'.

Annex I - Indicative Terms of Reference of a Legal Analyst (LA) in EU EOMs¹

Nigeria 2019

The Legal Analyst is responsible for providing an analysis of the legal framework governing the elections in the Federal Republic of Nigeria in accordance with international and regional commitments and obligations applicable to democratic elections, taking into consideration the country's Constitution and relevant election-related laws and regulations as well as any legislation/regulation governing other aspects of public life and fundamental rights and freedoms impacting electoral processes. S/he will analyse processes related to political party registration, political finance regulation and enforcement, candidate registration. The Legal Analyst will take into consideration Nigeria's international and regional commitments in promoting gender equality. The Legal Analyst should co-ordinate closely and share information with the Election, Political, Campaign Finance and Media Analysts. S/he will work under the supervision of the CO and DCO.

S/he will:

- 1. Have acquired solid grasp of the legal and regulatory framework for elections, as well as international and regional commitments and obligations applicable to democratic elections. In this context, the "Compendium of International Standards for Elections" is an important background document.*
- 2. Ensure that the Chief Observer and core team members are aware of international and regional commitments and obligations for elections.*
- 3. Comprehensively analyse national legislation, in particular concerning universal and equal suffrage, the right to vote and to stand as a candidate, conditions for the exercise of fundamental freedoms of expression/association/assembly/movement, the right to life, constituency delimitation, election administration, voter registration, political party registration and finance, candidate registration, campaign, media (in conjunction with the Media Analyst), voting, counting and tabulation, complaints and appeals.*
- 4. In co-ordination with the Election Analyst, assess compliance of Nigeria's legislation with Nigeria's international and regional commitments and obligations for democratic elections.*
- 5. Assess electoral legislation from a gender perspective, in accordance with applicable international conventions, focusing in particular on the participation of women and socially vulnerable people and special needs groups. Assess whether election legislation is respected in practice, allowing all persons to enjoy internationally guaranteed rights.*
- 6. Contribute to the EU EOM assessment of whether the elections are conducted in accordance with the legal framework as set out in national legislation as well as international and regional commitments and obligations for elections.*
- 7. Assess and analyse legal aspects of the activity of the judiciary/election administration, in particular:*
 - a. the capability of the judiciary/election administration in implementing the legal framework consistently;*
 - b. implementation of new regulations on campaign finance;*
 - c. the role of the judiciary/election administration in dispute resolution and election process supervision;*
 - d. the conduct and effectiveness of complaints and appeals processes.*
- 8. Log, categorize and maintain in a database all election-related complaints and appeals, filed by parties, candidates, voters, or other stakeholders.*
- 9. If open to observers, attend important election administration meetings.*

¹ Source: FPI - https://ec.europa.eu/fpi/sites/fpi/files/tor_core_team_eom_nigeria_final_0.pdf.

10. *Maintain, with the active support of the Political Analyst, regular relations with local and international human rights groups and produce regular assessments of – formal and informal - violations of fundamental freedoms, including civil and political rights, throughout the country.*
11. *Meet regularly with judicial and other relevant bodies and attend court hearings relating to complaints and appeals.*
12. *In co-ordination with the Election Analyst and the Media Analyst, monitor closely any arrests or detentions impacting fundamental rights underlying elections and the circumstances surrounding such arrest/detentions.*
13. *Monitor and assess the treatment of electoral offences by the Police and the Courts.*
14. *Liaise with international organisations and agencies as well as with domestic NGOs specialised in legal issues.*
15. *Analyse legal information collected by LTOs and other core team members.*
16. *Support the DCO in developing the analytical framework and implementing the EU election observation methodology.*
17. *Brief mission members on important legal issues.*
18. *Suggest relevant questions to be included in LTO weekly report templates.*
19. *Participate in observer briefings, debriefings and team meetings.*
20. *Contribute to the preparation of interim reports, the preliminary statement and the final report. This includes amending/re-writing draft contributions after receiving DCO feedback.*
21. *Contribute to the internal report, including suggestions of methodological improvements and information on possible areas of technical assistance.*
22. *Perform any other duty required for the good functioning of the EU EOM.*
23. *If requested be available for the return visit and roundtable.*