

# INTERNATIONAL LAW & HUMAN RIGHTS FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION 2019-2020

## OVERVIEW

The International Law and Human Rights (ILHR) Fellowship Program is coordinated by the [Center for Human Rights and Global Justice](#) (CHRGJ) and the [Institute for International Law and Justice](#) (IILJ), with support from the [Public Interest Law Center](#) (PILC). The ILHR Fellowship Program is designed to provide NYU School of Law students with the opportunity to gain education in the theory and practice of international and human rights law.

The program consists of three main components:

- a 10-12 week funded internship at an organization working in human rights or international law, usually in the summer, although graduating LL.Ms and JSDs may in some cases elect to complete it in the fall;
- pre-internship preparation and training in the form of course requirements and a series of not-for-credit seminars in the spring; and
- a post-internship academic research paper under the supervision of NYU faculty or staff.

## FELLOWSHIP PLACEMENTS

This year's host organizations, organized by regional focus, are as follows:

### Human Rights Placements

#### Africa (Sub-Saharan)

- Defence for Children International (Freetown, Sierra Leone) [pending confirmation]
- Fair Justice Initiative (Accra, Ghana)
- Human Rights Network for Journalists (Kampala, Uganda)
- Legal Assistance Centre (Windhoek, Namibia)
- Southern Africa Litigation Centre (Johannesburg, South Africa)

#### Americas

- Center for Economic and Social Rights (New York, NY)
- Center for Legal and Social Studies (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- Center for Justice and International Law (Washington, DC)
- Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (Washington, DC)
- International Center for Transitional Justice (Bogotá, Colombia)
- Reprieve-US (New York, NY or Washington, DC)

- UN High Commissioner for Refugees – Protection and Solutions Unit (Washington, DC)

### **Asia-Pacific**

- Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (Dhaka, Bangladesh)
- Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, Office of the Co-Prosecutors (Phnom Penh, Cambodia)
- Grata Fund (Sydney, Australia)
- Human Rights Law Network (New Delhi, India)
- International Organization for Migration: Counter-Trafficking Unit (Bangkok, Thailand)
- International Women’s Rights Action Watch-Asia Pacific (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
- South Asia Centre for Legal Studies (Colombo, Sri Lanka)
- Zhicheng Public Interest Lawyers (Beijing, China)

### **Europe**

- European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (Berlin, Germany)
- Reprieve (London, United Kingdom)

### **Middle East and North Africa**

- Al-Haq (Ramallah, West Bank)
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees (Amman, Jordan or Beirut, Lebanon) [pending confirmation]

### **Additional UN Placements**

- UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations–Justice and Corrections Service (New York, NY)
- UN International Law Commission (Geneva, Switzerland)
- UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (The Hague, Netherlands or Arusha, Tanzania)
- UN Special Tribunal for Lebanon (The Hague, Netherlands)
- UN Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (New York, NY)

## **ELIGIBILITY**

All currently enrolled, full-time 1L, 2L, LLM, and JSD students at NYU School of Law are eligible to apply.

## **TERMS**

- Most ILHR Fellowships are a minimum of 10 weeks, some have a minimum of 12 weeks.
- Students awarded an ILHR Fellowship are required to accept it. You must accept the placement for which you have applied and are recommended. No exceptions will be made.
- Internship placements are subject to approval by the host organization. In rare cases when an organization does not accept our recommended Fellow, the Fellow will

maintain his/her status within the program and CHRGJ will work with the Fellow to identify a suitable alternative placement.

- Financial support for summer placements at ILHR Fellowship host organizations is only available to NYU law students who apply through the ILHR Fellowship Program (see Financial Award section below).
- Fellows are responsible for obtaining their own work visas, permits, medical insurance, and any other requirements of the placement.

## REQUIREMENTS

### (1) PRE-INTERNSHIP TRAINING

#### International Law Commission

##### *Course requirements*

- **1L Fellows** must enroll in *International Law for 1Ls* in Spring 2019

##### *ILLJ not-for-credit seminars*

- **LLM, JSD, and 2L Fellows** must attend a series of not-for-credit seminars in Spring 2019
- **1L Fellows** are required to attend selected sessions of the above seminars, as long as their schedule permits

#### Other Placements

##### *Course requirements*

- **1L Fellows** must enroll in *International Law for 1Ls* in Spring 2109
- **2L, LLM, JSD Fellows with no current or prior graduate-level training in international law or human rights** must enroll in a public international law or human rights course of their choosing in Spring 2019

##### *CHRGJ not-for-credit seminars*

- **All Fellows** in non-ILC placements will be expected to attend a series of not-for-credit seminars and workshops (3-5) organized by CHRGJ in Spring 2019 to build professional and cultural competence.

### (2) PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

#### Duration

All ILHR Fellows are required to work a minimum of 10 weeks at their placement organization. Some organizations require a 12-week minimum stay. These time periods are longer than the minimum required by the PILC Summer Funding Program. Please factor in the cost and other law school requirements and activities when committing to this

longer period. Fellows are expected to prioritize this internship when organizing their schedules.

In certain limited circumstances, the on-site duration may be adjusted up to 3 days. Requests for such adjustments (1) can be made only after the Fellow's placement has been confirmed, (2) must first be cleared by CHR&GJ, and (3) will only be granted subject to the agreement of both CHR&GJ and the placement organization.

### **Timing**

Also subject to the agreement of the placement organization, LLM Fellows may opt to begin their internship in the fall, so long as the 10-12 week period is completed by the end of calendar year 2020. Given that neither a fall placement nor an adjustment in duration is guaranteed in advance, applicants should be ready to complete a summer placement and to meet the stated minimum duration requirements of the organizations to which they apply.

