

**MINISTRY of DEFENSE ADVISORS (MoDA)**  
**Position Description - Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)**

**Title: Senior Advisor Maritime Domain Awareness**

**COCOM: EUCOM**

**Grade: GS-14/15**

**Tour Length: 12 to 24 months**

**Location: Bucharest, Romania**

**Clearance: Secret/TS/SCI**

**\* Eligibility: Applicants must be DoD Civilians in GS-14/15 pay grades or equivalent \***

The Ministry of Defense Advisors program trains advisors to work with Partner Nations to identify long term goals and to achieve locally developed, sustainable solutions. Successful completion of the MoDA 6-week comprehensive training course is required. Training includes advising and mentoring skills, capacity building, operational readiness, as well as history, culture, and language training.

**Background:**

In response to the recent expansion of Russian Forces activity in the region, the Romanian Navy and US NAVEUR are increasingly interested in expanding the surveillance and warfighting capabilities of the Romanian Navy in the Black Sea. This area of responsibility would include the coastal sensor network of Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) as well as the Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) capabilities. This effort includes an assessment of Romanian navy capabilities and provision of recommendations to the USG and Romanian Ministry of National Defense (MOND) on how to integrate and sustain U.S provided capabilities. Further advising is required for the chief of the Navy and Minister of Defense on whole-of-government approaches to maximizing MDA and ASW information gathering processes, processing of data and distribution to the interagency, NATO Allies and regional partners.

**Specific Tasks:**

- Review existing MDA capabilities and requirements for completeness, accuracy, and applicability, identify potential resource shortfalls, conflicts, gaps, risks, and overlaps, and provide recommendations based on the review.
- Improve information sharing and interoperability with U.S. and NATO forces and assist with upgrading coastal surveillance, communications and networking equipment for counter illicit trafficking / proliferation and other maritime security operations in the Black Sea.
- Encourage broad interaction among agencies to identify organizations, partnerships, best practices, and other efforts that enhance maritime security through expanded MDA collaboration.
- Improve partner nation organizational capabilities to effectively share information on people, cargo, vessels, infrastructure, natural and man-made disasters, and other potential threats within the maritime domain.
- Assist with the development of organizational maritime information-sharing agreement and protocols.

**Required Knowledge, Skills and Experience:**

- Minimum twelve years of experience with maritime strategy, maritime intelligence, policy, or maritime security matters at the operational and strategic levels.

- Background in MDA, related MDA intelligence support, and MDA programs and policy, including precursor engagement activities and information-sharing agreements needed to enable a regional information-sharing architecture, e.g. ONI, USCG MIFC, JIATF, NAVEUR, etc.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate and help problem solve the bureaucratic complications of the Foreign Military Sales process that would include proposals and end-to-end capability/process flow.
- Experience working in service, combatant, and strategic level headquarters, e.g., OPNAV, OSD, Joint Staff, USCG, ONI, and/or COCOM staff.
- Demonstrated communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively with counterparts to help them achieve goals through the provision of quality advice, support, and mentoring.
- Proven success in individual and organizational capacity building and aptitude to share knowledge, mentor and coach others.
- Experience with requirements identification and capability development.
- Demonstrated ability to work in an environment with limited resources and to apply innovative and creative solutions to resolve problems.
- Proven self-starter who can be successful working independently at various organizational levels and with executives/managers/leaders/staffs from multiple functional areas and cultural backgrounds.
- Ability to assess diverse bureaucratic/cultural environments and apply out-of-the-box thinking in order to pursue U.S. “Whole of Government” objectives.
- Knowledge of DoD U.S. security cooperation and security assistance programs.

#### **Additional Information:**

- Incumbent must be available for detail from their home organization for a period of at least 14 months to include training, preparation and a 12 to 24 month assignment.
- The selected MoDA will do a Temporary Change of Station (TCS) move to Bucharest for 12 to 24 months and will receive post differential and Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) while assigned to post. COLA is calculated based on the comparative cost-of-living at the foreign post versus the cost-of-living in Washington DC. COLA is not a direct calculation of base salary multiplied by the COLA percentage, but rather a percentage of spendable income as determined by the Department of State. For more information about COLA, go to: [https://aoprals.state.gov/content.asp?content\\_id=245&menu\\_id=74](https://aoprals.state.gov/content.asp?content_id=245&menu_id=74)
- This position is eligible to receive Relocation Incentive Pay in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 5753 and DSCA policy.
- It is incumbent upon the applicant to understand the entitlements when considering applying for this position, and 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: Summarize how your skills and capabilities align with the requirements
2. Complete, narrative chronological resume
3. Current SF-50: redact SSN and date of birth

4. Supervisor reference(s): required from current supervisor and supervisor from prior deployments to Iraq or Afghanistan
5. Documentation of command/ component approval to deploy

Submit complete application package to the MoDA Program Office email address:

[dsca.ncr.bpc.list.moda@mail.mil](mailto:dsca.ncr.bpc.list.moda@mail.mil)

**Command Approval is required:**

**Department of the 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 MoDA 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 MoDA 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 MoDA Application and Command Support Form for DON Employees:

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

Submit completed MoDA Application and Command Support Form for DON Employees to the group email inbox: [OCHRSTE\\_EC@navy.mil](mailto:OCHRSTE_EC@navy.mil). Ensure “MoDA” appears in the subject line.

**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 MoDA recruiting team:

[dsca.ncr.bpc.list.modaprograminfo@mail.mil](mailto:dsca.ncr.bpc.list.modaprograminfo@mail.mil)