

Vacancy announcement

Associate position with the ICRC Legal Division - Commentaries Update Unit

To work in the ICRC Commentaries Update Unit for 6 months minimum to 12 months maximum. This unit is tasked with the project to update the commentaries on the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their two Additional Protocols of 1977. The Associate's role will be to carry out research and assist the Legal Advisors in the Unit with the research for and drafting the new commentaries.

The position is located on site in Geneva. It is not paid and the associate should secure their own funding via a fellowship.

Job description:

- Carry out legal research on topics covered by the Fourth Geneva Convention and Additional Protocol I. The focus will be on research into the ICRC's archives, national and international case law, military manuals and academic publications in order to collect all legal information that is necessary to update the commentaries. This research will be used by the different internal and external lawyers writing the new commentaries.
- On the basis of the research carried out, prepare research briefs for an article or part of an article, or a short memorandum covering a specific issue.
- Verify, complete and update references based on the research carried out.
- Consult and coordinate with lawyers writing the new commentaries about the research.
- Participate in team meetings to discuss planning, progress and points of substance.
- Carry out any other duties as requested by the head of unit in relation to the project.

Training and experience required:

- JD or LLM degree
- Confirmed knowledge of international humanitarian law (IHL), obtained either through at least 20 hours of study of IHL or participation in an international (Pictet) or regional moot court competition with a focus on IHL;
- Knowledge of other branches of public international law of relevance, notably international human rights law, international refugee law, international criminal law, weapons treaties, the law of State responsibility or the law of treaties is a plus;
- Strong legal research, analysis and writing skills, demonstrated by previous work experience and/or publications in the field of international law or international humanitarian law;
- Perfect command of written English; additional language skills, in particular French, is a plus.
- Proven ability to work in a team, e.g. prior work or volunteer experience.

The ICRC Legal Division actively welcomes applications from a diverse range of candidates. We will provide equality of opportunity and foster a team culture that embraces and exemplifies our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Position in the hierarchy:

The associate will report to the legal adviser coordinating the work of associates in the Unit.

Proposed start date:

Summer 2024.

For any questions, please contact Heleen Hiemstra, Legal Adviser, Commentaries Update Unit: hhiemstra@icrc.org.