### **(3) RESEARCH PAPER**

#### **International Law Commission**

Fellows placed with the ILC must complete a supervised research paper on an international law or human rights issue to be agreed upon in advance with academic supervisors at NYU. The paper will be due in **November 2020** and cannot be used for course credit.

#### **Other Placements**

All Fellows placed with human rights or international criminal law organizations are strongly encouraged to undertake a supervised research project on a human rights or international law topic related to or inspired by their summer internship. CHR&GJ will serve as an advising resource for JDs who seek to do this research for academic credit through Directed Research (usually 2 credits) or through a seminar of some relevance to the topic (1-credit). CHR&GJ will also support LLM graduates by helping them find supervisors with relevant expertise to provide guidance and feedback.

Paper requirements and deadlines will be determined by the Fellow in agreement with the faculty or other expert supervisor, as well as the credit framework where applicable. The overall aim should be to produce something of publishable quality, and we encourage Fellows who are still enrolled at NYU to submit their work to our spring Emerging Scholarship Conference.

### **(4) REPORTING AND ADVISING REQUIREMENTS**

Upon completion of their internship, all ILHR Fellows must submit a PILC Intern Report. This report is required of everyone and is different than the research paper. Their goal is to

share useful information about the placement with other students considering the organization. It also provides valuable feedback for the fellowship program organizers.

JDs must submit the report to PILC by **August 31, 2020**. LLMs and JSDs will submit the report to CHR&GJ by the same date, unless they are completing a fall placement, in which case they will be asked to submit their reports within one week of completion of their internship.

In addition to completing a PILC Intern Report, ILHR Fellows are expected to share their experiences at the annual fellowship dinner in mid-September 2020. Fellows will also be called upon to give advice and guidance to prospective fellows via email and information sessions organized by CHR&GJ for those who are still at NYU Law.

## **FINANCIAL AWARD**

Students selected for the ILHR Fellowship will receive a stipend of \$5,500 for 1Ls, or \$7,500 for 2Ls, or \$7,000 for LLMs. Stipends are paid in U.S. dollars and are awarded on a needs-blind basis. Funding for JD Fellows is provided through PILC's Summer Funding Program. JD Fellows must be eligible for and fulfill all requirements of PILC's Summer Funding Program.

Expenses related to some internship placements, including airfare, housing, inoculations and the like, may exceed the amount provided by the stipend. Information about costs associated with most internships can be found in internship reports available on PILC's website. In addition, Fellows who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents, depending on their country's tax treaty with the United States, may find that their stipend amount is reduced due to taxes.

**Financial support from NYU School of Law for summer internships at ILHR host organizations is available only to students selected as ILHR Fellows.** This does not preclude NYU funding for summer internships at other international law or human rights organizations, nor does it preclude funding for different *offices* of ILHR organizations, e.g. the defense office of the ECCC, or a different ICTJ field office. This rule is in place because we have reached specific agreements with the host organizations that our Fellows are carefully matched and have received additional training to prepare them for the internship. This is an important incentive for the organizations to participate in the ILHR Fellowship Program. In exchange, they agree to prioritize ILHR Fellows in their recruitment process.

## **APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS**

Applicants are asked to submit an application packet consisting of (1) **cover page and placement preference form**, (2) **CV**, (3) **academic transcript(s)** [1Ls and LLMs must submit transcripts from NYU Law **and** their most recent institution of higher learning; 2Ls and 3Ls must submit their NYU Law transcript], and (4) **a statement of interest for each organization to which they apply**. Each statement of interest should explain why the applicant would like to work with that particular organization and what they will bring to the

position. **The complete application package is due by Monday, November 4 at 11:59 p.m. EST.** Please submit the application by email as a single PDF file to [ILHR.Fellows@gmail.com](mailto:ILHR.Fellows@gmail.com).

Interviews will take place **November 13-15, 2020** and will be conducted by a panel of scholars and advocates in the fields of international law and human rights.

Selected Fellows will be notified before the winter break. The timing of placement confirmation will vary depending on the organization. Some organizations have pre-determined selection calendars and may require Fellows to submit separate formal application materials. When this is the case, Fellows are expected to submit additional materials in an expeditious manner and notify CHR&GJ of their completion. **No placement will be final until the Fellow has been approved by respective placement organization supervisors.** In the rare event when this does not happen, the student will retain the ILHR Fellow designation and funding, and CHR&GJ will work with the Fellow to identify a well-suited alternative placement.

### **TIMELINE**

<b>Monday, October 7</b>	Application materials and final list of organizations posted
<b>Monday, November 4</b>	Applications due by <u>11:59 p.m. EST</u>
<b>Mid-November</b>	Interviews of short-listed applicants
<b>Friday, December 20</b>	Fellowship recipients notified
<b>January – April*</b>	Organizational placements confirmed

\*Most placements are confirmed by February, but IOs and some NGOs have formal programs with later selection dates and are unable to confirm before then. However, CHR&GJ works closely with these host organizations towards ensuring that any potential concerns with the recommended candidate are flagged and addressed early on.

