Fellowship in International Human Rights:

Leonard H. Sandler Fellowship

Established in memory of Judge Leonard H. Sandler, a 1950 Columbia Law graduate with a lifelong commitment to civil rights and liberties, this fellowship is open to recent J.D. graduates of Columbia Law School only.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Fellows typically work full-time for one year in Human Rights Watch’s New York or Washington, D.C. office. In some instances other locations may be considered. The Fellowship begins in September 2017.

Fellows monitor human rights developments in various countries, conduct on-site investigations, draft reports on human rights conditions, and engage in advocacy and media outreach aimed at publicizing and curtailing human rights violations.

Past fellows have conducted research and advocacy on numerous different issues in countries all over the world. Recent examples include projects on: police corruption and access to justice in Liberia; accessibility for people with disabilities in Russia; youth in solitary confinement in US prisons; hazardous child labor in artisanal gold mining in Tanzania; police abuse of gay men in Kyrgyzstan.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education: This fellowship is open to recent J.D. graduates of Columbia Law School only. Preference will be given to 2017 J.D. graduates and recent graduates who are completing a judicial clerkship. LL.Ms are not eligible.

Experience: Prior research experience, including experience conducting interviews, ideally in the context of human rights research, is required.

Related Skills and Knowledge

1. Demonstrated strong background in international human rights and commitment to building a career in human rights are required.

2. Excellent oral and written communications skills in English are required.

3. Proficiency in one language in addition to English is strongly desired as is familiarity with countries or regions where serious human rights violations occur.
4. Self-motivation, ability to multi-task effectively, including having good planning and organizing skills and ability to work under pressure are required.

5. Strong initiative and follow-through, exceptional analytical skills, the capacity to think creatively and strategically, excellent editing skills, perseverance and flexibility while maintaining HRW's high methodological standards are required.

6. Strong interpersonal skills in order to work collaboratively within HRW, as well as with external partners, are required.

7. Ability to make sound decisions consistent with functions is required.

Salary and Benefits: The salary for 2017-2018 fellows is US $55,000, plus excellent employer-paid benefits. HRW will pay reasonable relocation expenses and will assist employees in obtaining necessary work authorization, if required; citizens of all nationalities are encouraged to apply.

Application Deadline: Please apply immediately or by 11:59 PM ET on October 8, 2016 by visiting our online job portal at https://careers.hrw.org/opportunities/show/?jobid=1254. No calls or email inquiries, please. Only complete applications will be reviewed and only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Please note that shortlisted candidates may be contacted at a later stage to submit the following: two letters of recommendation and an official law or graduate school transcript.

Applicants must be available for interviews in New York from late November to mid-December 2016. Please direct inquiries, including technical difficulties with your application submission, to fellowship@hrw.org. Due to the large response, application submissions via email will not be accepted and inquiries regarding the status of applications will go unanswered.

Human Rights Watch is an equal opportunity employer that does not discriminate in its hiring practices and, in order to build the strongest possible workforce, actively seeks a diverse applicant pool.

Human Rights Watch is an international human rights monitoring and advocacy organization known for its in-depth investigations, its incisive and timely reporting, its innovative and high-profile advocacy campaigns, and its success in changing the human rights-related policies and practices of influential governments and international institutions.