



**RAOUL
WALLENBERG
INSTITUTE**
OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW

**The African Court Legal Fellowship Programme
With the support of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights
and Humanitarian Law**

**Human Rights Fellow at the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights in
Arusha, Tanzania**

About the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights

The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Court) is a continental court established by Member States of the African Union to ensure the protection of human and peoples' rights in Africa. It complements and reinforces the functions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. The Court was established pursuant to Article 1 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, (the Protocol) which was adopted by Member States of the then Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in June 1998. The Protocol came into force on 25 January 2004 (For more information see: <https://www.african-court.org/wpafc/welcome-to-the-african-court/>).

About RWI

The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI) is an independent academic institution established in 1984. RWI has since 1990 carried out a wide range of research, academic education, and institutional capacity development programmes internationally in the human rights field, mainly with the support of Swedish Development Cooperation. The work of the Institute focuses on four thematic areas: Fair and Efficient Justice; Inclusive Societies; People on the Move; and Economic Globalisation and Human Rights. (For more information see: <http://rwi.lu.se/>).

RWI started to work in Africa in the early 1990s and since then extensive cooperation has been maintained with institutions in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, and Zambia, as well as regionally/sub-regionally. The Institute's office in Nairobi currently manages RWI's bilateral programmes in Kenya and Ethiopia, as well as regional cooperation in Africa. For further information on the Institute's cooperation in Africa, see <https://rwi.lu.se/africa-landing-page/>

In 2019, RWI began the Implementation Phase of a new Regional Africa Programme. Planned to run until 2023, the Programme involves cooperation with bodies of Regional Economic Communities and the African Union, and related duty-bearers in the region, in the area of human rights, as well as cooperation with other key regional actors able to follow up and influence the implementation of human rights commitments in the region, including academic institutions. For further information on the Programme, see <https://rwi.lu.se/regional-africa-programme-2/>

Summary

As part of the outstanding cooperation between the African Court and RWI, and in support of the Legal Fellowship Programme launched by the African Court, this is a call for applications for the position of Human Rights Fellow at the African Court in Arusha, Tanzania. The initial placement for the Fellow will be six (6) months.

The Fellow's primary responsibilities are to develop and undertake research and studies on issues of human rights promotion and protection within the context of the mandate of the African Court. The Fellow will, therefore, be required to provide support to relevant African Court and RWI programmes, in particular the cooperation between the African Court and RWI under the Regional Africa Programme. The Fellow will work under the supervision of the Head of the Legal Division (HOLD) or an Officer designated by the HOLD and report regularly to the Regional Programme Officer at the RWI Nairobi Office.

Main Tasks and Responsibilities

- i. Conducting research on broad range of legal issues arising within the mandate of the African Court;
- ii. Assist with operations of the African Court's Legal Aid Unit;
- iii. Undertaking and coordinating applied and theoretical justice sector research in relation to relevant African Court and RWI programmes;
- iv. Develop research-based project proposals, on different elements related to the African Court and RWI's Regional Africa Programme and in particular in relation supporting the cooperation between regional and sub-regional Court in Africa;
- v. Support in the follow-up of some of the recommendations of the first tripartite judicial dialogue between regional and sub-regional courts. These will include:
 - Provide research-based inputs on the promotion of regular jurisprudential and procedural exchanges between international, regional and sub-regional Courts and Mechanisms;
 - Provide support on the establishment of a mechanism for sharing library resources, websites and research that strengthens cooperation and the sharing of experiences and good practices.

Expected Outputs

- i. Participation in Registry-wide research on various legal developments;
- ii. Assisting with the operations of the Court's Legal Aid Unit;
- iii. One (1) thematic practice guide on jurisprudence of electoral disputes of regional and sub-regional Courts in Africa;
- iv. Library access of the African Court Library to the Librarians of the East African Court of Justice and the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice;
- v. Four (4) quarterly caselaw information notes -the Case Law Information Notes are designed to provide an overview of the most recent decisions adopted during the sessions of the African Court;
- vi. Updated Frequently Asked questions on the African Court;
- vii. Updated Reparations Factsheet for Use by Parties.

Qualifications and application procedure

- i. Minimum of a bachelor's degree in law or its equivalent and at least two years' experience at the bar. A master's degree in public international law, preferably with a focus on human rights law, will be considered as an added advantage.
- ii. Proven track record in research and writing.
- iii. Ability to work independently and with minimal supervision.
- iv. Knowledge of the African Human Rights System.
- v. A demonstrable commitment to international human rights.
- vi. Ability to work in at least one of the African Union official languages.

Application letters, and a detailed curriculum vitae, should be submitted through the Office of the Registrar of the African Court at registrar@african-court.org copying the following: Dr Sègnonna Horace Adjolohoun at horace.adjolohoun@african-court.org and Dr Mwiza Jo Nkhata at mwiza.nkhata@african-court.org. Closing date for receipt of application is 18 October 2023.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for interviews. The successful applicant should be prepared to start the Fellowship by 1 November 2023.