# INTERNATIONAL LAW & HUMAN RIGHTS FELLOWSHIP PLACEMENTS 2019-2020

## AFRICA (SUB-SAHARAN)

### **Defence for Children International–Sierra Leone (DCI-SL)**

**Location:** Freetown, Sierra Leone

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer)

**Description:** DCI-SL is a local, grassroots non-governmental organization that was founded in 1998 during the Sierra Leonean civil war, at a time when the rights of many children were gravely violated. DCI-SL is the Sierra Leonean chapter of the worldwide movement of Defence for Children International ([defenceforchildren.org](http://defenceforchildren.org)) and also the representative of ECPAT International in Sierra Leone. The main thrust of DCI-SL's program is to ensure justice for children, particularly by providing direct socio-legal assistance to children in conflict and in contact with the law, which includes legal education, aid and representation, psychosocial counselling, mediation, and family tracing and reunification. Moreover, through effective advocacy initiatives and strategic partnerships, DCI-SL actively contributes to the strengthening of the overall child protection and welfare system in Sierra Leone. In addition, while child justice is a top priority, DCI-SL also implements project on education in rural junior secondary schools, which aims at increasing learning outcomes of students, a sub-regional program on child trafficking and children on the move in the Mano River Union, and the Girls Advocacy Alliance program that focuses on ending gender-based violence and empowering girls and young women to enhance their economic inclusion. The main language of work is English, and knowledge of French will be an added value. See [dcisierraleone.org](http://dcisierraleone.org).

### **Fair Justice Initiative**

**Location:** Accra, Ghana

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer)

**Description:** The Fair Justice Initiative is an emerging Ghanaian organization working for the benefit of detainees at Nsawam Medium Security Prison, Ghana. Lack of funds and legal knowledge constitute a significant barrier to justice for many individuals interacting with the Ghanaian criminal justice system. While a government legal aid service exists, it is critically underfunded and does not have anything close to sufficient capacity to address the high volume of eligible cases. FJI's legal team offers affordable legal service to individuals whose cases demonstrate their criteria of prosecutorial misconduct, unfair trials, human rights infringement, and public interest. They also engage in advocacy work and run programs with an emphasis on vocation and quality of life with a particular focus on detainees at Nsawam Prison's Female Section. For more information, see [fairjusticegh.com](http://fairjusticegh.com).

### **Human Rights Network for Journalists–Uganda (HRNJ-Uganda)**

**Location:** Kampala, Uganda

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** HRNJ-Uganda was established in 2005 by a group of human rights-minded journalists amidst a deteriorating context of violations targeting the media. Its mission is to enhance the promotion, protection and respect of human rights through defending and building capacities of journalists to effectively exercise their constitutional rights and fundamental freedoms for collective campaigning through the media. HRNJ's Legal Defense and Support Program offers free legal services to journalists at risk and undertakes different forms of legal defense through internal and external legal teams, primarily to protect journalists from harassment, unlawful arrest and detention, and intimidation. For more information, see [hrnjuganda.org](http://hrnjuganda.org).

### **Legal Assistance Centre (LAC)**

**Location:** Windhoek, Namibia

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** Established in 1988, LAC is a public interest human rights law firm that engages in litigation, the provision of legal information and advice, education and training, research, and law reform and advocacy. Its core issue areas are Land, Environment, and Development (LEAD); Gender Equality; HIV/AIDS; and constitutionally-protected human rights such as education, health, citizenship, and the right not to be ill-treated, and immigrants' rights. Recent placements have been with the LEAD and Gender Research and Advocacy projects. LEAD project staff addresses the need of the rural by advising and advocating for communities on inheritance, conservancies, illegal fencing, environmental issues, and issues affecting particularly disadvantaged groups such as the Himba and the San. Gender Research and Advocacy project staff promotes gender equality and the empowerment of women through legal research, law reform and related advocacy on issues such as rape, domestic violence, sexual harassment in the workplace, inheritance, marriage, divorce, and maintenance. See [lac.org.na](http://lac.org.na).

### **Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC)**

**Location:** Johannesburg, South Africa

**Duration:** 10 weeks, 12 weeks preferred (summer)

**Description:** SALC was established in 2005 to promote human rights and the rule of law primarily through litigation support and training in southern Africa, including Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. SALC has seven programmatic areas: disability rights, LGBT/sex worker rights, health rights, international criminal justice, freedom of expression, regional advocacy, and sexual and reproductive rights. Language skills in Portuguese or French are highly desired, but not a prerequisite for this placement. See [southernafricalitigationcentre.org](http://southernafricalitigationcentre.org).

## AMERICAS

### **Center for Economic and Social Rights (CESR)**

**Location:** New York, NY

**Duration:** 10 weeks, 12 weeks preferred (summer or fall)

**Description:** CESR is an international non-governmental organization working to advance human rights as a tool for promoting social justice and human dignity. Established in 1993, CESR was the first international human rights organization to focus specifically on economic, social and cultural rights, such as the rights to housing, education, and access to health care. It has made a significant impact in promoting recognition and understanding of these rights and seeking remedies for specific violations in different contexts, working in the Americas, Africa, Europe, and Asia. CESR carries out rigorous analysis of socio-economic policy trends affecting human rights, from austerity measures to development policy, using interdisciplinary methods spanning the fields of law, economics and social sciences. Fellows will contribute substantively to the Center's programmatic work in one or more projects. They will carry out research that analyzes trends in global policy and exposes deprivations of economic and social rights in the context of specific countries and regions, deploying social science and statistical methods alongside traditional techniques of human rights reporting, such as legal analysis and narrative testimony. Fellows may also be involved in preparing policy briefs, reports, and advocacy materials to present to institutions at the national, regional and global levels. For more information, see [cesr.org](http://cesr.org).

**Fellow Qualifications:** Ideal candidates will have knowledge of human rights and how it relates to development, social and economic policy; experience in legal analysis and research involving quantitative and qualitative information; and strong English-language writing and communication skills. Spanish, Arabic, French, or other language skills desirable but not required.

