



Legal Seat – Helsinki, Finland

WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

An International Non-Governmental Organisation in official liaison with ECOSOC, UNESCO, ILO, WHO and the Council of Europe. WFD was established in Rome in 1951.

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Call for Applications for Human Rights Officer

The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) is seeking a Human Rights Officer for one-year project-funded position, starting 1 March 2019. The WFD Human Rights Officer will work as part of the WFD Secretariat, currently composed of three other salaried staff members, and the position reports directly to the WFD Executive Director.

WFD human rights project in short:

The project will facilitate human rights advances for deaf people worldwide, by ensuring that the linguistic, social, political, economic and cultural rights of deaf people are taken into account in international human rights agendas. This will be achieved through the strengthening of the WFD's global advocacy work through international platforms such as the United Nations (UN) and the International Disability Alliance (IDA).

The WFD will seek to impact from the 'top down' through influencing the UN policy and commentary at the international level, and from the 'bottom up' by empowering our members to advocate through human rights review mechanisms and to inform our submissions, to ensure that known violations are raised and that real grassroots experience and best practices inform international policy.

Responsibilities of WFD Human Rights Officer:

- Co-ordinate and carry out human rights training workshops.
- Write WFD documents such as submissions to the UN, statements and position papers.
- Support national associations of the deaf on human rights issues with focus on reporting processes with regard to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and High-level Political Forum.
- Prepare narrative and financial project reports.
- Other tasks required by the WFD Executive Director.

Experiences:

- Previous, at least 3 years of work experience in human rights, development, or closely-related field.
- Solid knowledge on the United Nations treaties and work of treaty bodies in addition to the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Experience in working with Deaf Communities in developing countries.

Skills:

- Strong understanding of human rights issues, with special focus on deaf people and sign languages.
- Facility to successfully liaise and network with colleagues, organisations of the deaf, national governments and various partners in a multicultural environment.
- Ability to carry out tasks, make decisions independently and meet deadlines.
- Proven experience of writing documents on human rights issues and carrying out human rights training workshops.
- Excellent communication abilities including at least fluency in one national sign language, good International Sign skills, and high level written English, and the ability to use a sign language interpreter in meetings.

Qualifications:

- To be considered for the position the candidate should have a background in human rights and preferably possess a Master's degree in law, social sciences or relevant discipline or otherwise proven qualification for the position.

The position requires international travelling and commitment to work from time to time also on weekends.

Preference given to those able to relocate, at their own expense, in order to work from the WFD Secretariat in Helsinki, Finland. The position does not offer compensation related to relocation and establishment costs for a successful candidate who needs to relocate in order to assume the position.

To apply for this position, please fill in the Application Form and send it with required documents to Ms Eeva Tupi, WFD Executive Director at eeva.tupi@wfd.fi. She can also be contacted should you have any questions.

Deadline of application: 4 January 2019 at 4pm (Finnish time). Shortlisted candidates' interviews are expected to be carried out via video meeting on 8-10 January 2019 and the successful applicant is anticipated to start on 1 March 2019.