



## **Call For Applications – Fellowship Sponsorship**

The Secretariat of the Global Strategic Litigation Council for Refugee Rights (GSLC), a first-of-its kind global network of civil society experts, litigators and academics, invites LLM and JD students in their final semester of law school as well as recent law graduates to apply for a sponsorship opportunity to work with us as a Legal Fellow. The Council launched in 2021 and has quickly grown to more than 200 members from every world region, including refugee-led organizations. The Council serves as a hub for activists seeking to use strategic litigation and related legal advocacy to advance the legal protection of refugees and other migrants worldwide. We use coordinated and affirmative legal strategies to force States to uphold existing legal commitments and spur progressive development of the law – all to improve the lives of people who are displaced. The Council seeks to sponsor a Legal Fellow who will begin work in the fall of 2023 and asks for a minimum commitment of six months, conditional on securing funding support. Legal Fellows will be formally hosted at one of the founding members of the Council’s Steering Committee and will report to that organization’s designee. We will review applications and pursue sponsorship on a rolling basis.

The GSLC does not currently have funding for the fellowship position and will work with the successful candidate sponsored to identify and support fellowship funding prospects.

### **Responsibilities**

- Conduct legal research and analysis and develop theories to support the development of new affirmative strategic litigation plans by the Council within one or more priority areas
- Conduct legal research and analysis and develop theories to support new litigation projects within one or more litigation areas
- Draft and contribute to drafting legal memoranda, pleadings, affidavits, motions, and briefs, including amicus briefs (or sections of briefs) in connection with litigation projects of the Council and/or those of its members
- Respond to requests for technical assistance from members of the Council
- Provide support and assistance to members of the Council and/or cooperating attorneys
- Attend and help coordinate and support regular meetings of the Council, its Steering Committee and its Working Groups
- Support the Council and its Working Group work through the development of a core ecosystem for document storage and information management/sharing
- Help manage the Council’s listserv

- Draft and edit public education and non-litigation advocacy materials
- Attend external meetings and conferences
- Engage in special projects and other duties as assigned

## Experience & Qualifications

- LLM or JD or expected to receive an LLM or JD by the fall of 2023
- Demonstrated commitment to public interest work
- Commitment to the mission of the Council
- Ability to work collaboratively and respectfully toward resolving obstacles and/or conflicts, in particular across lines of difference within global network of Council members and cooperating attorneys
- Demonstrated experience studying to public interest law, international law, international human rights law, U.S. civil rights/civil liberties law, and in particular such law as it relates to the rights of refugees and other migrants
- Willingness to work closely with the Council and the members of its Steering Committee through the funding application process to law school and/or outside sponsors
- Excellent research, writing, analytical, and verbal communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to conduct complex legal analysis and fact-finding
- Excellent interpersonal skills and a proven ability to work independently as well as within a team
- Demonstrated ability to coordinate legal and project work with remote collaborators, including in multiple countries and/or time zones
- Self-motivated with the ability to take initiative, manage a variety of tasks and see projects through to completion
- Fluency in languages other than English is a plus

## About the Council

National courts and tribunals around the globe daily interpret national, regional and international law directly affecting the rights of refugees and of other migrants. While international organizations such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have played a significant and effective role in assisting local advocates and filing *amicus curiae* briefs in courts at all levels, no single entity has taken up the charge of developing an affirmative strategy for judicial engagement to promote refugee rights, nor the rights of others on the move. The Council coordinates national court litigation and related non-litigation advocacy to promote a comprehensive vision of migrants' rights around the world. As a global initiative, the Council promotes the development of the law while serving as a resource center, as a locus for cross-national strategizing and network-building and as a conduit for amplifying the global impact of national and regional victories for refugee and migrant rights.