### **Center for Legal and Social Studies (CELS)**

**Location:** Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Duration:** 10 weeks, 12 weeks preferred (summer)

**Description:** CELS' mission is to promote the effective exercise of human rights, justice and social inclusion at a national and international level. Throughout its history, CELS has adapted its vision and mandate to distinct political realities and societal needs. In the 1980s, after the return to civilian rule, CELS promoted an agenda of truth and justice. Starting in the 1990s, while preserving its flagship work on transitional justice, CELS expanded its agenda to address violations under democratic regimes, the intersection between those violations and social inequality, and the structural causes behind them. Topics have included police violence and security policies; economic, social and cultural rights; judicial reform; prisons and criminal justice; migrants' rights; mental health; freedom of expression; and, more recently, decent habitat, labour outsourcing and women's rights.

Over the last 40 years, CELS has remained a relevant and effective organization by establishing new strategic partnerships at national and international levels and diversifying alliances. We do not speak for others, but aim to strategically channel demands and open spaces for partners to

put their own rights issues on the agenda. We are comfortable exerting leadership while maintaining a steadfast horizontal, collaborative spirit, and, indeed, are often called upon to do so. CELS' expertise, credibility and leverage have made it a highly regarded institution by those who suffer human rights violations (migrants, indigenous peoples, peasants, etc.) as well as by those who bear the responsibility for remedying them (e.g. public officials, legislators and members of the judiciary). Rooted in its own home context with local constituencies, partners and on-the-ground knowledge of human rights challenges, CELS has consolidated itself as a national human rights organization with a regional perspective and a global voice – capable of concrete changes that advance social justice and reduce impunity and inequality in Argentina, Latin America and beyond. For more information, see [cels.org.ar/web/en](https://cels.org.ar/web/en).

**Fellow Qualifications:** Strong Spanish proficiency is required. Strong communication skills in both written and oral formats in Spanish is desired.

### **Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL)**

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Duration:** 10 weeks

**Description:** CEJIL is an international non-governmental organization specialized in the use of international human rights law in the Americas. CEJIL was established in 1991, with the goal of creating a regional organization that would fight for justice, liberty, and a dignified life for the continent's inhabitants through a concentration of efforts on the use of international law, compliance with human rights, and the Inter-American System's mechanisms of protection. CEJIL along with partner organizations in the field, represents victims of human rights violations, and takes cases to the Inter-American Commission and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights so that damages can be repaired and policy or legal reforms can be carried out so these violations do not occur again. CEJIL meets, discuss, generates, and shares information in order to raise awareness about endemic human rights problems and find solutions, with the goal of fostering the creation of public policies that respect human rights throughout the region. Fellows will contribute substantively to CEJIL's work in one or more of our areas of work, including: assisting with litigation before the Inter-American System bodies, advocacy strategies with issues related to statelessness and the right to nationality, migrants and refugees and human rights defenders and the threats against them. Fellows may also be involved in preparing research pieces on specific human rights issues relevant to the work of the organization. For more information, see [cejil.org/en](https://cejil.org/en)

**Fellow Qualifications:** Ideal candidates will have knowledge of international human rights law; experience in legal analysis and research; strong argumentation and legal interpretation skills, familiarity with human rights in Latin America and writing and communication skills in English and Spanish.

### **Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)**

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer)

**Description:** The IACHR is one of two bodies in the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights. The other is the Inter-American Court of Human Rights located in San José, Costa Rica. The IACHR is an autonomous organ of the Organization of American States; its mandate is in the OAS Charter and the American Convention on Human Rights. The

IACHR has seven members who act independently of any particular government. To carry out its mandate, the Commission inter alia: receives, analyzes and investigates individual petitions which allege human rights violations; observes the general human rights situation in member States and publishes reports as it considers appropriate; carries out visits to countries to engage in more in-depth analysis of the general situation and/or to investigate a specific situation; requests States to adopt specific "precautionary measures" to avoid serious and irreparable harm to human rights in urgent cases; requests that the Court order "provisional measures" in urgent cases; submits cases to the Inter-American Court and appears before the Court in the litigation of cases. Students interested in this internship must be able to work in at least two of the four official languages of the OAS (English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French). Although Spanish is not required, some level of Spanish proficiency is strongly recommended, as most working meetings are conducted in Spanish. For more information, see [cidh.oas.org](http://cidh.oas.org).

### **International Center for Transitional Justice—Colombia (ICTJ-Colombia)**

**Location:** Bogotá, Colombia

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** ICTJ assists countries pursuing accountability for past mass atrocity or human rights abuse through the development of integrated, comprehensive, and localized approaches to transitional justice comprising five key elements: prosecuting perpetrators, documenting and acknowledging violations through non-judicial means such as truth commissions, reforming abusive institutions, providing reparations to victims, and facilitating reconciliation processes. ICTJ has worked in Colombia since 2003 and is currently providing technical assistance to the three transitional justice mechanisms established in the peace agreement signed between the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP guerrillas in November 2016. ICTJ will continue to assist Colombia to implement the peace agreement and other transitional justice policies in ways that guarantee victims' rights and contribute to building a just society. To more fully benefit from this internship, interested students should have an intermediate to high level of Spanish proficiency. For more information, see [ictj.org](http://ictj.org).

### **Reprieve-US**

**Location:** New York, NY or Washington, D.C.

**Duration:** 12 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** Reprieve US focuses on cases that help reshape US policy debate in line with international human rights. Their clients are on death row, in Guantánamo Bay, in secret detention or they are the civilian victims of unlawful drone killing. Reprieve US is a recently founded, upstart office with a small staff of four that works in partnership with the 25 lawyers and investigators working out of Reprieve UK, an international human rights organization based in London founded in 1999 by British human rights lawyer, Clive Stafford Smith. Both Reprieve offices pursue strategic initiatives to end extreme human rights abuses by making it legally, financially and practically difficult for governments to carry out these abuses, through a combination of investigation, litigation, and press and public scrutiny. For the past two decades, Reprieve has used a fellowship model to support and work with human rights defenders and their organizations in some of the most challenging and varied jurisdictions in the world – from Indonesia to Pakistan, Yemen, Malawi and the American Deep South. ILHR Fellows would work in one of Reprieve's three focus areas: death penalty, secret prisons, or assassinations. In

relation to eligibility Reprive is looking for fellows who are committed to the organization's mission with strong research and drafting skills. See [reprive.org](http://reprive.org).

