Reporting Line:

The position of the Senior Legal Officer is located in the Registry’s Chambers Legal Support Unit, to be deployed as needed to the Judges’ Chambers, in particular the Court of Appeals Panel. When deployed, the Senior Legal Officer reports to the Chef de Cabinet/Senior Legal Officer.

Main Tasks and Responsibilities:

- To provide expert advice on substantive legal and procedural issues and on case management to the judges;
- To provide extensive legal research, particularly on criminal law, international law and international criminal law;
- To coordinate and prepare draft memoranda and draft decisions/judgments based on discussions with the judges;
- To support the judges and the President’s Office in the preparation and organisation of plenary meetings of judges;
- To supervise the work of the junior lawyers assigned to the Court of Appeals, including all drafting and research of the Panel;
- To manage all cases before the Court of Appeals;
- To liaise between the parties, the Registry and the Panel;
- To participate in meetings with judges and provide substantive legal advice;
- To attend judicial proceedings and hearings before the Court of Appeals;
- To maintain files on the Specialist Chambers practice and development;
- To monitor relevant developments in criminal and international law;
- To act as general liaison with persons both inside and outside the Kosovo Specialist Chambers;
- To perform any associated administrative tasks related to the efficient running of the Panel and the Specialist Chambers as a whole, including interview panels, appointment and promotion boards and contract committees;
- To undertake any other related tasks as requested by the Line Managers.

Additional Information:

- Temporary re-assignment to the other units of the Specialist Chambers may be applicable due to operational demands/requirements.

Essential Qualifications and Experience:

- Successful completion of University studies of at least four (4) years attested by a diploma OR a qualification in the National Qualifications Framework which is equivalent to level 7 in the European Qualifications Framework OR a qualification of the second cycle under the framework of qualifications of the European Higher Education Area e.g. Master's degree.

AND
- A minimum of twelve (12) years of relevant professional experience, after having fulfilled the education requirements out of which a minimum three (3) years of management experience.
Specification of Education and Experience

- The above mentioned University degree must be in Law;
- A minimum of five (5) years of professional experience at the international level (experience at the appeals level is an asset, but not essential);
- Extensive knowledge and practical experience of international law;
- Intellectual leadership and ability to integrate knowledge and experience with broader strategic, policy and operational objectives;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills (verbal, written and presentational) including ability to defend difficult positions;
- Excellent drafting and reporting skills in English;
- Ability to work productively in a fast-paced, team-oriented environment and produce accurate work under pressure and in difficult circumstances;
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with people from different national and/or cultural backgrounds with respect for diversity.

Desirable

- Knowledge of other official languages of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office (Albanian or Serbian);
- Knowledge of the functioning of the EU and in particular CSDP Missions;
- Good understanding of the political, cultural and security situation of the Balkans, in particular Kosovo.