

## Research Fellow

### Background

1. The Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law was founded in 2010 in honour of the late Lord Bingham of Cornhill, one of the greatest judges of his generation. It is part of the British Institute for International and Comparative Law (BIICL), the foremost independent research and discussion body of its kind in the UK. The Centre's activities have expanded rapidly since its foundation and it is now engaged in a wide range of research projects, events, publications and training and has a significant impact on policy developments.

### Job Description

2. The Centre is seeking to appoint a strong candidate as a Research Fellow to focus on rule of law issues in either administrative justice and public law, or commercial law and/or banking and finance. The person appointed is expected to make a contribution to the research, training, outreach and administrative activities of the Centre.
3. The Centre wishes to appoint someone for one year full-time in the first instance. Secondments will also be considered (which for university academics may provide excellent impact opportunities). Depending on funding and the Centre's needs, the post may be extended beyond the initial year. A salary package in the range of £27,000 - £33,000 pa is expected, depending on qualifications and experience. It is hoped that the person appointed will commence as soon as possible.
4. This is a research post, with no student teaching duties. The post will enable the Fellow to work directly with a broad network of scholars, practitioners, judges, government officials, international institutions, NGOs and others working in this field.
5. The broad areas of research within the Centre include: the rule of law in business and finance (for example, in relation to the obligations of companies, the functions and operation of regulators, and the rule of law requirements for economic development and growth); the rule of law and democracy (including work on constitutional development and administrative justice outside the United Kingdom, and, in the United Kingdom on government proposals that have an impact on the rule of law including those concerning judicial review and legal aid); the rule of law and human rights (including work on post-2015 sustainable development goals, and the monitoring of human rights); access to justice and particularly the independence of the judiciary (such as work on judicial appointment procedures in the Commonwealth); the international rule of law (such as work on African regional and sub-regional courts and on the content of international initiatives on the rule of law).
6. The Research Fellow in this position will focus on either administrative justice or rule of law in the commercial/finance sector. He or she would also assist with current projects in other areas of the Centre's work, with our programme of rule of law training and education, and with the Centre's provision of secretariat support for the All-Party Parliamentary Group on the Rule of Law.
7. The Research Fellow will have the following tasks in consultation with the Centre Director:

- Assisting in current research projects and developing new research projects in his/her areas of expertise;
- Undertaking and publishing high quality research for the Centre;
- Managing research projects efficiently and on time;
- Organizing and coordinating events for the Centre;
- Assisting the Director and Deputy Director in seeking funding from funding bodies, firms and other donors;
- Engaging with practitioners, scholars and others working in the field of the rule of law;
- Taking a role in the Centre's provision of secretariat support for the All-Party Parliamentary Group on the Rule of Law;
- Preparing and delivering occasional training sessions for professionals in an area of the Fellow's expertise;
- Assisting in a collegial way with the outreach and administrative activities of the Centre and generally within BIICL; and
- Supporting the Centre's Director.

## Person Specification

8. It is expected that the successful applicant will provide evidence of all of the following attributes and achievements:
  - Expertise/experience in commercial/finance law or administrative justice;
  - A qualification in law at undergraduate or postgraduate level (with a Masters degree and/or PhD being an advantage);
  - A record of producing high quality legal research in areas of relevance to the rule of law, with a good publication record in the field being an advantage;
  - An understanding of law and practice in this area, with experience in legal or other relevant practice being an advantage;
  - An ability to undertake and co-ordinate research activity in this area, to work under limited supervision, to draft papers rapidly and to a high standard, and to meet deadlines;
  - An ability to interact appropriately with practitioners, scholars and others working in the field, including an ability to organise seminars, conferences and other events;
  - An ability and willingness to undertake, and deal effectively, efficiently and appropriately with administrative responsibilities; and
  - An ability and willingness to work collaboratively and collegially with colleagues.
9. Informal enquiries may be addressed to the Centre's Director, Professor Christina Murray at [c.murray@binghamcentre.biicl.org](mailto:c.murray@binghamcentre.biicl.org).

10. Applicants should send the following by **Monday 15 August 2016** by email to [bcresearchfellow@biicl.org](mailto:bcresearchfellow@biicl.org):
  - A full curriculum vitae, including a list of publications and the names and addresses including email addresses of three referees, at least two of whom may be contacted prior to interview; and
  - A covering letter setting out their reasons for applying and how they consider that they meet the person specification for this post.
11. It is expected that interviews will take place in early September 2016.
12. In order to be considered for this role, all applicants must currently have the right to work in the UK or will have the right to work in the UK by the date of commencement of employment.
13. Applicants are encouraged to find out more about the Centre, its members of staff and activities at <http://binghamcentre.biicl.org/>.