Vacancy announcement

UN JPO Programme

JPO in Policy Planning

Junior Professional Officer (JPO), Department of Peace Operations (DPO), Policy, Evaluation and Training Division (DPET), Policy and Best Practices Service (PBPS)



Closing date 16 June 2024 6 pm EST

Vacancy Announcement # 24P040

I General information	
Title:	JPO in Policy Planning
Sector of Assignment:	Policy Planning, Political Affairs
Country:	USA
Location (City):	New York
Agency:	United Nations Secretariat / Department of Peace Operations (DPO), Policy, Evaluation and Training Division (DPET), Policy and Best Practices Service (PBPS)
Duration of Assignment:	Initially 1 year (with possible extension for another year)
Grade:	P2 step 1 in the first year

Note: This post is opened in the context of the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) scheme sponsored by Finland and is addressed to persons with Finnish citizenship.

Candidates must be born on or after 31/12/1991

II Duties, responsibilities and Output Expectations

Within delegated authority, the Junior Professional Officer will be responsible for the following duties:

The JPO will be directly involved in the assessment of ongoing policy issues for UN peacekeeping and will work with team members to maintain visibility of policy planning issues for consideration and analysis within the department. The JPO will also gather information on emerging opportunities and challenges for UN peacekeeping policy development from peacekeeping experts at Headquarters and in the field. Based on these processes, the JPO will be expected to develop appropriate and comprehensive written materials for use to support furtherance of policy initiatives of the Department of Peace Operations (DPO) for varied audiences.

The JPO will be involved in the preparation and provision of support to DPO senior management in helping to capture the evolving strategic context of peacekeeping as well as their consideration of specific emerging policy issues and will support formal and informal Secretariat outreach to Member States and other partners, contributing to the General Assembly's Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations-related products and peacekeeping policy outputs. The JPO will be expected to produce comprehensive talking points, speeches and briefing materials to support senior management processes and engage effectively with appropriate offices to ensure clear, accurate and timely information sharing and promulgation.

The JPO will also support, as relevant, on cross-departmental issues pertaining to policy development and planning, such as with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Operational Support. This may include through support of drafting, policy development work, data and information management, and policy coordination. In 2024/25, this will likely include supporting new policy, doctrine or reform related initiatives that emanate from the release of the Secretary-General's policy brief A New Agenda for Peace, the Pact and Summit for the Future 2024, and the Action for Peacekeeping/Action for Peacekeeping Plus initiative.

The Policy Planning Team will also, during the course of 2024/25, pursue initiatives to drive innovation in peacekeeping reform. In particular, the JPO will be involved in devising and identifying innovative methods to bolster and implement the team's work streams, in line with the Secretary-General's Quintet of Change for a UN 2.0 (data; digital transformation; innovation; strategic foresight; and behavioral science). A particular focus will be on strategic foresight and behavioral insights.

The Team will also continue work on a number of work streams mandated by intergovernmental bodies, including on the prioritization and sequencing of peacekeeping mandates and the documentation and handling of violations of status-of-forces-agreements.

The JPO will be expected to take on responsibilities under the guidance of the Team Leaeder on projects and activities within the purview of the Policy Planning Team and provide direct support to Team staff members, as required. Individual projects and outputs will be identified in the JPO's annual work plan.

III Training component: Learning elements and expectations

On completion of the assignment, the JPO will have/be able to...

- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the key challenges facing DPO and its field operations and the activities being planned and executed to overcome them.
- Identify and articulate and additional upcoming policy challenges to be addressed by DPO, such as on future operational models, peacekeeping doctrine, peace operations partnerships, questions of host state consent.
- Demonstrate a clear understanding of the policy development processes within DPO, including the relationships with Member States and the main and sub-committees of the UN legislative bodies, and the wider structures within UNHQ.

- Draft policy analysis, proposals and supporting materials for submission to and approval of DPO DPET leadership.
- Draft communications and outreach materials, speeches and presentations for use internally and externally by DPO senior leadership.
- Plan and implement project related support tasks including budget and project planning in accordance with relevant UN Regulations and Rules and appropriate standards and instructions.

IV Supervision

Title of Supervisor:

Policy Planning Team Leader

Content and methodology of supervision: Establishment of a Work Plan: During the first month of the assignment, the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) will work jointly with his/her direct supervisor to finalize an agreed upon work plan. The final work plan will be discussed and mutually agreed to by the JPO and his/her supervisor.

Evaluation: The United Nations Performance Evaluation System (e-performance) will serve as a primary platform to evaluate of the JPO's performance.

V Required Qualifications and Experience

Education:

Advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in Political Science, Peace and Conflict Studies, Social Science, International Relations, Global Affairs, International Development, Public Policy, Public Administration, Human Rights, Law, Psychology, or similar.

Working experience (incl. internships and volunteering):

A minimum of 2 years of relevant work experience in international relations, politics, or public policy, in particular in research, policy analysis or similar is required.

Experience in drafting background papers, articles, speeches and other communications products is desirable.

