

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: 15-023

OPEN TO: All Interested Candidates

POSITION: *Political Specialist (FSN-9 or FSN-10)*

OPENING DATE: December 03, 2015

CLOSING DATE: December 23, 2015

WORK HOURS: *Full-time; 40 hours per week*

SALARY: **Ordinarily Resident (OR) candidate may be hired either at a trainee level FSN-9 at gross salary 20,314 EUR per year or at the full performance level FSN-10 at a gross salary 26,455 EUR per year. The salary level will be determined based on candidate's previous experience and qualifications.*

NOTE: both are annual gross salary amounts, which are subject to social security and income tax deductions.

**Not-Ordinarily Resident (NOR): FP-5*

ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT (OR) APPLICANTS MUST HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND/OR RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

The U.S. Embassy in RIGA is seeking individual for Political Specialist position.

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION

Serves as the Political /Economic Chief's political advisor. Forecasts political trends and developments. Analyzes media reporting in daily oral briefings for the Political/Economic officers. Drafts analytical and factual political reporting and substantive briefing memos. Engages in contact and representational work. Manages visits from high level U.S. Government officials. Serves as translator/interpreter as necessary.

Political Specialist's work involves a great deal of independent research, thought, and judgment.

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties and responsibilities is available in the Human Resources Office, Riga-HR@state.gov.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

All applicants must address each selection criterion detailed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item.

1. **Education:** University degree in a social sciences field.
2. **Prior Work Experience:** At least **4 years** of progressively responsible experience in a public policy position; political research and analysis; media reporting of political matters; university teaching on political matter; or work in any other related field involving political research and analysis or public policy development.
3. **Language requirements:** Level IV(flulent) Latvian , Level IV(flulent) English, and Level IV(flulent) Russian ability is required.
4. **Job knowledge:** Thorough knowledge of Latvia's political and economic structure, political parties, institutions, history, and key political figures. Keen understanding of Latvian society and recent socioeconomic developments. Sound grasp of regional security and foreign policy environment, as well as U.S. foreign policy objectives in the region.
5. **Other skills:** Ability to understand and interpret political, economic, and social developments in the country. Ability to plan and carry out complex research projects and to prepare accurate and analytical reports. Ability to organize multifaceted events or visits by high-level U.S. officials. Ability to develop and maintain a wide range of high-level contacts.

SELECTION PROCESS

When fully qualified, US Citizen Eligible Family Members (USEFMs) and US Veterans are given preference. Therefore, it is essential that the candidate specifically address the required qualifications above in the application.

ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Management will consider nepotism/conflict of interest, budget, and residency status in determining successful candidacy.
2. Current employees serving a probationary period are not eligible to apply.
3. Current Ordinarily Resident employees with an Overall Summary Rating of Needs Improvement or Unsatisfactory on their most recent Employee Performance Report are not eligible to apply.

4. Currently employed US Citizen EFM's who hold a Family Member Appointment (FMA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment.

5. Currently employed NORs hired under a Personal Services Agreement (PSA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment unless currently hired into a position with a When Actually Employed (WAE) work schedule.

TO APPLY

Interested candidates for this position must submit the following for consideration of the application:

1. Universal Application for Employment as a Locally Employed Staff or Family Member (DS-174); or

2. A combination of both; i.e. Sections 1 -24 of the UAE along with a listing of the applicant's work experience attached as a separate sheet; **or**

3. A current resume or curriculum vitae that provides the same information found on the UAE (see section 3A below for more information); **plus**

4. Candidates who claim US Veterans preference must provide a copy of their Form DD-214 with their application. Candidates who claim conditional US Veterans preference must submit documentation confirming eligibility for a conditional preference in hiring with their application.

5. Any other documentation (e.g., essays, certificates, awards) that addresses the qualification requirements of the position as listed above.

3A. If an applicant is submitting a resume or curriculum vitae, s/he must provide the following information equal to what is found on the UAE.

Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application.

