

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### ***Research Assistant- Nepal***

**Type of contracts:** Consultancy (Full time)  
**Location:** Nepal  
**Duration of contract for the consultant:** 2 months.  
**Start Date:** April 1 2018  
**End Date:** May 31 2018

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) is seeking qualified applicants to act as a Research Assistant under the supervision of ICJ's International Legal Advisor (ILA). The primary role of the consultant will be to support the ICJ's ILA in producing a country report on the Freedom of Religious Beliefs (FoRB) in Nepal. This report will feature main findings and recommendations related to FoRB in Nepal in light of relevant international human rights law and standards.

#### **Overview of ICJ and work in Nepal**

Composed of 60 eminent judges and lawyers from all regions of the world, the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) promotes and protects human rights through the rule of law, by using its unique legal expertise to develop and strengthen national and international justice systems. Established in 1952 and active on the five continents, the ICJ aims to ensure the progressive development and effective implementation of international human rights and international humanitarian law; secure the realization of civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights; safeguard the separation of powers; and guarantee the independence of the judiciary and legal profession. Across South Asia, including in Nepal, the ICJ has addressed problems with the rule of law and accountability for serious human rights violations. The ICJ Asia & Pacific Programme established a presence in Nepal in February 2005, following earlier high-level missions to the country.

#### **Scope of work and methodology**

The consultant will assist in conducting in-depth research into laws, policies and practices relevant to FoRB in Nepal in accordance with the concept note behind this report.

- **Review and analysis of the data**

- (i) Collect and compile the data as well as carry out a desk review of any current and proposed legislation on FoRB.
- (ii) Carry out legal analysis of the relevant legislations (current and proposed) through the lens of International Human Rights law and standards.
- (iii) Identify gaps and shortcomings as well as recommendations for the laws, policies and practices relevant to FoRB in Nepal.

Based on the abovementioned and any other pertinent analysis, produce a draft country report to be reviewed by the ICJ's South Asia ILA.

- **Production of a draft country report on FoRB in Nepal.**

Based on the abovementioned and any other pertinent analysis, produce a draft country report to be reviewed by the ICJ's South Asia ILA.

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- **Incorporate feedback on the draft report**

The consultant will incorporate any feedback that will be provided on the draft newsletter by the ICJ legal team for a final review by the ICJ. The consultant will also maintain a regular communication and seek guidance from the ICJ South Asia ILA in the process of producing the draft report.

- **Reporting back to the ILA**

The consultant will periodically report back to the ICJ South Asia ILA on progress made on the report as well as any relevant development in context in Nepal.

### **Deliverables:**

The final deliverables of this consultancy work will be:

- Desk Review: Relevant literature including current and proposed legislation on FoRB in Nepal are collected, compiled and reviewed. Key findings from the desk review are compiled and produced for review by the ICJ's South Asia ILA.
- Based on inputs from the ILA on the draft key findings from deskreview, a draft report is produced. The draft report should also include analysis of the current and proposed legislation from the perspective of International Human Rights law and standards.
- The feedback provided by the ICJ on the draft report is incorporated into the final version of the report.
- Fortnightly updates on the progress made on the report as well as any relevant development in the context is provided to the ILA

### **Qualifications and Experience:**

- Minimum LLB in Law. Postgraduate degree or comesurable research experience in Law or Human Rights preferred
- Fluent in both Nepali and English
- Proven record in report research and writing
- Demonstrable commitment to the Rule of Law and Human Rights
- Keen understanding of Rights to Freedom of Religious Belief in Nepal preferred.

The ICJ is an equal opportunities employer and values diversity. Qualified applicants from Nepal's religious minority groups are encouraged to apply.

**Application** Close on 16 March 2018 and should be addressed with your resume, a cover letter and the names of at least 2 references to:

Ref: Research Assistant Consultant

By email: [shaun.martinez@icj.org](mailto:shaun.martinez@icj.org)