



British Institute of
International and
Comparative Law

Research Fellow on the Law of Territorial Disputes (fixed term)
Job description & person specification

Research Fellow on International Law of Territorial Disputes

Background

1. The British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL) is one of the leading independent research centres for international and comparative law, and the rule of law in the world. Our research, events, training and publications are grounded in deep scholarly knowledge and strong practical experience that can be applied to many situations. We continue to make an impact on law and policy around the world.
2. BIICL has a long-established track record in conducting research and events on international dispute settlement and related subjects. Recent notable examples include the BIICL book edited by Jill Barrett and Richard Barnes, "Law of the Sea: UNCLOS as a Living Treaty" and the BIICL event on International Law of Territorial Disputes: Current Issues focussing on both Law of the Sea and investment law on 14th March 2017.
3. BIICL is about to commence a new International Law of Territorial Disputes research project on the "Legal Significance of Unilateral Acts in relation to Disputes over Territorial Sovereignty". The aim of the project is to examine the international legal framework applicable to legally significant unilateral acts involving military or other use of force in relation to disputes over territorial sovereignty and related issues, especially when altering the territorial status quo in disputed areas through military means. The aim is to deepen international discussion on the legality of diverse attempts involving the use of force to change the status quo in a disputed area

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 international law of territorial disputes pertaining to the use of force, law of the sea and territorial boundaries;
 - 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 the research on BIICL electronic office systems;
 - Assist with the organisation of a high-level workshops to discuss the 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.



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6. This is a full-time, fixed term post to commence as soon as possible, and to last until **13 April 2018**. 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.
7. The salary package will be in the range £25,000 - £28,000 pa, 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 territorial disputes or a closely related area of public international law or equivalent research experience, with experience in undertaking research on State practice a particular advantage;
 - A record of published research on international law of territorial disputes, use of force and other areas of public international law;
 - A record of co-ordinating research activity in this field, including organising and indexing data;
 - Some experience in legal practice or practical experience in an international, regulatory or commercial organisation relating to territorial boundaries 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 **20 July** by email to ITDResearchFellow@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 London in the week of 24 July, with the successful candidate ideally starting on or around 1 August.



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11. 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.
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.
13. Applicants are encouraged to find out more about the Institute and its members of staff and activities at: <http://www.biicl.org>.