



Organization of
American States

Competitive Job Opening Announcement

TITLE AND GRADE: Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression (P5)

TYPE OF CONTRACT: Office of Trust

DEPARTMENT: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

DUTY STATION: Washington, D.C.

PUBLICATION DATE: December 19, 2013

DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS: February 20, 2014

DATE OF SELECTION OF FINALIST CANDIDATES: 150th PERIOD OF SESSIONS

STARTING DATE FOR RECEIVING COMMENTS FROM STATES PARTIES AND CIVIL

SOCIETY: May 1, 2014

CLOSING DATES FOR RECEIVING COMMENTS FROM STATES PARTY AND CIVIL

SOCIETY: MAY 31, 2014

SELECTION DATE: 151th PERIOD OF SESSIONS

FIRST DAY OF WORK: OCTOBER 6, 2014

Background

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), the principal body of the OAS, is putting out a call for applications for the position of IACHR Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression. The Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression answers to the IACHR, works in conjunction with the Executive Secretariat of the IACHR, and operates from OAS headquarters in Washington DC.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- The Special Rapporteur will be responsible for supporting the IACHR in fulfilling its mandate to promote and protect freedom of expression in the Americas. Specifically, the Special Rapporteur will perform the following functions:

- Prepare reports on freedom of expression for the consideration of the IACHR and publication, including thematic reports on matters related with the right to freedom of expression and an annual report on the situation of freedom of expression in the Americas.
- Process individual cases on freedom of expression for the IACHR's subsequent decision and representing, by delegation, the Commission in the proceedings before the Inter-American Court of human rights, in cases related to freedom of expression.
- Assist the IACHR in the promotion of international instruments related to freedom of expression, including organizing and participating in promotional activities directed toward government officials, professionals, journalists and students on the work of the IACHR in this area.
- Make recommendations to the IACHR on urgent situations that may require the adoption of precautionary measures or the request of adoption of provisional measures before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.
- Monitor the situation of freedom of expression in the hemisphere and provide advice and assistance to OAS' Member States in the adoption of legislative, judicial, administrative, or other types of measures that may be necessary to make effective the exercise of the right to freedom of thought and expression
- Advise and assist other bodies of the Organization of American States (OAS) on matters related with freedom of expression in the Americas.
- Conduct the necessary activities to raise and manage funds from cooperation sources and to develop projects required to fulfill the assigned mandate
- Fulfill other mandates related to the promotion and protection of freedom of expression as delegated by the IACHR pursuant to its mandate.

Minimum requirements:

- High moral standards and independence.
- University degree in law, journalism or other relevant branch of social science. Graduate study or specialization in international human rights law or Human Rights is preferred.
- At least 15 years of domestic or international professional experience that includes, among other things, interaction with senior government officials or intergovernmental or nongovernmental organizations. For candidates with a graduate degree, minimum required experience is 10 years.

- Demonstrated professional experience and knowledge conducting the procedures and legal precedents of the IACHR and the case law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.
- Demonstrated competence and professional experience in issues related to freedom of expression and human rights in the Americas.
- Demonstrated ability to manage staff and demonstrating experience with raising funds and project supervision.
- Excellent written and oral communication. Excellent analytical and interpretive abilities. Ability to make public presentations before senior government officials, experts and representatives of nongovernmental human rights organizations, and the general public.
- Professional fluency in at least two of the official languages of the OAS: Spanish, French, English and Portuguese.
- Citizen of an OAS member State.

Selection process:

- The process by which the Special Rapporteur will be selected will follow the proceedings established in the applicable rules, in particular Article 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the IACHR and [Resolution O4/O6](#). The deadline to submit application is on 20th February, 2014. The names and profiles of the candidate selected as finalists for the position will be published on the IACHR webpage, from May 1 to May 31, 2014, so as to inform Member States and civil society and receive their comments. The IACHR expects to complete the selection process 151th Period of Sessions in order to comply with the terms established in its Statute and other applicable law. The new Special Rapporteur will start work on October 6, 2014.

The person chosen to fill the vacancy of special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression will hold a P-5 position (position of trust). Duties will be performed in Washington, DC, USA, and require broad availability for travel.

Cover letter and curriculum vitae should be sent to:

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Executive Secretary
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The application deadline is February 20, 2014