### **UN High Commissioner for Refugees – Protection and Solutions Unit – Washington, DC**

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** The Protection and Solutions Unit is based in UNHCR's regional office in Washington D.C. The unit works on protection activities on behalf of asylum seekers, refugees, and stateless persons in the U.S., with the help of government officials, attorneys, and non-governmental organizations. The unit serves as a resource to policymakers in drafting and implementing refugee protection measures, monitors U.S. compliance with international standards of refugee protection, and assists asylum-seekers and their representatives in presenting claims in the U.S. The unit works to ensure that asylum-seekers can access U.S. territory, file a claim, and receive due process during the asylum procedure. The unit advocates for resettlement and participates in resettlement processing, while also engaging in local integration for both refugees and asylum-seekers. See [unhcr.org](http://unhcr.org).

### **ASIA-PACIFIC**

#### **Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST)**

**Location:** Dhaka, Bangladesh

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** Established in 1993, BLAST's primary mission is to make the legal system accessible to the poor and marginalized. It is one of the leading legal services organizations in Bangladesh, and the only one that provides access to legal aid across the spectrum, from the frontlines of the formal justice system to the apex court. It prioritizes support to women, men and children living in poverty or facing disadvantage or discrimination. BLAST provides legal aid, advice and representation across a range of areas, including civil, criminal, family, labor and land law, as well as on constitutional rights and remedies, providing access to judicial remedies alongside alternative dispute resolution wherever appropriate. It is extensively involved with public interest litigation and advocacy work, and conducts investigations into human rights infringements. See [blast.org.bd](http://blast.org.bd).

#### **Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), Office of the Co-Prosecutors, Location: Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

**Duration:** 12 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** In 2001 the Cambodian National Assembly created the ECCC to try serious crimes committed during the Khmer Rouge regime 1975-1979. Cambodia invited international participation due to the weakness of the Cambodian legal system and the international nature of the crimes. An agreement with the UN was reached in 2003; in 2006 the national and international judicial officials of the ECCC were sworn in; and in 2007, they unanimously adopted the Internal Rules of the court. The first charges were filed in July 2007. The Office of the Co-Prosecutors (OCP) is an independent office within the ECCC. Its role is to prosecute

senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge and others most responsible for the crimes committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea. It conducts preliminary investigations, prosecutes cases throughout the investigative, pre-trial, trial and appellate stages, processes victim complaints, and participates in judicial investigations. The OCP is co-headed by a Cambodian and an international Co-Prosecutor. See [eccc.gov.kh](http://eccc.gov.kh).

### **Grata Fund**

**Location:** Sydney, Australia

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer)

**Description:** Grata Fund empowers people and communities in Australia to use strategic litigation as a tool to protect and advance their rights and freedoms. Recent cases include: supporting a First Nations community in a remote part of Australia to secure better housing conditions, through a win in litigation against the Northern Territory government; supporting medical professionals to challenge the constitutionality of “gag” laws that sought to prevent them from speaking about the awful conditions in Australia’s offshore immigration detention centers, and; supporting mum-and-dad shareholders to sue a major financial institution for failing to address climate risk in its annual report to shareholders. Grata prioritizes litigation that holds decision-makers accountable on democracy, climate change, and human rights. You can read more about the cases they have supported [here](#). An ILHR Fellow would undertake a range of research tasks, assist with media and messaging, attend strategic meetings with our legal and campaign partners and help shape Grata’s strategy about future cases to support and how to ensure their impact. For more information, see [gratafund.org.au](http://gratafund.org.au).

### **Human Rights Law Network (HRLN)**

**Location:** New Delhi, India

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer)

**Description:** HRLN is a collective of lawyers and social activists dedicated to the use of the legal system to advance human rights in India and the sub-continent. It collaborates with human rights groups and grass-roots development and social movements to enforce the rights of poor marginalized people and to challenge oppression, exploitation and discrimination against any group or individual on the grounds of caste, gender, disability, age, religion, language, ethnic group, sexual orientation, and health, economic or social status. Among its activities, HRLN provides pro bono legal services, conducts public interest litigation, engages in advocacy, conducts legal awareness programs and investigates violations. See [hrln.org](http://hrln.org).

### **International Organization for Migration (IOM): Migrant Assistance Unit**

**Location:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Duration:** 12 weeks (summer)

**Description:** As the United Nation’s Migration Agency, IOM has been at the forefront in responding to migration crises and development opportunities in Asia and the Pacific for decades. The regional Migrant Protection & Assistance Unit oversee all IOM programming that is focused on preventing the exploitation and abuse of migrants and ensuring the protection and assistance of those who have been trafficked or subjected to any of the contemporary forms of slavery. In recent years, this has included programmes that assist migrants who have been

exploited in agriculture, construction, domestic work, fishing, manufacturing and the extractive industries, while also working to identify and assist trafficking survivors in refugee camps in Bangladesh within the broader context of the humanitarian response. The Unit also continues to work with governments and other stakeholders, in South and South West Asia in particular, to develop sustainable reintegration solutions for the many thousands of migrants who return home every year, indebted and with limited livelihood options. Ongoing research interests include the protection of migrants at sea and easing access to justice and civil remedy for undocumented migrants. For more information, see [iom.int](http://iom.int).

