



Maynooth University Ollscoil Má Nuad

Edward M Kennedy Institute for Conflict Intervention

Capabilities in EU Conflict Prevention Research Fellow (16 month Post)

The University

Formally established as an autonomous university in 1997, but tracing its origins to the foundation of the Royal College of St. Patrick in 1795, the National University of Ireland, Maynooth (Maynooth University) draws on a heritage of over 200 years' commitment to education and scholarship. The last two decades have seen the University grow rapidly in scale, strength and stature. Maynooth University is today a university of international standing, renowned for the quality and value of its research and scholarship, for its dedication to excellent teaching, for providing an outstanding learning experience for its 10,000 students, and as a uniquely collegial environment in which to pursue scholarly work.

Maynooth University is embarking upon a new and exciting phase of its development under the *University Strategic Plan 2012-17* with a vision to consolidate the international reputation of Maynooth University "as a university known for outstanding teaching, excellent research, a global outlook, effective engagement with the society we serve, and our distinctive approach to the challenges facing modern higher education."

The *University Strategic Plan 2012-17* sets seven strategic goals for the university:

- to offer students an outstanding university education, the best available in Ireland, an education which challenges and supports all students to achieve their full potential, and prepares students for life, work and citizenship, and for complexity, diversity and change;
- to be recognised by 2017 as playing a leading international role and being the clear national leader in a number of thematic areas of research that address the major societal challenges of the 21st century;
- to achieve a step change in our international activities, doubling the number of international students on campus and doubling the number of domestic students spending time abroad, in order to create a truly intercultural and multilingual institution;
- to strengthen our engagement with all stakeholders through sustained partnerships with enterprises, communities, civil society and public bodies, to build support for the mission of



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the university, to serve the needs of society, and to open new opportunities for research and learning;

- to maximise our unique and distinctive contribution to the national system of higher education through a set of purposeful and sustained strategic partnerships at regional and national level, and to extend our international reach through a network of global partnerships;
- to be an excellent place to work, known for a collegial ethos which empowers all staff to contribute fully to the development of the university;
- to enable the achievement of ambitious strategic objectives in challenging circumstances through careful planning, excellent services and infrastructure, and sound governance and management.

The University has distinctive institutional strengths in six thematic priority areas:

- People, Place and Environment;
- Social and Economic Transformations;
- Human Health;
- Mathematics, Communications and Computation;
- Humanities in Practice; Sources, Resources & Discourses;
- Human Cultures, Experience & Creativity.

The University has 27 academic departments which are organised into three Faculties: Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy; Science and Engineering; and Social Sciences. The University is also home to a number of multi- and trans-disciplinary research institutes, including the Hamilton Institute, the National Centre for Geocomputation, the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis, and Institute of Immunology.

In a pioneering recent development, Maynooth University, Dublin City University and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland have established the 3U Partnership, a new strategic association that brings together the distinctive and complementary strengths of the three institutions.

The Edward M Kennedy Institute

The Edward M Kennedy Institute was established in 2011 and works through research, teaching and outreach programmes to build capacity for conflict intervention (mediation) and to support organisation, institution, and community transformation and leadership. It achieves this through

- The generation of new knowledge that requires interdisciplinary engagement and innovative means of fostering collaboration between practitioners, communities, academics, educators, and researchers
- The development and delivery education programmes, research colloquia, conferences, academic papers, policy documents, multi/social media and other means of dissemination
- Bridging the connection between teaching, research and practice so that are all enhanced through interactions that acknowledge their systemic relationship.

Research Fellow

The Institute wishes to recruit a **Research Fellow** to work on the IECEU Horizon 2020 funded project. The successful candidate will work with Professor Robert Galavan and Dr Kieran Doyle predominantly on a review of the current situation in the EU mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL).

The objective is to assess the current situation, in particular through the engagement of the European Union (EU) Common Security and Defence Policy missions in the area. To achieve the aim a field



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study will be conducted in Afghanistan in order to gain first-hand experience, primarily through interviews with personnel of EUPOL Afghanistan to gather information as regards the impact, and added value, of the EU missions on the ground. Through gathering a group of contemporary experts, both European and international, to discuss the findings of the review in Afghanistan and in general the reform processes within the Afghan security sector. The objective is to identify the lessons identified and best practices from EU (and other international) engagement in support of the reform of security sector. Based on the roundtable discussions, the objective is to prepare a lessons identified report for further dissemination and to be included in the final report of the Working Package.

An important part of the role will be to conduct desk research on the current situation in Afghanistan, prepare for a field visit, take part in the field visit, and prepare reports. Specific deliverables will include a review of the Afghan situation and a study report of Afghanistan field visit. The candidate will also be expected to produce related outputs for dissemination including academic articles, training materials, and other promotional materials. The candidate will take part in and support outreach activities and other impact activities to promote, demonstrate and publish project results.

The ideal candidate will have:

Essential:

- A PhD in a relevant discipline with demonstrable competencies in research project planning, field work, and the preparation of applied reports
- Extensive knowledge of EU CSDP and EEAS
- An awareness of research challenges in hostile environments
- A willingness to travel to conduct fieldwork (Afghanistan)
- A track record in academic research publication
- A demonstrable capability to promote and disseminate findings through a variety of mechanisms and sources.

Desirable:

- Knowledge and/or experience in EU CSDP missions
- Knowledge and/or experience in training of personnel for EU CSDP missions
- Experience and/or knowledge of SSR activities in Afghanistan
- Field experience in Afghanistan
- Experience working in hostile environments
- eHEST certification
- Hostile Environment Awareness Training
- EU security clearance

Selection and Appointment

- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for interview.
- It is anticipated that shortlisted candidates will be advised by October 7th 2015.
- It is anticipated that interviews will take place during the week of October 26th 2015.
- The appointment is expected to be effective from latest February 1st 2016.
- Candidates must inform if they are aware of any reason why they would not receive EU security clearance or an entry visa for Afghanistan.



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Salary

Research Fellow (2013*): €51,716 – €53,245 per annum

Appointment will be made in accordance with the Department of Finance guidelines.

*New entrants to the public sector will be appointed on the first point of the 2013 pay scale

Application Procedure

Please ensure that you USE THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE '**RF_Kennedy**' in the subject line of your application email. This will clarify which role you are applying for.

Please note applications should be made by sending the following information as **ONE single attachment** (either in PDF or word format) incorporating all of the below required information:

- A Curriculum Vitae, including all qualifications and experience, and a covering letter addressing your interest and suitability for the role;
- The names, email addresses, correspondence addresses and telephone numbers of three referees whom the University may contact.

Once attachment is compiled please send your single document application to recruitment@nuim.ie

The completed application documents should be forwarded by email to arrive no later than **midnight, Friday, 18th of September, 2015**. Late applications will not be accepted.

Maynooth University is an equal opportunities employer

The position is subject to the Statutes of the University



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