



**Human
Rights
Now**

Human Rights Now

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Human Rights Now—Bangkok Fellowship

Application Instructions

About Human Rights Now

Human Rights Now (HRN) is an international human rights NGO based in Tokyo, Japan, with UN special consultative status. HRN was established in 2006 by a group of human rights professionals, such as lawyers, scholars, and journalists, as the first international human rights NGO based in Japan. With over 700 members comprised of various human rights specialists, HRN works for the promotion and protection of human rights for people in the world, with a special focus on Asia.

In 2012, HRN obtained UN special consultative status, and we have been actively engaged in the UN decision-making process to protect and promote human rights. In our organization, lawyers, academics, graduate and doctoral students, and business professionals engage in our activities on pro bono basis, and staff members are expected to coordinate with these various actors. Visit our website to find out more: <http://hrn.or.jp/eng>.

Position Summary

We have an opening for a fellow position in Bangkok focused on our research, advocacy, and empowerment efforts within Southeast Asian countries. Major tasks will include researching and drafting memorandums, statements and reports on human rights issues focusing on the Southeast Asian region and Human Rights Now's areas of focus. Other tasks may include editing, translation, on-site investigations of human rights issues, assisting with

advocacy efforts, and meeting with other NGOs and activists to build our advocacy network. A fuller list of tasks is listed below.

Our fellowship program allows law school graduates or the equivalent interested in human rights, public policy, and international affairs a chance to gain experience working directly on human rights issues at an influential international human rights NGO. Fellowships provide an excellent opportunity for fellows to engage in research, on-site investigations, and observations of UN conferences and meetings. Persons who have strong legal backgrounds or experience with research or human rights work are highly encouraged to apply. Ideally and if possible, the fellow should spend an initial period of a few months in Tokyo, Japan, at our headquarters office.

Note that we also have fellowship positions available at our Tokyo office. If you want to apply for a fellowship in Tokyo, you can find more information and application instructions on our website:

<http://hrn.or.jp/eng/join/fellowship/>.

Important Note: Neither Human Rights Now nor our Thai partners are able to provide a visa to stay or work Thailand for the duration of the fellowship. Thus, the intern should either already have a status allowing them to work in Thailand or a plan to receive a working visa independently, and the position is contingent on the Fellow having a secure status to stay and work in Thailand for the duration of the fellowship before it starts.

Qualifications, Skills, and Requirements

- A college graduate with a four year degree or a law school graduate.
- The candidate should be professional, proactive, work well independently, have intercultural communication skills, and have a demonstrated interest in and commitment to human rights issues.
- The fellow is expected to commit to work for a minimum of 18 hours per week at least six months or more. We privilege fellows who work for one year or more.
- Proficiency in English (a minimum score of 90 on the TOEFL iBT exam or an equivalent level as indicated by another test or means if available). Also please notify us of any Japanese language proficiency and provide a

demonstration if available, such as a written sample, passing a Japanese Language Proficiency Test or similar.

- Basic understanding of legal research, international human rights law, and the UN system.
- Excellent writing and research skills.
- Fellows must be able to stay in Thailand for the period of the fellowship, that is, they must have a Thailand visa or status to stay in the country secured for the full period of the fellowship, and the fellowship is contingent on receiving such status. Please note that fellows must obtain all visas on their own. Neither HRN nor our partners can sponsor a visa for the fellow.
- Ideally and if possible, the intern should come work at our headquarters office in Tokyo, Japan, for 1 to 3 months before the start of the Bangkok period. The intern should also be able to stay in Tokyo for the duration of this orientation. Many countries provide a three month visa on-entry which is sufficient for this purpose, but double-check for your own country. We will consider applicants that cannot commit to this, so it is not a requirement.
- The fellow must be able to support themselves over the full period of the fellowship. The position is unpaid and funds are not available to cover fellows' expenses. However, there may be opportunities for HRN to send fellows on business trips in which travel and accommodation costs may be covered for the period of the trip.

Job Description

1) Conducting research and writing on human rights issues in Southeast Asia

2) Conducting on-site investigations on various human rights problems, including:

- Business and human rights
- Rights of children
- Human rights defenders and democratic space
- Women's rights and violence against women
- Violence and discrimination against ethnic minorities

3) Serving as HRN's representative in the area and networking with other NGOs and activists

4) Editing work and Translation

5) Outreach, logistics, networking, and other administrative work

During a six month fellowship, each fellow will:

- Initiate and coordinate at least one independent research project. Staff from the Tokyo office will provide feedback and opportunities for the fellow to connect with human rights activists and organizations in HRN's network.
- HRN may provide an opportunity for the fellow to conduct human rights field work, teach a human rights seminar, or attend an international congress on a human rights issue. Relevant costs will be borne by HRN.
- HRN is working to setup a platform for fellows to publish articles, blogs, and social media posts on contemporary human rights issues in Asia. The Bangkok fellow is invited to contribute and play an instrumental role in setting up this platform.

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for this position, please send the following items to the below email address. Please also indicate any language skills you possess.

- Cover letter, include your reasons for applying, possible and preferred start and end dates, and your experience and interest in human rights. Please also confirm your status to stay in Thailand for the period of the fellowship.
- Resume/CV
- Writing sample (the topic of the sample can be decided by the applicant, anything that can serve to measure the applicant's writing and research skills on any social issue.)
- Letter of recommendation (optional; one copy is sufficient)

Send the material to the following email address:

deskprobonointern@hrn.or.jp

You can also use this email address for any inquiries regarding this call for applications.

Deadline: 30 September 2019

(This deadline may be extended if necessary.)