

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

July 2017

International Legal Adviser, India–New Delhi

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) is a worldwide network of judges and lawyers united in affirming international law and rule of law principles that advance human rights.

The ICJ South Asia office is recruiting an International Legal Adviser to lead its India programme, based in New Delhi. The ideal candidate will be a practicing human rights lawyer with a robust knowledge of national and international human rights law, and practical experience of human rights research, advocacy and litigation in India's legal system. The ideal candidate will have a specialization in Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) rights, and a well-developed network amongst civil society organizations (CSOs), including Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) groups, legal practitioners, and relevant authorities in India.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Reporting directly to the ICJ's Asia-Pacific Regional Director based in Bangkok, the ILA will work in collaboration with the rest of the ICJ South Asia team and under the guidance of the ICJ Regional Office and ICJ Headquarters, and with other project stakeholders and will hold the following responsibilities:

- Implementing various aspects of the ICJ's India programme using the full range of ICJ advocacy strategies and legal interventions;
- Supporting strategic litigation; and conducting a range of awareness-raising and advocacy activities, including by liaising with key officials and authorities;
- Conducting and preparing and follow-up on legal reports, memos and court submissions;
- Contribute to the development of the ICJ South Asia and India strategies, and participate in proposal development and fundraising as needed;
- Supervise national legal staff, and facilitate the visits of international and national experts;
- Promoting and protecting human rights, and ending discrimination – including discrimination on the basis of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Rights in India;
- Addressing the discrimination faced by LGBTI communities across India by challenging discriminatory laws and practices;
- Raising awareness about SOGI-based violence and discrimination, and engaging with the judiciary;
- Preparing documentation evidence of violence and discrimination against individuals on the basis of their SOGI and critically analyze the existing legal framework, and publishing a report containing research findings;
- Providing other legal support necessary for the fulfillment of project objectives;
- Compiling, drafting and finalizing the national research report on SOGI-based discrimination particularly on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCRs);
- Contributing to the implementation of other project activities (reports, workshops, public presentations, press statements and other advocacy initiatives);
- Monitoring and reviewing the project work plan as needed, and to report against project progress, activities and results;

- Ensuring the primary liaison with ICJ's partner organizations in the field, and maintaining appropriate communication and information flow regarding the project within ICJ in the region, in Geneva and other offices and staff;
- Upon the request of the Asia-Pacific Regional Director, represent the project externally with CSOs, the Indian judiciary, and relevant Government agencies.
- Assisting in other ICJ activities at the request of the Asia-Pacific Regional Director.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will have:

Education & Experience

- University degree in law with further academic studies in international human rights law;
- At least seven years of experience working as a human rights lawyer and practitioner in India;
- Further academic studies and/or trainings in international human rights law specializing on SOGI rights highly desirable;
- Demonstrated experience in human rights research, advocacy and litigation; and experience in working towards the implementation of international human rights standards at the national level.

Essential Skills

- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of relevant Indian law and international human rights standards on SOGI rights;
- Experience of developing networks and collaborating with civil society organizations, human rights defenders and legal professionals in the field of human rights and SOGI issues in India;
- Strong research, analytical, litigation and advocacy skills;
- Strong command of English, both verbal and written; knowledge of Hindi is an asset.
- Sound communication and inter-personal skills;
- Ability to work well with a team, including remotely and under minimum supervision;
- Ability to maintain security and confidentiality considerations throughout the employment and beyond;
- Commitment to human rights, rule of law, and the ICJ's mandate and the project objectives.

The ICJ is an equal opportunities employer and offers competitive consultancy fees, including medical insurance. This is a full-time position.

APPLICATIONS comprising a cover letter, resume, a writing sample and the names of at least 2 references should be submitted by **15 August 2017** as follows:

Ref: International Legal Adviser - India

By email: asia-recruitment@icj.org

Please appreciate that due to the volume of applications only short-listed candidates will be contacted. We cannot answer phone enquiries. Thank you for your understanding.