

**RESIDENT ADVISORS (MoDA) PROGRAM**  
**Position Description: IRAQ- Senior Political Military Advisor**

**Title:** Senior Advisor (SSR & ONSA)  
**Location:** Baghdad, Iraq (NMI)  
**Series/Grade:** GS-14/15

**COCOM:** CENTCOM  
**Tour length:** 12 months\*  
**Clearance:** Secret

**Applicants must be DoD Civil Service in the GS 14/15 pay grade to be eligible**

**Background:**

NATO Mission Iraq (NMI) was established in response to a U.S. Secretary of Defense request for NATO support of Security Sector Reform (SSR) efforts in Iraq (also known as Institutional Capacity Building (ICB)). NATO assistance in support of Iraqi SSR covers a wide range of efforts, including but not limited to: Defense Planning, Civil Preparedness/ Civil Emergency Planning, Building Integrity (BI) Program, Defense Education Enhancement Program (DEEP), Cyber Defense, Human Resources Management (HRM) Logistics/Sustainability, Procurement, Gender Integration, Peace and Security.

**Resident Advisor Requirements:**

The incumbent will advise Iraqi Defense and the Office of National Security (ONS) counterparts at the ministry level. Work within the NMI Specialized Program Office to plan and coordinate NATO support to Iraqi SSR efforts. Advise Iraqi counterparts to build capacity in identifying gaps, and subsequently developing sustainable, capability based plans and policies that fit Iraqi laws and customs. The incumbent must possess the necessary interpersonal skills, patience, tact, and diplomatic acumen to deftly negotiate partner engagements in order to establish Iraqi buy-in and ownership without having to promise NATO equipment support. Ensure continuity of effort and on-site follow up with Iraqi counterparts on outcomes and opportunities resulting from engagements by visiting subject matter experts and Mobile Training Teams (MTT). Synchronize SSR plans and activities in close coordination with NATO International Staff (Brussels) and other International Organizations. Advise Commander (COM) NMI on all SSR related issues. Act as Subject Matter Expert (SME) for best practices to both SSR counterparts and NMI staffs/colleagues. Coordinate with other MoDA advisors or applicable stakeholders both inside and outside of Iraq to synchronize Institutional Capacity Building (ICB) concepts, plans, and lines of effort efforts nationwide.

**Required Knowledge/Skills/Abilities:**

- Minimum of ten (10) years' experience as a DoD civilian with documented experience developing policy across large organizations and commands.
- Minimum five (5) years' experience developing and coordinating policies and strategies for the purpose to develop national-level defense capabilities, specifically crisis management capability.
- Experience advising executive-level leadership on risk management strategies that identify and exploit opportunities, minimize exposure to threat, minimize losses during crises, and ensure continuity of operations following a disaster.

- Proven self-starter who can be successful working independently at various organizational levels and with senior leaders from multiple functional areas.
- Experience to work in an environment with limited resources on compressed timelines, and apply innovative and creative solutions to resolve problems.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively engage with senior civilian defense and military general/flag officers, both U.S. and foreign, and operate in complex interagency/inter-ministry and multinational environments.
- Exceptional interpersonal and collaboration skills, preferably with experience in mentoring, training, and living in an international setting.
- Demonstrated experience in the law enforcement and security fields associated with the Security Sector Reform as delineated above (e.g. Crisis Management, and Critical Infrastructure Protection).
- Prior knowledge of NATO structures, organization, procurement, decision-making, policies, documents, partnership tools, hierarchies, and NATO relationships with non-NATO partners.

**Desired Knowledge/Skills/Abilities:**

- Graduate of senior level Professional Military Education program, such as War College, with an emphasis on international studies.
- International security experience in developing, implementing, and managing crisis management programs with foreign partners or multi-national organizations such as NATO.
- Military/civilian experience as an Operations or Logistics Officer.

**Additional Information:**

The advisor will make a Temporary Duty (TDY) move to Iraq, and will receive premium pay for nights/weekends and holidays, hazard duty, post differential, and overtime while assigned to post. Danger pay and post differential premium pays are calculated based on Department of State guidance:

[https://aoprals.state.gov/Web920/location\\_action.asp?MenuHide=1&CountryCode=1157](https://aoprals.state.gov/Web920/location_action.asp?MenuHide=1&CountryCode=1157)

Premium pay for nights, weekends, and holidays are calculated based on OPM guidance

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/pay-administration/fact-sheets/premium-pay-title-5/>

\* Must be available for detail from home organization for a period of at least 14-months to include training, and preparation for a 12-month assignment.

It is recommended that applicants seek guidance from their organization's payroll activity to better understand how the entitlements are calculated and their impact on the applicant's personal income.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Interested applicants should submit the following:

1. Cover letter summarizing how your skills and capabilities align with the requirements

2. Complete chronological resume (include civilian GS grade, military rank or industry title for each position)
3. Most recent SF-50 (redact SSN and date of birth)
4. Three (3) Supervisor References: Required from current supervisor and/or supervisors from prior deployments (substitutions allowed)
5. Documentation of command / component approval to deploy

Submit application package to the Resident Advisor Program Office email address:  
[dsca.ncr.bpc.list.moda@mail.mil](mailto:dsca.ncr.bpc.list.moda@mail.mil)

**Army Employees:**

Must submit the endorsement of their command leadership along with an application and their resume to the Assistant G-1 for Civilian Personnel ECW team. Click on the following link and create an account to begin: [www.apan.org](http://www.apan.org). After creating the account, download the Request for Deployment (RFD) fillable form and process through chain of command as instructed.

**Air Force Employees:**

Must submit approved AF Expeditionary Civilian application to the AF Expeditionary Civilian team prior to Resident Advisor consideration. The employee is required to obtain WG/CC or equivalent approval, when approved submit application and resume to the AFPC Expeditionary Civilian team at [afpc.expeditionarycivilian@us.af.mil](mailto:afpc.expeditionarycivilian@us.af.mil) for final AF action. The AFPC team will submit to Resident Advisor for consideration. The application and other information are available at the AF

Expeditionary Civilian site: [https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/12852/AFKN\\_Docs/Forms/AllItems.aspx](https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/12852/AFKN_Docs/Forms/AllItems.aspx)

**Navy and US Marine Corps Employees:**

Click on the following link to the Resident Advisor Application and Command Support Form for DON Employees:

<https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/MRA/DONHR/OCHRStennis/Expeditionary%20Civilian%20Workforce/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

**Other DoD Agency Employees:**

Provide approval memo staffed through your appropriate Deployment Coordinator or agency headquarters. If you do not know your agency's deployment coordinator, contact the Resident Advisor recruiting team: [dsca.ncr.bpc.list.modaprograminfo@mail.mil](mailto:dsca.ncr.bpc.list.modaprograminfo@mail.mil)