

The Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion is recruiting interns for a new project on statelessness, human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals, commencing in February 2018. For this project, applications can only be accepted from Masters or advanced-level Bachelor students enrolled in a relevant degree programme in Tilburg.

The Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion

The Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI) is an independent, non-profit organisation based in the Netherlands and affiliated with Tilburg University. Our mission is to promote informed, rights-based, collaborative and effective action to realise and protect the right to a nationality for all. As the global civil society focal point for work on statelessness, we play three broad roles in pursuit of this mission: expert, to impart knowledge and strategic analysis; partner, to foster engagement and collaboration; and catalyst, to promote international action and change. See www.institutesi.org.

The project

Statelessness pervades all regions of the world: over 15 million people face life without a nationality today - and, every ten minutes, another child is born stateless. Nationality is a gateway through which people can access rights and services. Without it, the stateless often struggle to enjoy quality education and health care; safe, secure and dignified work; inheritance and ownership of property; and basic banking, mobile phone and other services. The stateless are also disenfranchised and their exclusion is heightened by their inability to access justice, leading to a vicious circle which is difficult to break. For children in particular, statelessness stunts opportunity, erodes ambition and destroys their sense of self-worth.

Yet, childhood statelessness can be avoided. Human rights law and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are two frameworks that offer important tools and strategies to address this issue. With funding from Tilburg Municipality's "Wereld te Winnen" programme and Open Society Justice Initiative, ISI will carry out a project that centres on the connections between the global challenge of childhood statelessness, the international human rights framework and the SDGs. The project explores new ways to raise awareness on the right of every child to a nationality and build the capacity of key actors to more effectively protect this right. New teaching resources and training materials will be generated and piloted in Tilburg, focusing on schoolchildren on the one hand and child rights' professionals on the other.

The vacancy

ISI is recruiting a number of student interns to help design, develop and pilot teaching resources and training materials on childhood statelessness, human rights and development. The interns will work both independently and as a group to develop new editions of ISI's "Essentials" series of information booklets (see e.g. <http://institutesi.org/Statelessness-and-UPR.pdf>), to illuminate issues around childhood statelessness and the child's right to a nationality. The interns will also participate in the design and development of teaching packages and activities targeting schoolchildren (12-14 year olds) and input into the development of new training resources for child rights' professionals. They will participate in a series of pilot activities that put these new materials to use. The interns will also take the lead in organising a knowledge-sharing event for students and the general public in Tilburg. Throughout the project, the interns will receive content supervision from the ISI Co-Director Dr. Laura van Waas and Programme Officer Ileen Verbeek. They will also collaborate with other members of ISI's staff, as needed for specific elements of the project.

Required qualifications

Applicants must be enrolled in a relevant degree programme, such as (international) law, human rights or development. Due to the specific deliverables for this project, applicants must be studying in Tilburg. Applicants must have excellent writing and communications skills in English, and be comfortable speaking in front of a group. Good writing and communication skills in another language, including Dutch, is an asset, as is experience in organising events, graphic design, teaching or working with children. Applicants must be able to work independently and plan and execute tasks with minimal supervision. The successful applicant is reliable, shows initiative, has an interest in social / human rights issues and has excellent inter-personal skills, including the ability to work well within a team.

Practical details

Interns are expected to work on this project for a minimum of 2 days per week in the period 1 February – 30 June 2017, with the possibility of extension until the end of September. Work space can be provided at Tilburg University for part of the time required for the project but interns will also work from home / another location (exact arrangements to be agreed upon commencement of contract). This is an unpaid position and interns have no entitlement to any financial compensation nor reimbursement for commuting costs. To apply for this position, please submit a **CV**, **letter of motivation** and **writing sample in English** to jobs@institutesi.org. The deadline for applications is **10.00 am Dutch time on Wednesday 17 January 2018**. Interviews will take place between 22-24 January.