- A. Position Title
- B. Position Grade
- C. Vacancy Announcement Number (if known)
- D. Dates Available for Work
- E. First, Middle, & Last Names as well as any other names used
- F. Date and Place of Birth
- G. Current Address, Day, Evening, and Cell phone numbers
- H. U.S. Citizenship Status (Yes or No) & status of permanent U.S. Resident (Yes or No; if yes, provide number)
- I. U.S. Social Security Number and/or Identification Number
- J. Eligibility to work in the country (Yes or No)
- K. Special Accommodations the Mission needs to provide
- L. If applying for position that includes driving a U.S. Government vehicle,

- Driver's License Class / Type
- M. Days available to work
- N. List any relatives or members of your household that work for the U.S. Government (include their Name, Relationship, & Agency, Position,

Location)

- O. U.S. Eligible Family Member and Veterans Hiring Preference
- P. Education
- Q. License, Skills, Training, Membership, & Recognition
- R. Language Skills
- S. Work Experience
- T. References

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO

Human Resources Office

Re: Political Specialist, U.S. Embassy, Samnera Velsa iela 1, Riga, LV-1510 or e-mail to Riga-HR@state.gov

DEFINITIONS

1. **Eligible Family Member (EFM)**: An individual related to a US Government employee in one of the following ways:

- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in [3 FAM 1610](#));
- Child, who is unmarried and under 21 years of age or, regardless of age, is incapable of self-support. The term shall include, in addition to natural offspring, stepchildren and adopted children and those under legal guardianship of the employee or the spouse when such children are expected to be under such legal guardianship until they reach 21 years of age and when dependent upon and normally residing with the guardian;
- Parent (including stepparents and legally adoptive parents) of the employee or of the spouse, when such parent is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support;
- Sister or brother (including stepsisters and stepbrothers, or adoptive sisters or brothers) of the employee, or of the spouse, when such sibling is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support, unmarried, and under 21 years of age, or regardless of age, incapable of self-support.

2. **US Citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM)**: For purposes of receiving a preference in hiring for a qualified position, an EFM who meets the following criteria:

- US Citizen; and,
- EFM (see above) at least 18 years old; and,

- Listed on the travel orders of a direct-hire Foreign, Civil, or uniformed service member assigned to or stationed abroad with a USG agency that is under COM authority, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and either:
 1. Resides at the sponsoring employee's or uniformed service member's post of assignment abroad or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; or
 2. Resides at an Involuntary Separate Maintenance Allowance (ISMA) location authorized under 3 FAM 3232.2.
3. **Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM):** EFM (see above) eligible for a Family Member Appointment for purposes of Mission employment:
- Is a U.S. citizen; and
 - Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in [3 FAM 1610](#)) or a child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; and
 - Is listed on the travel orders or approved Form [OF-126](#), Foreign Service Residence and Dependency Report, of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad at a U.S. mission, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), and who is under chief of mission authority; and
 - Is residing at the sponsoring employee's post of assignment abroad or, as appropriate, office of the American Institute in Taiwan.
 - Does not receive a Foreign Service or Civil Service annuity
4. **Member of Household (MOH):** An individual who accompanies a direct-hire Foreign, Civil, or uniformed service member permanently assigned or stationed at a U.S. Foreign Service post or establishment abroad, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan. An MOH is:
- Not an EFM; and,
 - Not on the travel orders of the sponsoring employee; and,
 - Has been officially declared by the sponsoring USG employee to the COM as part of his/her household.

A MOH is under COM authority and may include a parent, unmarried partner, other relative or adult child who falls outside the Department's current legal and statutory definition of family member. A MOH does not have to be a US Citizen.

4. **Not Ordinarily Resident (NOR)** – An individual who:

- Is not a citizen of the host country; and,
- Does not ordinarily reside (*OR*, see below) in the host country; and,
- Is not subject to host country employment and tax laws; and,
- Has a US Social Security Number (SSN).

NOR employees are compensated under a GS or FS salary schedule, not under the LCP.

5. **Ordinarily Resident (OR)** – A Foreign National or US citizen who:

- Is locally resident; and,
- Has legal, permanent resident status within the host country; and,
- Is subject to host country employment and tax laws.

EFMs without US Social Security Numbers are also OR. All OR employees, including US citizens, are compensated in accordance with the Local Compensation Plan (LCP).

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS POSITION: December 23, 2015

The U.S. Mission in Riga provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation. The Department of State also strives to achieve equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations through continuing diversity enhancement programs.

The EEO complaint procedure is not available to individuals who believe they have been denied equal opportunity based upon marital status or political affiliation. Individuals with such complaints should avail themselves of the appropriate grievance procedures, remedies for prohibited personnel practices, and/or courts for relief.