Experience in innovation projects, foresight exercises, or organizational change management efforts, is desirable.

Previous experience working in a multilateral organization at the field level or at Headquarters is an asset.

Languages:

English and French are the working languages of the UN Secretariat. For this position, fluency in English is required. Fluency of French is desirable. Knowledge of another official UN language is an asset.

UN competencies:

PROFESSIONALISM: Shows pride in work and in achievements; Demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter; Is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results; Is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns; Shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges; Remains calm in stressful situations.

COMMUNICATION: Speaks and writes clearly and effectively; Listens to others, correctly interprets messages from others and responds appropriately; Asks questions to clarify, and exhibits interest in having two-way communication; Tailors language, tone, style and format to match the audience; Demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.

TEAMWORK: Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals; Solicits input by genuinely valuing others' ideas and expertise; is willing to learn from others; Places team agenda before personal agenda; Supports and acts in accordance with final group decision, even when such decisions may not entirely reflect own position; Shares credit for team accomplishments and accepts joint responsibility for team shortcomings.

CREATIVITY: Actively seeks to improve programmes or services; Offers new and different options to solve problems or meet client needs; Promotes and persuades others to consider new ideas; Takes calculated risks on new and unusual ideas; thinks "outside the box"; Takes an interest in new ideas and new ways of doing things; Is not bound by current thinking or traditional approaches.

Workforce Diversity

The United Nations believes that an inclusive culture attracts the best talent and encourages all qualified applicants, regardless of gender, disability, sexual orientation, cultural or religious backgrounds, to apply.

VI Background information on Agency/Department/Section

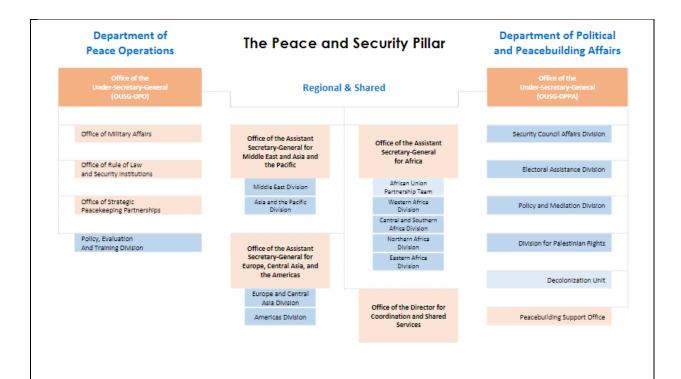
The Department of Peace Operations (DPO) is dedicated to assisting UN Member States and the Secretary-General in their efforts to maintain international peace and security. DPO does this in part by providing political and executive direction to UN peacekeeping operations around the world and maintains contact with the Security Council, troop, police, financial contributors, and parties to conflict in the implementation of Security Council mandates. The Department works to integrate the efforts of UN, governmental, and non-governmental entities in the context of peacekeeping operations and provides guidance and support on military, police, rule of law, mine action, and other relevant issues to other UN political and peacebuilding missions.

The Policy, Evaluation and Training Division (DPET) is mandated to develop and disseminate the policy and doctrine guiding the work of peacekeeping operations. In addition, at the request of the USG-DPO, the division has the responsibility to evaluate how those policies are being applied, gather lessons learned and best practices, and use that information to guide the development, coordination, and delivery of standardized training, so as to complete the learning cycle. DPET is also responsible for developing and maintaining strategic cooperation with various UN and external partners.

The Policy and Best Practices Service (PBPS) is mandated to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of peacekeeping operations through the exchange of good practices between missions, develop guidance materials, and provide thematic policy support in the areas of protection of civilians, civil affairs, conflict-related sexual violence and child protection. PBPS coordinates with best practices officers in the field and provides guidance on capturing lessons learned. PBPS serves as Secretariat for the Guidance Focal Points Group and supports the Guidance Development and Learning Steering Committee, Policy and Practice Database, UN resource hub and communities of practice.

The Policy Planning Team develops, coordinates and implements a range of policy portfolios in support of ongoing peacekeeping reform activities. It also identifies and develops new policy initiatives in response to the ongoing evolution of the global peacekeeping environment. The Team serves as DPO liaison with peacekeeping experts from civil society and academia; supports policy dialogue on cross-cutting peacekeeping issues; and provides conceptual and policy advice on a wide range of doctrinal and thematic questions.

Through its contributions, the Policy Planning Team strives to shape the narrative on, and understanding of, contemporary peacekeeping. In all its work streams, the team spearheads innovative practices and methods and seeks to provide effective and consistent support to senior officials and key policy forums and processes.



VII How to apply

Applicants should submit their application electronically directly to the Organization.

Candidates who would like to apply should do so online via

https://owa.undesa.it/oas/oas.aspx?CMD=START&CP=6

Applications must be received no later than 16 June 2024, 6.00 pm (Eastern Time UTC-5, New York USA). Applications received after this date will not be considered. Applicants will receive a confirmation of receipt.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted thereafter.