CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
STRANIAK FELLOWSHIP – RESEARCH PROJECT ASSISTANCE

Place: Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights,
Freyung 6 (Schottenhof), 1010 Vienna, Austria

Start: 1 September 2016
Duration and scope: 6 months, full time
Applicants should come from the European or Central Asian region.

The Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights announces an offer for a full time fellowship to support two research projects at the Institute. In the framework of these projects, the intern will undertake various research activities in support of two research teams as well as organisational tasks (workshop organisation, booking of venues, correspondence with workshop participants, etc.) according to the project requirements. The fellowship is funded by the Hermann and Marianne Straniak Foundation – [http://www.straniak.com/](http://www.straniak.com/)

Background
The Institute currently conducts – among others – the following two research projects:

The research project aims at the publication of a second revised edition of 'The United Nations Convention against Torture – A Commentary', firstly published by Prof Nowak and Elisabeth Mc Arthur in 2008. The CAT Commentary is the most prominent academic publication on the UN Convention against Torture (CAT and its Optional Protocol (OPCAT) and serves as a key reference source but has also greatly contributed to the interpretation of the obligations to prevent torture and other forms of ill-treatment contained in the CAT. Its revision aims to ensure that the Commentary is updated but will also seek to make it even more user-friendly for researchers and practitioners. Moreover, the project foresees that all the primary resources and material gathered during the research will be made available – subject to copyright laws – on the website [www.atlas-of-torture.org](http://www.atlas-of-torture.org), thus offering a comprehensive database to human rights defenders and researchers in their fight against torture. The intern will support the team in conducting background research on the relevant developments concerning the interpretation of the CAT, with particular regard to the practice of the UN Committee against Torture but also to the work of the UN Special Rapporteur against Torture as well as other UN treaty and charter bodies, human rights monitoring mechanisms, and key developments at the national level. Additional tasks of the intern will be to support the development and management of the Atlas of Torture website (e.g. uploading resources and material on the online database, writing short articles and entries, updating news and project sections) and supporting the team in other research and organisational tasks.

2. Judging the Charter:
The project aims at enhancing the knowledge about the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the competence to actually apply Charter rights in judicial practise. Project activities will include the development of training materials and training tools for judges and other legal professionals. A specific focus is planned on the relevance of the Charter for the European legal
regime as well as for the legal regimes of Member States in the field of asylum. This will also be subject of preliminary research. Further activities that might take place only after the period covered by the fellow-ship will include interactive training sessions for national judges in AT, GR, HR, IT, PL and RO, the elaboration of electronic training tools and the organisation of two working conferences and one final international conference focussing on the role of the Charter in asylum cases.

The intern will support the team in conducting background research on the Charter and its applicability at the national level with a focus on the field of asylum. Depending on the qualifications and previous experience further tasks will be to assist in the development of training concepts and materials and the preparation of information for the project website. Supporting the project team in administrative issues like in the organisation of the initial working conference or in partner meetings will be additional tasks.

The intern will work together with the following BIM teams:

The team ‘Human Dignity and Public Security’ implements human rights projects worldwide, particularly in the area of prevention of torture and ill-treatment. The team conducts research and provides technical support and capacity development to States and civil society organisations. The current focus is on the UN Convention Against Torture and its Optional Protocol, on strengthening of oversight bodies and the prevention of torture, as well as on criminal procedural rights in the EU context (for further information see http://bim.lbg.ac.at/en/human-dignity-and-public-security).

The team on Asylum, Diversity and Anti-Discrimination conducts research on anti-discrimination, diversity, equality, migration/integration, asylum and access to justice with a specific focus on European policies and law in this context. The team also conceptualizes and offers trainings and lectures, carries out evaluation projects (for further information see http://bim.lbg.ac.at/en/nondiscrimination-asylum-and-migration).

Tasks

- Research activities (desk research, empirical research)
- Support of the project team in project management, preparation and implementation of project activities
- Website maintenance
- Administrative tasks related to the organization of project activities
- Communication with project partners and other stakeholders
- Support in drafting of project reports

Required capabilities

- University degree preferably in law, eventually also in political science, international relations or equivalent
- Fluency in spoken and written English
- Ability to work independently, diligently, and live up to deadlines
- Strong research and analytical skills
- Strong communication skills
- Good IT skills – experience in website maintenance is an asset
Offers:
- Interesting work in an interdisciplinary expert team on various topical human rights issues
- Fellowship of € 1,000 per month
- Participation in the diverse range of events and networks linked to the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights in Vienna

For further information on the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights see: http://bim.lbg.ac.at/en

Interested persons from the European and Central Asian region are requested to send their CV and motivation letter in English to bim.office@univie.ac.at

Arrangements for visa, if applicable, and insurance need to be taken care of by the fellow.

We are sorry we'll only be able to contact candidates invited for a telephone/skype interview.

Deadline for submission of applications: 3 July 2016