### **International Women's Rights Action Watch-Asia Pacific (IWRAP-AP)**

**Location:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** IWRAP-AP is an international women's human rights organization, located in and prioritizing the perspectives of the global south in the evolution of human rights and sustainable development. The political intent of IWRAP Asia Pacific is to disrupt right-wing populism and extremism, corporate and state capture by organizing, mobilizing, and building political knowledge and analysis with women's groups to demand accountability from State and non-State actors in respect of gender equality and women's human rights. Since 1993 it has worked to contribute to the progressive interpretation and realization of the human rights of women through the lens of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and other international human rights treaties. It continues to work on improving understanding of CEDAW as an instrument that adds concrete significance to the concepts of substantive equality, non-discrimination, and the relevance of treaty law to improving national level action plans geared towards social justice, women's equality and empowerment of marginalized groups. It also continues to promote the domestic implementation of international human rights standards by building the capacity of women and human rights advocates to claim and realize women's human rights. IWRAP Asia Pacific is the main NGO tasked by the CEDAW Committee and the OHCHR to coordinate NGOs seeking to engage with the Committee during the review process. Accepted fellows are invited to accompany IWRAP-AP on mission to Geneva for its flagship CEDAW advocacy program, From Global to Local, as well as five other programmatic areas of work related to feminism and macroeconomic policies, women's rights in the sustainable development agenda, countering human rights regression and capture of the multilateral system, and giving voice, visibility and value to women workers. See [iwrap-ap.org](http://iwrap-ap.org).

### **South Asia Centre for Legal Studies (SACLS)**

**Location:** Colombo, Sri Lanka

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** SACLS was founded in 2013 with the specific goal of pursuing remedies – truth, justice and reparations – for victims of grave violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law in Sri Lanka. It is the first local civil society initiative dedicated to this purpose. It began working on these issues at a time when the space and opportunity to advance transitional justice issues was extremely limited, but it did so because it believed that Sri Lanka must at some point come to terms with the legacy of its brutal past. Among its activities are policy advocacy, taking a leading role in the civil society efforts to press for a truth

commission and reform of laws related to prosecution of human rights violators and the protection of victims and witnesses. In addition, it has undertaken documentation, reporting and advocacy to international organizations including the UN Human Rights Council and its mandated OHCHR Investigation on Sri Lanka (OISL), the report of which was issued in September 2015 (A/HRC/30/CRP.2). In recognition of the importance of public support for concrete efforts towards truth and justice, it has also undertaken public advocacy including a [Tamil-language film about transitional justice](#). While young, SACLs is well-placed to contribute to shaping the growing desire for transitional justice in Sri Lanka. See [sacsls.org](http://sacsls.org).

### **Zhicheng Public Interest Lawyers (ZPIL)**

**Location:** Beijing, China

**Duration:** 10 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** ZPIL is an umbrella organization that encompasses several subsidiary legal aid and research centers, including the Beijing Migrant Worker's Legal Aid and Research Center, the Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center, and the Beijing Rural Areas Rule of Law Research Center. Each branch of ZPIL operates independently, dealing with issues specifically related to its unique mission statement, and in five distinct capacities: providing direct legal services to clients; conducting evidence-based research on legal issues relevant in China; providing legislative recommendations to the Chinese government; promoting *pro bono* work within China's professional legal community; and building relations within its community, including through holding classes and workshops to educate the public on their legal rights. Some level of proficiency in Mandarin Chinese is needed for this internship. See [zhichenglaw.weebly.com](http://zhichenglaw.weebly.com).

## **EUROPE**

### **European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)**

**Location:** Berlin, Germany

**Duration:** 10-12 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** Founded in 2007, the ECCHR is an independent, non-profit legal and educational organization dedicated to protecting civil and human rights. It aims to protect and enforce the rights guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as other declarations of human rights and national constitutions, by juridical means. ECCHR engages in innovative strategic litigation, using European, international, and national law to enforce human rights and to hold state and non-state actors accountable for egregious abuses, with a focus on cases with the greatest likelihood of setting precedents and advancing policies that strengthen the legal framework for global human rights accountability. It actively litigates cases, but also researches, investigates, and helps to coordinate the development strategies of legal advocacy around cases. Successful candidates will have some background in international human rights law. Additional languages are a plus, but German proficiency is not at all a condition. If interested in the Business and Human Rights department, knowledge of soft law mechanisms and the Guiding Principles are important as well. If interested in the International Crimes and Accountability Program, knowledge of international humanitarian and/or international criminal law is important. See [ecchr.eu/en/](http://ecchr.eu/en/)

## **Reprieve-UK**

**Location:** London, United Kingdom

**Duration:** 12 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** Reprieve is an international human rights organization based in London that works with partner organizations in the USA and around the world. Founded in 1999 by British human rights lawyer, Clive Stafford Smith, Reprieve provides free legal and investigative support to some of the world's most vulnerable people: those who face execution, detention in secret prisons, or state-sanctioned assassinations. We pursue strategic initiatives to end extreme human rights abuses by making it legally, financially and practically difficult for governments to carry out these abuses, through a combination of investigation, litigation, and press and public scrutiny. For the past two decades, Reprieve has used a fellowship model to support and work with human rights defenders and their organizations in some of the most challenging and varied jurisdictions in the world – from Indonesia to Pakistan, Yemen, Malawi and the American Deep South. Reprieve's fellowship program gives fellows the opportunity to be directly involved in ground-breaking human rights work. ILHR Fellows would work in one of Reprieve's three focus areas: death penalty, secret prisons, or assassinations. In relation to eligibility Reprieve is looking for fellows who are committed to the organization's mission with strong research and drafting skills. See [reprieve.org.uk](http://reprieve.org.uk).

