Research Consultant

Mr Clément Voule is the United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Association. The UN Special Rapporteur monitors trends and issues relating to peaceful assembly and association, makes recommendations on how to protect and promote these rights and reports on violations against persons exercising these rights. The UN Special Rapporteur is also a researcher at the Geneva Academy for International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights where he supports projects on human rights in contexts of fragility and armed conflicts.

We are recruiting a Research Consultant to support the projects and initiatives of the UN Special Rapporteur, as well as related research being implemented by the Geneva Academy.

Duration of consultancy: 12 months (January – December June 2023) at 80-100 percent (negotiable) – contract of mandate.

Reports to: The UN Special Rapporteur and Head of Research and Policy Studies.

Education: Masters or PhD in human rights, political science, conflict studies, international law or a related field.

Thematic knowledge: Advanced knowledge in, or areas closely related to, democratic governance systems, freedom of assembly and association, freedom of expression, protection from forced disappearances and extrajudicial killings, NHRIs, civil society policy, human rights defenders etc. Country-specific knowledge around how such themes apply including in the fragile and armed conflict contexts is an advantage.

Experience: 5-10 years of experience working in a research or related function, including for academic, policy or international organizations, preferably with an emphasis on human rights, democratic governance and civil society.

Key skills: Excellent oral and written skills in English, proficiency in MS Office applications; and strong interpersonal skills are required. Highly desirable skills and attributes include flexibility, multi-tasking, transdisciplinary thinking, thought innovation, adherence to deadlines.

Application: send your application to research_ga@geneva-academy.ch before Friday 23 December 2022.
Terms of Reference

Support for the Special Rapporteur in fulfilling his operational mandate:

- Monitoring task fulfilment to ensure progress against workplans, including by maintaining an easily accessible internal calendar of events, key dates and project monitoring.
- Supporting the coordination and organization of events and consultations as per the Special Rapporteur’s priorities.
- Conducting preparatory research and briefing materials in advance of meetings, including by liaising with partners and civil society organizations.
- Communicating with partners on behalf of the SR as instructed; ensuring timely and accurate financial and project reporting.
- Identifying and pursuing new sources of funding, including grant writing and concept notes.
- Conducting cutting edge primary and secondary research to support the preparation of thematic reports, special reports, and for identifying global and regional trends concerning the rights of freedom of association and assembly.
- Preparing the SR engagement and participation to side events and public meetings.
- Producing briefing notes, toolkits and commentary of publishable quality.
- Supporting the visibility of the mandate through producing materials for social media.

Research functions at the Geneva Academy:

- Conducting high quality primary and secondary research on projects related to conflict resilience, freedom of assembly, freedom of opinion and expression, protection of the civil society operating space etc. Outputs might include reports, advocacy materials, briefing notes, toolkits and commentary.
- Contributing interesting, unique and engaging content for web-based and social media platforms.