The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) is an International NGO that works to promote and protect human rights through the Rule of Law.

The ICJ is seeking to engage a legal consultant to assist in drafting in Spanish an ICJ guide on the investigation and prosecution of extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearance. The Guide will be framed in an accessible way that enables it to be used in trainings and educational workshops targeted at human rights defenders around the world.

I. BACKGROUND

Within the framework of the ICJ’s Global Redress and Accountability Initiative¹ and the European Union-supported project Promoting justice for extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances in Colombia, Guatemala and Peru² the ICJ will develop a new guide for human rights defenders on the investigation and prosecution of unlawful death and enforced disappearance.

The Guide will provide human rights defenders with concise, concrete and accessible explanations of the legal and practical implications of the Revised Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death 2016.³

The Guide will draw from ICJ Practitioners Guides⁴ No 14 (on the investigation and prosecution of potentially unlawful death), No 2 (on remedies and reparation), No 7 (on impunity) and Nos 9 and 10 (on enforced disappearance and extrajudicial execution)⁵.

II. OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the new Guide is to strengthen the accountability of perpetrators of extrajudicial, arbitrary and summary executions, and victims’ access to effective remedies and reparation, by enhancing the knowledge and confidence of human rights defenders in the use of relevant international law and standards including those contained in the Revised Minnesota Protocol.

The Guide also seeks to:

- Enhance the knowledge and confidence of human rights defenders involved in seeking accountability of perpetrators, or remedies and reparation for victims, of extrajudicial, arbitrary and summary executions and enforced disappearance; and
- Provide the ICJ with a guide that can be used in the related capacity building of human rights defenders and others.

Although the Guide is focused on the investigation and prosecution of unlawful death, its intended impact is wider. By seeking to enhance redress and accountability for extrajudicial, arbitrary and summary executions and enforced disappearances, it is intended that the knowledge and confidence gained by human rights defenders will be applied to achieving redress and accountability for other gross human rights violations.

The final outline of the guide will be developed with the consultant; however, some chapters may be expected to include:

1. Introduction (Aims and scope of the Guide and of the Revised Minnesota Protocol)

¹ Information about the initiative is available at: https://www.icj.org/themes/accountability/
³ The English version of the Protocol is available at: https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Executions/Pages/RevisionoftheUNManualPreventionExtraLegalArbitrary.aspx
⁴ The English version of the guide is available at: https://www.icj.org/category/publications/practitioners-guides-series/
⁵ All ICJ Practitioners’ guides are available at: https://www.icj.org/category/publications/practitioners-guides-series/
2. Potentially unlawful death and enforced disappearance defined
3. State duties to investigate and prosecute
4. State duties to provide remedies and reparations
5. The rights of victims, their families and of witnesses
6. Practical considerations for civil society, human rights defenders, victims and their representatives, using case studies:
   a. First response to allegations of an extra-judicial killing or enforced disappearance
   b. Monitoring and documenting an investigation
   c. Monitoring and documenting a trial
   d. Advocacy at the national, regional and international levels:
      i. Calling for an investigation
      ii. Calling for a fair trial
      iii. Calling for the ratification and implementation of international treaties
      iv. Calling for domestic legal and justice sector reform
      v. Engaging with the government
      vi. Engaging with UN human rights mechanisms
   e. Strategic litigation and the national, regional and international levels
   f. Engaging with mechanisms such as Commissions of Inquiry, Fact-finding Missions, and International, Independent Mechanisms
   g. Engaging in transitional justice processes like truth commissions, transitional tribunals, and reparations programmes
7. Conclusion

Each of the proposed chapters should be concise, simple and practically focused, and include the use of short case studies to illustrate key points where possible (aiming for approximately 10 pages for each chapter). It is proposed that the guide be approximately 50 to 60 pages in length. The Guide will be drafted in Spanish and later translated into English and potentially other languages.

III. QUALIFICATIONS

Education and experience

- University degree in law and, ideally, further academic studies in international human rights law.
- A minimum of seven years working in the field of human rights or international law, ideally with human rights defenders and victims of serious human rights violations.
- Proved work experience drafting similar products in Spanish.
- Knowledge of international human rights law, standards and mechanisms

IV. APPLICATION DETAILS

In order to be considered, the candidates must provide (i) their resume (maximum two pages), (ii) an outline proposal for the guide, (iii) a timeframe for the elaboration of the guide (no longer than four months), and (iv) a financial proposal (Euros).

The above information should be sent to: recruitment@icj.org with the ref: legalconsultant CSOGuide

The deadline for submission of application is 13th of March 2020

Please appreciate that due to the volume of applications, only short-listed candidates will be contacted. We cannot answer phone enquiries.