## **MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA**

### **Al-Haq**

**Location:** Ramallah, West Bank

**Duration:** 10 weeks, 12 weeks preferred (summer or fall)

**Description:** Al-Haq is an independent Palestinian human rights organization founded in 1979 to protect and promote human rights and the rule of law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT). It documents violations of the individual and collective rights of Palestinians in the OPT, irrespective of the identity of the perpetrator, and seeks to end such breaches by way of advocacy before national and international mechanisms and by holding violators accountable. Al-Haq also cooperates with Palestinian civil society organizations and governmental institutions in order to ensure that international human rights standards are reflected in Palestinian law and policies. It is the West Bank affiliate of the International Commission of Jurists. While not a prerequisite, knowledge of Arabic will enhance the experience. For more information, see [alhaq.org](http://alhaq.org).

**Fellow Qualifications:** Students with an interest in the field of business and human rights are encouraged to apply.

### **UN High Commissioner for Refugees**

**Location:** Amman, Jordan or Beirut, Lebanon

**Duration:** 12 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** UNHCR was established in 1950 by the UN General Assembly. It is mandated to lead and co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country. Today, UNHCR is one of the world's principal humanitarian agencies, its staff of nearly 9,300 personnel helping nearly 43 million people in 123 countries. Work at the UNCHR Jordan Field Office focuses on Syrian refugees. Work at the UNCHR Lebanon Field Office focuses on Syrian refugees. Arabic speaking proficiency is strongly preferred, but is not a requirement for application. See [unhcr.org](http://unhcr.org).

### **ADDITIONAL UN PLACEMENTS**

#### **UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)–Justice and Corrections Service (JCS)**

**Location:** New York, United States

**Duration:** 10 weeks, 12 weeks preferred (summer or fall)

**Description:** Justice and corrections experts are deployed the world over in UN peacekeeping operations and special political missions to restore and stabilize justice and corrections systems affected by conflict. JCS supports these experts in the field in a wide variety of ways. These include: planning justice and corrections aspects of peacekeeping operations; advising and assisting justice and corrections field personnel as they work to re-establish the criminal justice chain in cooperation with national and UN police; developing guidance and training materials; delivering training programs; and strengthening partnerships and program delivery with other rule of law actors. The justice component of JCS's work includes: assisting national authorities in the restoration of criminal justice systems to hold perpetrators of crimes to account; laying the foundations for longer-term institutional reform; assisting in the development of national justice strategies; and establishing linkages between informal and customary justice systems and the formal justice system. The corrections component of JCS's work includes: assisting national authorities to improve prison-related legislation, policies and protocols; supporting national prison authorities on operational and security protocols; delivering training; and improving compliance with international standards on the treatment of prisoners. Students interested in this placement should have grounding in international criminal law as well as strong analysis and English drafting skills. See [un.org/en/peacekeeping/issues/ruleoflaw](http://un.org/en/peacekeeping/issues/ruleoflaw).

### **UN International Law Commission (ILC)**

**Location:** Geneva, Switzerland

**Duration:** early May through mid-August

**Number of placements:** 7 (3-LLMS, 4-JDS)

**Description:** The International Law Commission is the legal codification arm of the United Nations. It meets every summer in Geneva to consider proposals for treaties, declarations of principles and other codifications or elaborations of norms previously only the subject of customary international law. Examples of the issues debated by the Commission in the past include the establishment of a permanent international criminal court, and the formulation of the law on state responsibility. Current topics are: protection of persons in the event of disasters; immunity of state officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction; subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties; most-favored-nation clause; provisional application of treaties; identification of customary international law; protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts; protection of the atmosphere; crimes against humanity; and *Jus Cogens*. Members of the Commission are prominent experts in public international law and are elected by the UN General Assembly in their individual capacities. Each student fellow is assigned to work with a particular Commission member. This internship is cerebral and scholarly, not action packed—students typically undertake work assigned by Commission members, attend ILC meetings, conduct research, and assist in the preparation of major papers. The Commission session begins in early May, so students must travel to Geneva as soon as possible after exams and return in mid-August. See [un.org/law/ilc](http://un.org/law/ilc).

### **UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals**

**Location:** The Hague, Netherlands or Arusha, Tanzania

**Duration:** 12 weeks (summer or fall)

**Description:** The International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (Mechanism) is mandated to continue the jurisdiction of and perform a number of essential functions previously carried out by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). The ICTR and the ICTY closed on 31 December 2015 and 31 December 2017, respectively. The Mechanism continues the legacies of these two pioneering ad hoc tribunals and, as part of its core activities, is tasked with completing the remaining judicial work. In addition to the re-trial in the case of *Prosecutor v. Jovica Stanisic & Franko Simatovic* and the appeal proceedings in the case of *Prosecutor v. Ratko Mladic*, this involves contempt proceedings, post-conviction issues and the continued protection of victims and witnesses. The United Nations Security Council created the Mechanism on 22 December 2010 as a "small, temporary and efficient structure" and many of the Mechanism's features reflect this aim. Another unique and defining feature of the Mechanism is that it operates over two continents. The two branches, located in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, and The Hague, the Netherlands, work closely together and strive to reflect best practices in the field of international criminal justice. An internship at the Mechanism would involve exciting legal work in a truly international environment. The ideal candidate has a keen interest in this area of law, strong legal drafting, research and analysis skills, excellent organizational capabilities, and enjoys working in a team. The ILHR placement will be in either

the Hague branch or the Arusha branch of the Mechanism. For more information, see [unmict.org](http://unmict.org).

