

The Court

A brief background to the establishment of the ICD is that following the LRA war in Northern Uganda that saw thousands of people killed and children kidnapped and forced to become child soldiers for Joseph Kony, the court was set up to try alleged perpetrators of serious crimes in Uganda. This originated in the Juba Peace Negotiations between the government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA).

The courts' mandate has since been widened to include prosecution of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, terrorism, human trafficking, piracy and any other international crime defined in Uganda's Penal Code Act, Geneva Conventions Act 1962 Cap 363 International Criminal Court Act 2010, or under any other penal enactment in force in Uganda.

The War Crimes trial of Thomas Kwoyelo

In line with its mandate, the ICD commenced the hearing of its first case on July 11th 2011 with the trial of former LRA Commander Colonel Thomas Kwoyelo.

Kwoyelo was charged with 12 counts amounting to crimes against humanity under the Geneva Conventions Act 1964 and 53 alternative charges under the Ugandan Penal Code. In light of various constitutional issues raised and a subsequent referral to the Constitutional Court, the ICD trial was stayed until the decision of the Supreme Court in April 2015 where it was held that the ICD could resume the trial of Kwoyelo.

It is against this background that the ICD is presently preparing for resumption of the trial in April 2016; hence this call for interns.

Internship opportunities

An ICD internship is UNPAID and full-time. Core working hours for interns are Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Overtime may be required to meet deadlines for specific projects. Interns work under the supervision of a staff member in the office to which they are assigned. The duration of an ICD internship can range from a minimum of one month to a maximum of three months, according to the needs of the intern's assigned office.

Please find below a listing of current internship opportunities with the International Crimes Division of the High Court in Uganda:

1. 2 legal assistants for Chambers
2. 2 legal assistants for the Office of the Prosecutor
3. 2 victims/witness unit officers for the Registry
4. 2 communications and outreach officers for the Registry

Requirements for the above positions:

- Motivation letter (maximum of 400 words in English).
- Two reference letters (one academic).
- Scanned copies of university degrees and/or diplomas.
- Scanned copies of official academic transcripts that state your courses, subject, results and completion date.
- A detailed curriculum vitae

CHAMBERS legal internships

The core work in Chambers consists of the provision of legal support to the Judges at the trial and appeal stages. There is also support to the Judges in their other activities, for example by assisting them in their contributions to amendments to the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and other Tribunal Rules, Regulations and Directives.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Performing legal research and preparing memoranda on judicial activities and elaboration of judicial advice related to issues concerning procedure and judicial practices of hearings;
- Contributing to the preparation of drafts of Decisions, Orders and parts of Judgements,
- Obtaining research materials, assisting with the management of documentary evidence,
- Observing court proceedings, writing reports of those proceedings and summaries of witnesses' testimony and participating in analysis and discussions.
- Support on administrative legal issues for the daily tasks of the Court Officers;
- Interns may also perform routine tasks such as compiling and collating materials, and other duties as assigned

Academic qualifications for legal assistants:

Candidates for legal internships in Chambers are required to be, at a minimum, in their final year of law school/university. If the candidate has already completed a four-year undergraduate university degree before commencing graduate legal studies, he or she must have completed at least one year of graduate legal studies by the time the internship commences.

REGISTRY Victims and Witness Unit internships

In accordance with article 43 paragraph 6 of the ICC Act of Uganda, and Rule 35 of the ICD Rules of Procedure and Evidence the Victims and Witnesses Section (VWS) shall provide protective measures and security arrangements, counselling and other appropriate assistance for witnesses and victims who appear before the Court and to others who are at risk on account of testimony given by such witnesses. The Section, placed within the Registry, may advise the Prosecutor and the Court on appropriate protective measures, security arrangements, counselling and assistance as referred to in article 43, paragraph 6 of the ICC Act of Uganda.

The Section is responsible for ensuring that the witnesses appear in the court appropriately protected and supported and as scheduled by the Chambers.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist the Registrar in briefing the witnesses about the court and providing all necessary materials
- Creating and updating the database of the Victim and Witness Section, researching and drafting submissions and reports
- Support the day to day operational case management
- Assist with research on topics of relevance to the Victims & Witnesses Section;
- Assist in drafting minutes, reports and planning documents and preparing presentations on assigned topics;
- Conduct general administration tasks in support of operations;
- Any other task as entrusted by the Team Leader.

Academic qualifications

Candidates must have a degree or be in the final stages of their studies in law, political science, international relations or security management. Candidates are expected to have a very good record of academic performance.

REGISTRY Communications and Outreach internships:

In order for the ICD to fulfil its mandate its role and judicial activities must be understood by a variety of audiences. In this respect, the Court's outreach programme has been created to ensure that affected communities in situations subject to investigation or proceedings can understand and follow the work of the Court through the different phases of its activities.

Outreach is one of the Court's various external communications functions which also include external relations and public information.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Monitor worldwide news sources for articles relating to the ICD and its work.
- Produce daily reports containing such news items for distribution to the Chambers and Registry at the ICD.
- Produce first drafts of press releases; draft possible questions and answers for use during press briefings.
- Assist staff with research requests and any other general requests from the media.
- Support the work of the Registry by uploading information on social media channels.
- Draft articles for publication on the ICD intranet news service.
- Undertake background research and/or collect information for Outreach projects.
- Draft content for use in new features on the Judiciary website, and assist in the proofreading and quality control of website content.

- Provide assistance during the preparation for and duration of high-profile events such as conferences and trial judgements.
- Assist in the daily running of the ICD's legal library.
- Assist with the implementation of longer term projects on behalf of any of the Units within the Communications Service.
- Draft meeting minutes, reports, speaking and background notes.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Academic qualifications

Candidates must have a degree or be in the final stages of their studies at a recognised university. Candidates are expected to have a very good record of academic performance.

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR (OTP) legal internships

The OTP investigates and prosecutes persons responsible for the most serious violations of international humanitarian law.

Legal interns will be assigned to work in a section of the OTP according to the needs of the office.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Interns may assist the prosecutors with preparing for witness examinations, researching and drafting parts of motions, pre-trial and final briefs and preparing evidence for trial.
- Interns may also research comparative and international criminal law issues, draft agenda or discussion papers for meetings and take minutes, draft correspondence, and perform other litigation-related tasks.

For all internship positions the following is required:

- Strong drafting skills are required.
- IT software/research skills are considered an asset.
- Adaptability to a multicultural and multilingual working environment encompassing the principal legal traditions of the world.
- Ability to work effectively in a team as well as independently.
- A very good standard of computer literacy (especially Microsoft Office applications)
- Other important qualities are discretion and respect of confidentiality, reliability, intellectual rigor, precision, perseverance, honesty, creativity, co-operative spirit and integrity.

Languages:

Proficiency in English, is required.

Work Experience:

Practical experience in international criminal justice will be an advantage.

Interested candidates should send applications to:

The Registrar in charge of Special Projects

International Crimes Division of the High Court of Uganda
Email: hnalukwago@judicature.go.ug
www.judicature.go.ug