



Research Fellow on the Law of the Sea (part-time)

Background

1. The British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL) is the foremost independent research and discussion body in its field 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 a long-established track record in conducting research and events on law of the sea and related subjects. Recent notable examples include the BIICL conference “UNCLOS at 30” held in Belfast on 22-23 November 2012, and the forthcoming BIICL book edited by Jill Barrett and Richard Barnes, “Law of the Sea: UNCLOS as a Living Treaty”.
3. BIICL is about to commence a new Law of the Sea research project on “The obligation of self-restraint in the undelimited maritime area: Interpretation of UNCLOS Article 74(3) and 83(3) and related jurisprudence”. The aim of the project is to examine the current state of international law applicable to disputed areas in the absence of maritime boundaries. It will have a focus on the empirical study of State practice in relation to the obligation of self-restraint in such undelimited maritime areas. The research is funded by the Government of Japan.

Job Description

4. BIICL is seeking to appoint a strong candidate as a Research Fellow to be a member of the research team for this project.
5. The Research Fellow will be expected to undertake the following:
 - Produce high quality research on the law of the sea pertaining to the obligation of self-restraint in the undelimited maritime area with particular reference to evidence of State practice;
 - Write up the research in the form of draft sections for the report and comment upon draft sections written by other team members;
 - Co-ordinate input of all members of the research team including external consultants and advisers;
 - Organise, store and index all research material and data relating to State practice on BIICL electronic office systems;
 - Assist with the organisation of a high-level roundtable event to discuss the preliminary research findings;
 - Assist with editing the final report and preparing it for publication and dissemination; and
 - Work in a team with other researchers, including interns, at BIICL.
6. This is a part-time (0.5 full-time) fixed term post to commence as soon as possible, and to last until the end of June 2016. There are no teaching duties. Secondments for this period may also be considered. The post will be based in London; however flexible arrangements can be considered including some remote working and with regard to distribution of hours.



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7. The salary package will be in the range £25,000 - £28,000 pa (pro-rated), depending on qualifications and experience. It is hoped that the person appointed will commence as soon as possible.

Person Specification

8. The successful applicant will have the following mix of experience, skills and attributes:
 - A Masters or PhD in the international law of the sea or a closely related area of public international law or equivalent research experience, with experience in undertaking empirical research on State practice a particular advantage;
 - A record of published research on international law of the sea and other areas of public international law;
 - A record of co-ordinating research activity in this field, including organising and indexing data on electronic systems;
 - Some experience in legal practice or practical experience in an international, regulatory or commercial organisation relating to maritime matters would be an advantage;
 - Excellent written English and effective communication skills in disseminating research findings and other activities to a diverse international community;
 - A record of interacting appropriately with practitioners, diplomats, academics, policy-makers and others in this field, from a range of countries;
 - 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

9. Applicants should send the following by **Friday 17 July 2015** by email to jobs@biicl.org:
 - The 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;
 - A covering letter setting out their reasons for applying and how they consider that they meet the person specification for this post.
10. Interviews are expected to take place in **late July 2015**.
11. 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.
12. Applicants are encouraged to find out more about the Institute and its members of staff and activities at: <http://www.biicl.org>.