



Legal Action Worldwide

London-based Legal Fellow – Terms of Reference

Legal Action Worldwide (LAW) is a unique non-profit network and think tank of lawyers that provides creative legal assistance in fragile and conflict-affected areas. LAW aims to bring legal assistance to the most vulnerable and place national lawyers at the forefront of legal change. LAW uses advocacy, research, legal empowerment and strategic litigation to bring about this change. LAW's thematic focuses include: Addressing sexual and gender based violence; Accountability of security forces; Natural resource exploitation/displacement; and Transitional Justice. LAW's Advisory Council and Board are comprised of senior international lawyers who advise LAW on the development of innovative litigation and legal strategies.

Legislation drafted by LAW to address sexual violence in Somalia was described by President Judge Vagn Joensen of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda as *"the most comprehensive Bill on sexual crimes [he had] seen anywhere."* LAW's 2016 report on Accountability for Sexual Violence by Armed Men in South Sudan was described as *"a must-read,"* by the Executive Director of Crisis Action. LAW has chaired several high level panel discussions and roundtables on addressing sexual violence in conflict, one of which resulted in the first public statement by envoys for the African Union and United Nations in Somalia admitting sexual violence by peacekeepers and that efforts must be undertaken to address it. LAW's work has been included a number of UN and UK government reports and has received international media coverage, including in the New York Times, the Times of London, the Guardian, Voice of America, Huffington Post and Foreign Policy.

LAW's London office spearheads innovative legal research and coordinates ground-breaking strategic litigation around the world. LAW works closely with senior barristers, international law firms, leading academic institutions as well as LAW's offices in Africa, South Asia and the Middle East, on a range of pioneering legal projects designed to bring legal redress to those who need it most. You can read more about LAW's work on our website (www.legalactionworldwide.org).

LAW is seeking an enthusiastic, committed individual to become a Legal Fellow to support the work of LAW's London office. This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in the creative legal work undertaken by LAW and to gain insight into the workings of an international NGO. The Legal Fellow will be involved a range of LAW's projects, including 'Sexual Exploitation and Abuse as an International Crime', and 'Redefining FGM/C as a form of Torture.' The Legal Fellow will also assist in expanding UK fundraising and advocacy efforts.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Reports to: UK Legal Researcher, LAW Executive Director

Duration: 4 months

Start Date: Mid-September 2018 (or as soon as possible)

Key Functions:

Litigation and Research

- Assist in the preparation of ground-breaking litigation seeking to redefine female genital mutilation / cutting (FGM/C) as a form of torture and potentially, an international crime;

- Assist in LAW's research arguing that sexual exploitation and abuse by security forces, including UN and African Union Peacekeeping forces;
- Contribute to LAW's *No Safe Haven* project, which seeks to address serious violations of international criminal law through the use of universal jurisdiction;
- Assist, where required, on innovative legal projects led from LAW's offices in Nairobi, Geneva, Beirut and Colombo;
- Assist in legal research and the production of high quality reports.

Advocacy and Networking

- Attend events and conferences as needed, with a view to raising LAW's profile;
- Identify networking opportunities, especially within the UK;
- Assist in the development and implementation of LAW's UK Advocacy Strategy, designed to support the work of LAW's London office and raise the profile of the organisation.

Fundraising

- Assist in the implementation of LAW's UK Fundraising Strategy;
- Identify potential fundraising opportunities;
- Assist in the preparation of concept notes and applications for funding;
- Assist in the preparation of donor reports.

SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

- A Bachelor's degree in law and, ideally, an LL.M. in international law, human rights, conflict or gender studies;
- At least one year's experience working with an NGO, ideally with similar areas of focus to LAW;
- Experience in using social media platforms, especially Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn;
- Understanding of fundraising for NGOs, including an awareness of potential donors;
- Excellent organisational skills and ability to manage concurrent deadlines;
- Excellent research skills and analytical ability;
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite and strong technical literacy;
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work independently and take initiative;
- Experience working remotely or as part of team spread across different locations.

Please note: *all applicants must have the right to work in the United Kingdom for the duration of the fellowship.*

Please note: *Unfortunately, this is an unpaid position. LAW may be able to fund for travel and other expenses. LAW welcomes applications from those able to secure funding through university/ college scholarships or other means.*

To apply, please send a CV and cover letter highlighting your suitability for this position (neither exceeding two A4 pages) to nosafehaven@legalactionworldwide.org by **12 noon on Friday 14 September 2018**. Please use the subject line 'LONDON LEGAL FELLOWSHIP' in your email.