



**British Institute of
International and
Comparative Law**

Research Fellow on the Protection of Education in the MENA region

Background

1. The British Institute of International and Comparative Law is the foremost independent research and discussion body in the United Kingdom, unaffiliated to any university, and is one of the leading such bodies in the world. It undertakes high quality research, publications, events and training on issues of international and comparative law around the globe.
2. BIICL has developed considerable expertise in human rights, humanitarian law and criminal law with regard to the protection of education. It has published an international law handbook on the topic (*Protecting Education in Insecurity and Armed Conflict*), as well as a report on reparations for education-related violations.
3. PEIC (Protect Education in Conflict), a policy, research and advocacy programme of Education Above All, is funding this research. PEIC aims to promote and protect the right to education in areas affected by crisis, conflict and insecurity, bringing together practitioners and specialists in education, international law and child protection.

Job Description

4. BIICL is seeking to appoint a strong candidate as a Research Fellow to be part of a research project, which seeks to establish good practice in the domestic implementation of international standards regarding the protection of education in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region and to identify any existing gaps within national legal systems in this area. It will aim to offer practical recommendations for increasing the legal protection of education at the domestic level.
5. The Research Fellow will be expected to undertake the following:
 - Produce high quality research on domestic laws and practice pertaining to the protection of education in the MENA region efficiently and on time;
 - Produce regular draft reports and briefings for a wide audience;
 - Draft articles and other publications, including recommendations;
 - Coordinate input of external consultants and advisors;
 - Manage and coordinate events; and
 - Work in a team with other researchers, including interns, at BIICL.
6. This is a full-time, fixed term post for a 7 month period, with no teaching duties. Secondments for this period may also be considered. The post holder will be based in London. The salary package is £26,000 - £28,000 pa, depending on qualifications and experience. It is hoped that the person appointed will commence as soon as possible.



Person Specification

7. The successful applicant will have the following mix of experience, skills and attributes:
- An in-depth understanding of the MENA region, including its legal systems;
 - Fluency in Arabic;
 - A record of published research in legal issues pertaining to the MENA region, human rights (the right to education in particular), humanitarian law, criminal law, or related areas;
 - A record of co-ordinating research activity in this field, with experience in empirical research being an advantage;
 - Practical expertise in this field, with some experience in legal practice in the MENA region being an advantage;
 - Effective communication skills in disseminating research findings and other activities to a diverse international community;
 - A record of interacting appropriately with practitioners, non-governmental organisations, academics, policy-makers and others in this field;
 - An ability to organise and manage events to a high standard;
 - An ability to be self-starting and self-sufficient, and to manage with minimal administrative support; and
 - An ability and willingness to work collaboratively and collegially with colleagues.

Application Process

8. The deadline for applications is **1 June 2015**. Applicants should send the following by email to jobs@biicl.org:
- A completed BIICL application cover form (available at www.biicl.org/vacancies) including the names and addresses of three referees (two of whom can be contacted prior to interview);
 - A full curriculum vitae; and
 - A covering letter setting out their reasons for applying and how they consider that they meet the person specification for this post.
9. Informal enquiries may be addressed to Kristin Hausler (k.hausler@biicl.org).
10. Applicants are encouraged to find out more about BIICL, its members of staff and activities at <http://www.biicl.org>. In particular, please consult BIICL's previous work in the area at <http://www.biicl.org/protectingeducation>
11. It is expected that interviews will take place in the second week of June 2015.
12. We regret that we are unable to acknowledge receipt of applications personally, as we are a charitable organization with limited funds. If you do not hear from us regarding interviews within four weeks of the closing date, your application has been unsuccessful.