



Asylum Access – Global Policy Intern – Part Time - Summer 2016

Position Description

Asylum Access is an innovative nonprofit dedicated to realizing refugee rights in the Africa, Asia and Latin America through legal services, community legal empowerment, policy advocacy and litigation. The organization is currently seeking an intern to support the development of a report on the “Right to Work in Latin America and Caribbean”, as well as a variety of other major projects in the Global Policy Department.

The Global Policy Intern will be report directly to the Global Policy Director and participate in cutting-edge advocacy campaigns to support the promotion of refugee rights world-wide. In doing so, s/he will have the opportunity to lead dynamic research projects, work in a relaxed and supportive working environment, develop a solid understanding of the refugee rights and refugee response regime and receive mentoring by leading refugee rights lawyers and advocates.

We are seeking a part time intern for the summer, with a 15 – 25 hr/week commitment. If you are interested in a full time internship, there is the possibility of creating a hybrid position, half policy and half Community Legal Empowerment or Toolkit. If you are interested in this arrangement, please let us know in your cover letter, and also clarify which position you would like to take for your other half. All of these job descriptions can be viewed at our website.

About Asylum Access’ Global Policy Advocacy

Since its founding, Asylum Access has been a leader in the effort to make refugee rights a reality in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The Global Policy Department works with all offices – in Ecuador, Thailand, Tanzania and Malaysia, Mexico and Panama– on campaigns that push this vision forward every day. In addition, the Oakland office conducts advocacy in the US and on the international stage, to plant seeds of change within major institutions. Key elements of Asylum Access’s policy agenda include:

- Promoting due process in refugee status determination through advocacy at the national, regional and UNHCR level
- Advocating for refugees’ inclusion in international human rights monitoring
- Promoting the role of human rights in refugee response, particularly the role of litigation in protecting refugees from abuse and exploitation
- Focusing on policy change that has a direct, positive impact on the lives of refugees

Asylum Access is a member of Refugee Council USA, the International Council of Voluntary Agencies, the Southern Refugee Legal Aid Network, the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network and the International Detention Coalition.

About the “Right to Work in Latin America and Caribbean” Report

The “Right to Work in Latin America and Caribbean” is a research project developed by the Asylum Access Latin America office with a view to compiling information about the access to work for refugees in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as providing legal, economic and social arguments in favor of facilitating access to legal work for refugees. Asylum Access’s “Global Refugee Work Rights Report” inspired this regional report project.

The Global Policy Intern for Summer 2016 will be a team member for this major project, and will support the timeline for completion. Asylum Access's goal is to have this report ready to present at a hearing with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in March 2017.

Specific Intern Responsibilities

- Assist with the process of collaborating with Asylum Access Latin America to conduct critical research and writing for the "Right to Work in Latin America and Caribbean" report, including developing legal, economic and social arguments for facilitating access to legal work for refugees
- Assist and share responsibilities in connecting offices and teams and facilitating the sharing of information related to the report
- Support the ongoing advocacy portfolio projects in completion of major advocacy goals. This may include legal and other research and writing, drafting position papers, editing major publications, authoring articles and blog posts, and other activities in support of advocacy objectives at HQ and in overseas offices.
- This position may include creating content for Asylum Access's Refugee Right to Work Action Platform.
- Support in the development of learning tools and trainings in support of overseas staff and local advocacy priorities.

Preferred Qualifications

- A student undertaking a J.D., LLB, MA or advanced degree in a relevant field or equivalent work experience in related field.
- Genuine interest international human rights, immigration, or refugee law.
- Strong research and writing skills.
- Strong initiative and ownership of projects, manage multiple deadlines, and work effectively with a high attention to detail.
- Experience in community organizing, training, and / or engagement with refugees, migrants, or other vulnerable populations and/ or with international organizations or outside of the United States.

Hours and Location of Work

Interns are expected to work at least 15 hours a week, depending on their availability.

The Internship is based out of Oakland, CA Headquarters office with the occasional opportunity to work remotely.

Compensation

This is an unpaid internship. Interns have access to numerous learning opportunities throughout the internship and are encouraged to pursue their interests during the experience.

To Apply

Please submit a cover letter, résumé, and concise writing sample to Lilia Walsh at apply@asylumaccess.org

In your cover letter, please describe your qualifications for the position, and please be sure to include the following items:



Making Refugee Rights a Reality in Africa, Asia and Latin America

- Your placement in school (First year JD, recent graduate, etc.)
- Your program and school
- Please specify the exact dates of your availability, including your earliest available start date, and the number of hours a week (during business hours) that you would be available to work.

