

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

July 2019

Legal Associate – South Africa

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) is a global network of advocates promoting justice and human rights.

The ICJ has an exciting new opening for a Legal Associate who will assist with the implementation of projects relating to ESCR and protection of human rights defenders. This is a full-time, short-term position, starting in September 2019 and ending on 31 January 2020. The position is based in Johannesburg.

The ideal candidate will have an LLB or its equivalent, with extensive knowledge policy formulation, domestic human rights law, international human rights law, and 2-3 years of legal experience at the national, regional, or international levels. The candidate needs to have demonstrable experience working for or extensively engaging with justice sector actors and/or human rights NGOs. We are looking for someone who is a potential leader with strong interpersonal skills, passionate about human rights, with a strong commitment to gender and racial equality and diversity. The candidate must be a team player who is keen to engage in public advocacy, and work in a collaborative way to deliver high quality work on time.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Legal Associate will assist with the implementation of projects relating to ESCR and protection of human rights defenders. Reporting to the ICJ Africa Regional Director and the ICJ Legal Adviser on ESCR the Legal Associate will:

- Provide research assistance to the ICJ's Legal Adviser on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the ICJ's Africa Director;
- Draft press statements, opinion pieces, web-stories and other written material as required;
- Support the ICJ's Legal Adviser on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the ICJ's Africa Director in completion of advocacy activities and events;
- Assist in the development of materials for the training of judicial officers in Africa on the right to education with a focus on the Abidjan Principles;
- Work closely with the Southern African Human Rights Defenders Network in developing an advocacy strategy for the protection of human rights defenders advocating for ESCR in Southern Africa;
- With reasonable notice, be available to travel within and outside of South Africa to advocacy events, workshops, seminars and the activities;
- Conduct any other activities reasonably necessary for the completion of the duties of an ICJ legal associate;
- Work closely with ICJ staff and partner organizations in the region, as designated by the ICJ;
- Be available upon reasonable notice for regular meetings at the ICJ's Offices or via Skype with ICJ Staff and other partner organizations; and

- Report to regional director or other ICJ staff, including the ICJ's Legal Adviser on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, regularly on progress made with regards to all activities undertaken.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will have:

Education & Experience

- University degree in law. A master's degree in human rights law or another relevant field is an advantage.
- 2-3 years of legal experience at national and/or international level, including with non-or inter-governmental organizations.
- Experience working in the field of ESCR and/or protection of human rights defenders.

Essential Skills

- Demonstrated commitment to human rights, equality and non-discrimination and the rule of law;
- Excellent legal, political judgment and proven ability to carry out innovative legal advocacy strategies;
- Demonstrated excellent analytical and writing competency;
- Strong research and analytical skills;
- Sound organizational skills and the ability to meet deadlines;
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work with senior government officials and judicial officers;
- Strong motivator for colleagues;
- Openness and flexibility, capacity to adapt to changing priorities and needs;
- Willingness to travel regularly.

The ICJ is an equal opportunities employer and offers competitive salary package.

Applications:

Applications close on **9 August 2019** and should be addressed with:

1. A cover letter of maximum 1-2 pages expressing interest in the position and relevant expertise and experience.
2. An up to date CV or resume (you may also include links to or attached publications/research work you deem relevant).
3. A maximum 1-2 page outline of proposed workshop materials for workshops with judicial officers in Africa on the right to education. The outline should take into consideration the [Abidjan Principles](#).

Ref: Legal Associate ESCR and HRDS

By email: africa-recruitment@icj.org

Please appreciate that, owing to the volume of applicants, only short-listed candidates will be contacted. We regret that we are unable to answer phone enquiries.