### **UN Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL)**

**Location:** The Hague, Netherlands

**Duration:** 10 weeks, 12 weeks preferred (summer or fall)

**Description:** Created in 2006 by the UN Security Council and through a subsequent agreement between the UN and the government of Lebanon, the STL became a functioning tribunal in 2009. Its primary mandate is to prosecute persons responsible for the attack of February 14, 2005 resulting in the death of former Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri, and also for connected attacks. The STL Statute calls for the application of the Lebanese Criminal Code to the prosecution and punishment of the crimes. The rules of procedure, including principles of due process, are to be based on international standards of criminal justice as applied in other international tribunals. It has four organs: Chambers, Office of the Prosecutor, Defence Office and Registry. The STL has three official languages (English, French and Arabic) and two working languages (English and French). Applicants should have excellent legal drafting skills. For more information, see [stl-tsl.org](http://stl-tsl.org).

### **UN Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict**

**Location:** New York, NY

**Duration:** 10 weeks, 12 weeks preferred (summer or fall)

**Description:** The United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (the “Team”) was created by [Security Council resolution 1888](#) (2009) to assist national authorities in strengthening the rule of law, with the aim of ensuring criminal accountability for perpetrators of conflict-related sexual violence. This resolution recognized that conflict-related sexual violence is a threat to peace and security, and that Member States affected by conflict need assistance to address impunity in order to prevent and deter future violations. The Team is the *only* dedicated Security Council mandated entity to provide this type of support on a global basis. It is based at UN Headquarters in New York and deploys regularly to the field in some of the world’s most challenging contexts. The Team has a unique “co-lead” structure that includes members from several United Nations entities to enable the United Nations to deliver as one in assisting Member States to address sexual violence in conflict. The Team is led by a Team Leader who reports to the SRSG-SVC, and currently comprises experts from the [Department of Peacekeeping Operations](#) (DPKO), the [Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](#) (OHCHR) and the [United Nations Development Programme](#) (UNDP), who each report to both the Team Leader and their respective entities. Team members have expertise in a variety of areas including international criminal law; human rights; policing and law enforcement; rule of law reform; reparations; transitional justice; and gender equality and non-discrimination. For more information, see: [un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/our-work/team-of-experts](http://un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/our-work/team-of-experts).

**Fellow Qualifications:** Strong English drafting skills required. Experience working on international criminal law and/or domestic law relating to sexual violence including conflict-related sexual violence would be highly desirable.



## ILHR FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION COVER PAGE

Please type or print legibly and limit information to the space provided.

Name:

NYU ID# (back of ID card):

NYU e-mail address:

Non-NYU e-mail address:

Degree program: JD / LLM / JSD

Expected year of graduation:

Phone:

Local address:

Permanent address:

Languages:

International Law Course Requirement:

JDs, please select one:

I am currently enrolled in International Law for 1Ls

I commit to enrolling in International Law for 1Ls if selected

I have requested and received a waiver from program staff due to prior coursework

LLMs, please describe how you have already fulfilled or plan to fulfill the international law / human rights law course requirement for the program.

Do you plan to sit for the July Bar Exam: Y / N

How did you hear about the ILHR Fellowship?

**I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ILHR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED HEREIN AND AGREE TO COMPLY WITH AND BE BOUND BY THEM; THAT I AGREE TO ACCEPT THE FELLOWSHIP IF IT IS AWARDED TO ME AND TO UNDERTAKE THE PARTICULAR INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT TO WHICH I AM ASSIGNED FROM AMONG THOSE FOR WHICH I HAVE APPLIED.**

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Electronic Signature

Date

## ILHR FELLOWSHIP PLACEMENT PREFERENCE FORM

Please indicate desired organization with an "X." If applying to more than one organization, please indicate order of preference (1 being the most preferable). There is no limit to the number of organizations you may apply to, however, you must include a separate Statement of Interest for each.

### HUMAN RIGHTS PLACEMENTS

#### Africa (Sub-Saharan)

- Defence for Children International – Sierra Leone, Freetown
- Fair Justice Initiative – Accra, Ghana
- Human Rights Network for Journalists – Uganda, Kampala
- Legal Assistance Centre – Windhoek, Namibia
- Southern Africa Litigation Centre – Johannesburg, South Africa

#### Americas

- Center for Economic and Social Rights – New York, NY
- Center for Legal and Social Studies – Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Inter-American Commission on Human Rights – Washington, DC
- International Center for Transitional Justice-Colombia – Bogotá, Colombia
- Reprieve-US – New York, NY or Washington, DC
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees – Protection and Solutions Unit – Washington, DC

#### Asia-Pacific

- Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust – Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia – Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Grata Fund – Sydney, Australia
- Human Rights Law Network – New Delhi, India
- International Organization for Migration – Bangkok, Thailand
- International Women's Rights Action Watch-Asia Pacific – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- South Asia Centre for Legal Studies – Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Zhicheng Public Interest Lawyers – Beijing, China

#### Europe

- European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights – Berlin, Germany
- Reprieve-UK – London, United Kingdom

#### Middle East and North Africa

- Al-Haq – Ramallah, West Bank
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees-Jordan – Amman, Jordan or Beirut, Lebanon

### ADDITIONAL UN PLACEMENTS

- UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations-Justice and Corrections Service – New York, NY
- UN International Law Commission – Geneva, Switzerland
- UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals –The Hague, Netherlands or Arusha, Tanzania
- UN Special Tribunal for Lebanon – The Hague, Netherlands
- UN Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict – New York, NY