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HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS FELLOWSHIP

CH-1211 Geneva 20 CIC
New York, NY

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (ISHR)

<http://www.ishr.ch>

Date Posted: 01/25/2017

Job Type: Legal: Project-Based (e.g., Skadden)

Schedule: Long-term & full-time

Experience: Entry Level *0-3 years*

Bar membership required: No

Practice Areas: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, International Human Rights, Legislative Policy, LGBTQ Issues, Litigation, Policy, Women's Rights

Job Description

In 2016, the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) established the Human Rights Defenders Fellowship program to provide a position at ISHR to one outstanding recent law school graduate each year. The ISHR Human Rights Defenders Fellowship provides invaluable training and experience for a recent graduate preparing for a career in international human rights.

Through a combination of research and analysis, advocacy, capacity building, and media work, the Fellow will work closely with the ISHR Director and program staff, contributing to our work supporting human rights defenders, strengthening human rights systems, building and leading human rights coalitions, and responding to significant and systemic situations of concern.

The Fellowship is a 12-month position. The Fellow will be based in either Geneva or New York (contingent in part on work authorization). Some international travel may be required depending on the project(s) and role assigned to the Fellow.

*Please note that fellowships are unpaid, but ISHR will assist qualified applicants as necessary in applying for external funding opportunities that the applicant has identified, such as through his or her law school.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will have:

- A demonstrated commitment to international human rights;
- Knowledge of international human rights law;
- Familiarity with international and regional human rights mechanisms and practice;
- Interpersonal skills and ability to sensitively engage with a wide range of individuals, including NGO colleagues, defenders, UN and government officials;
- Strong drafting and research skills;
- Ability to work independently and collaborate with a team;
- An ability to master new, complex issues under tight deadlines;

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills; and
- Fluency in English [additional language proficiencies are a plus].

The ideal candidate will also have demonstrable knowledge of or experience in one or more of ISHR's current programme objectives:

- Defenders at risk of reprisal
- Women human rights defenders
- LGBT defenders
- Defenders in transitional democracies
- Defenders working on issues of corporate accountability

A law degree is required. We encourage 2017 graduates to apply, but will also accept applications from 2016 and 2015 graduates.

Salary

Unpaid

Application Instructions:

Candidates must submit the following materials to Tess McEvoy at t.mcevoy@ishr.ch, subject line "ISHR Human Rights Defenders Fellowship":

- Cover letter or statement of interest;
- Resume;
- Two unedited writing sample; and
- Names and contact information for three references
- A description of the nature of your funding source*

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Application Deadline: Applications will be considered on a rolling basis.