

THE TRUTH ABOUT APPLYING FOR NATO CONTRACT ROLES

What nobody tells you before you hit “apply”.

SWIPE TO READ →

IT'S NOT THE JOB BOARD YOU **THINK** IT IS

Most NATO roles never reach a public careers page. They move through **framework contracts and cleared partners** under tight submission deadlines. If you're only refreshing job boards, you're already behind.

TRUTH 01

CLEARANCE IS THE GATEKEEPER — NOT YOUR CV

No active or eligible clearance, and the finest CV never gets read. Put your **clearance level and status** in the first two lines. It's the first thing checked — and the fastest way to be filtered out.

TRUTH 02

IF IT ISN'T WRITTEN DOWN, IT **DOESN'T COUNT**

NATO submissions are scored line-by-line against mandatory requirements. “I’ve basically done that” loses to a CV that **maps each requirement explicitly**. Mirror the wording of the brief.

TRUTH 03

SPEED BEATS PERFECTION

Every role runs to a submission deadline. A strong candidate who's three days late loses to a good-enough one who's on time. Have your **CV, clearance proof and availability ready** before the role opens.

TRUTH 04

ONE CV DOES NOT FIT ALL

Each role needs a tailored, NATO-format CV: **reverse-chronological, requirement-matched, no fluff.**

Evaluators want proof and dates, not a personal-brand statement.

TRUTH 05

YOUR RECRUITER IS AN ALLY, NOT A GATE

A good partner recruiter positions you, closes gaps before submission and preps you for the client call. Be straight about your **clearance, notice period and rate** — the more they know, the harder they fight for you.

THE SHORT VERSION

- 1 **Clearance first.** Lead with your level and status.
- 2 **Match every line.** Evidence beats implication.
- 3 **Move fast.** The deadline decides, not perfection.

CLEARED AND EYEING NATO CONTRACT WORK? LET'S TALK.

Follow for more straight talk on cleared hiring — and drop me a message when you're ready to move.