



## INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:

### INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION RESEARCH ASSISTANTS ROSTER

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<b>Location:</b>	Home based (with possibility of travel)
<b>Application Deadline:</b>	15 April 2025 (for the present call)
<b>Type of Contract:</b>	SSA
<b>Post Level:</b>	Consultant
<b>Languages Required:</b>	English or French or Spanish
<b>Duration of Initial Contract:</b>	Various short-term consultancy assignments

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### BACKGROUND

The International Law Commission was established by the General Assembly, in 1947, to undertake the mandate of the Assembly, under article 13 (1) (a) of the Charter of the United Nations, to “initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of ... encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification”. The Commission typically undertakes its work on the basis of annual reports prepared by the Special Rapporteurs, or by Chairs of Working Groups and Study Groups, appointed for each of the topics on its programme of work.

The Secretariat of the Commission is launching a call for qualified individuals to be included in a roster of potential research assistants to work with Special Rapporteurs and Study Group or Working Group Chairs. The roster will provide the Commission with access to diverse and experienced research support for its work by identifying research assistants with relevant expertise in public international law.

Applications will be considered on three occasions each year: 15 April, 15 June and 15 August. All applications will be expunged after each deadline.

**Only applicants who meet the requirements listed below and pass all screening procedures will be included in the roster for a maximum of three years.**

Research assistants will be selected from the roster as needs arise, and will be matched with individual Special Rapporteurs or Chairs. They will be expected to work either remotely or in person, on a full-time or part-time basis, depending on the needs of the Special Rapporteurs or Chairs in

question and the availability of the candidate. They will be expected to undertake a specific research project or projects, with specific outcomes agreed to in advance in consultation with the Special Rapporteurs or Chairs in question. Research assistants may be requested to accompany their respective Special Rapporteurs or Chairs to specific meetings, including the annual session of the International Law Commission, held in Geneva. Research assistants will be engaged as consultants and remunerated according to the nature (part-time or full-time) and duration of their work,<sup>1</sup> and in accordance with the established rules of the United Nations applicable to consultants.

## REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

The present call is open primarily to applicants holding a doctoral degree in law, with specialization in public international law. An advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in international law together with a minimum of two years of relevant work experience in public international law may be accepted in lieu of a doctoral degree.

Applicants must demonstrate a record of original research or work experience in public international law, related to at least one of the topics under consideration by the Commission.

Fluency (both spoken and written) in English, French or Spanish is required, and will be a key factor in matching applicants to specific Special Rapporteurs or Chairs. Knowledge of another United Nations official language is an advantage.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

The application package must include the following documents:

- completed [UN P.11 Form](#);
- a curriculum vitae;
- one or more writing samples (from peer-reviewed publications, if possible); and
- a short cover letter detailing the applicant's interest and relevant experience and listing a maximum of three topics from the programme of work of the Commission in order of preference.<sup>2</sup>

Application packages must be sent via email to the address: [ola-codification@un.org](mailto:ola-codification@un.org). Applicants may be contacted for verification of academic credentials. Qualified individuals will be held on the roster for a period of three years.

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<sup>1</sup> The General Assembly, in [resolution 77/103](#), of 7 December 2022, established a trust fund to receive voluntary contributions for assistance to Special Rapporteurs of the International Law Commission or Chairs of its Study Groups and matters ancillary thereto.

<sup>2</sup> The following topics are presently on the programme of work of the Commission:

- Immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction
- Succession of States in respect of State responsibility
- General principles of law
- Sea-level rise in relation to international law
- Settlement of disputes to which international organizations are parties
- Prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea
- Subsidiary means for the determination of rules of international law
- Non-legally binding international agreements

Upon selection to assist in a particular topic, the applicant will be offered a consultancy contract with the United Nations, and will be required to provide additional documentation (e.g. certificate of good health).

In accordance with the established rules applicable to consultants, selected individuals will be responsible for determining their tax liabilities and for the payment of any taxes and/or duties, in accordance with local laws. The United Nations does not reimburse consultants for any taxes, duty, or other contribution payable by the consultant on payments made under the individual contract. The United Nations does not issue statements of earnings to consultants. The level of remuneration will be determined in accordance with the rules of the Organization applicable to consultants and individual contractors (see [ST/AI/2013/4](#) for more information). The remuneration will be processed upon successful completion of all tasks related to the consultancy contract, including the delivery of requested outputs.

The United Nations is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment of mutual respect. Recruitment is without regard to gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religious, cultural and ethnic backgrounds or disabilities. Applications from all regions are encouraged. Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. Priority will be given to early career applicants.

The call for applications and roster is being undertaken by the Codification Division of the United Nations Office of the Legal Affairs, in its capacity as the Secretariat of the International Law Commission.