

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), the principal body of the OAS, is calling for applications for the position of IACHR Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression. The Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression reports to the IACHR, works in conjunction with the Executive Secretariat of the IACHR, and is based at OAS headquarters in Washington, D.C.

TITLE AND GRADE:

Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression (P5)

TYPE OF CONTRACT:

Series B Fixed term contract of 1 year
(contract is renewable for two years depending on the availability of funds)

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

DUTY STATION:

Washington, D.C.

PUBLICATION DATE:

January 13, 2020

DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS:

March 13, 2020 at 23:59 (E.S.T)

DATE OF SELECTION OF FINALIST CANDIDATES:

April 20, 2020

PUBLICATION OF LIST OF FINALIST CANDIDATES AND STARTING DATE FOR RECEIVING COMMENTS FROM MEMBER STATES AND CIVIL SOCIETY:

April 30, 2020

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIVING COMMENTS FROM MEMBER STATES AND CIVIL SOCIETY:

June 15, 2020

SELECTION DATE:

September 14 and 15, 2020

WORK START DATE:

October 6, 2020

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 to 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 the Organization of American States (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 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.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Citizenship: Applicants must be nationals of a member state of the OAS.

Education and Experience:

Essential: First University Degree (Bachelor) in Law, Journalism or o related field and at least 15 years of relevant professional experience at the national and international level, including, inter alia, interaction with senior government officials, intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations **OR** Advanced University Degree (Master's) in one of the fields listed above and at least 10 years of relevant experience. Additionally, proven professional

experience and knowledge in: 1) handling the procedures and legal precedents of the IACHR and the jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, 2) issues related to freedom of expression and human rights in the Americas and 3) seeking funding and supervising projects.

Desirable: Advanced degree or other specialized studies in the area of International Law or Human Rights.

Languages:

Essential – Proficient in at least two of the following languages: English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish (read, write and communicate);

Desirable – Working knowledge of the other two official languages.

PERSONAL COMPETENCIES:

Client Orientation, Knowledge Sharing, Teamwork, Interpersonal Skills, Managing and Coaching Staff, Strategic Planning, Encouraging Innovation, and Decision Making/Judgment. Excellent written and oral communication skills. Excellent analytical and interpretative skills. Ability to make public presentations to senior government officials, experts and representatives of human rights non-governmental organizations and the general public.

References: Please submit a minimum of two professional references.

Selection procedure and timing:

The process by which the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression will be selected will follow the procedures established in the applicable regulations, in particular article 15 of the IACHR's Regulations and [Resolution 04/06](#). The deadline for the submission of resumes is March 13, 2020. The names and backgrounds of the candidates selected as finalists for the position will be published on the IACHR website from April 30, 2020 to June 15, 2020 for the information and observations of the Member States and Civil Society. The candidates selected as finalists will be asked to send a short video, no longer than 5 minutes, presenting the reasons they should be selected as Special Rapporteur. The videos will be published on the IACHR website. The IACHR expects to complete the selection process between September 14 and 15, 2020, in order to proceed as per the terms of its Statute and other applicable regulations. The new Special Rapporteur will begin their work on October 6, 2020.

The person selected to fill the vacancy of Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression will have a P-5 position (Series B - 1-year Fixed Term Contract. Contract is renewable for two years depending on the availability of funds). The duties will be carried out in Washington, D.C., USA and will require extensive availability to travel.

The GS/OAS embraces equality, diversity and inclusion. Thus, the GS/OAS, in accordance with its rules and regulations, is committed to providing equal opportunities in employment, achieving a diverse staff, and will take into account a wide geographic representation, as well as gender equity and equality, in the selection of candidates.

Please note that the mandatory retirement age for staff members at the General Secretariat of the OAS is 65.

