



Princeton
Internships in
Civic
Service

PICS 2010 Internship Description

(Please indicate if any of the preparation work will take place outside of the regular work schedule)

Organization Name: Human Rights First

Internship Location: 333 7th Avenue, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10001

Required Dates: Yes No If yes, internship must start on: _____ and end on _____ or
must include the period:

Housing Will Be Available to Intern: Yes No If yes, housing will be free: or
housing will cost the student:

Expected working schedule for this internship:

Start Time:~9:30am End Time:~5:30pm
Lunch break: (duration) (specific time, if applicable) *Time and duration are flexible*

Organization Description

Please describe your organization briefly, including mission statement, activities, size etc. Please also explain the benefit that will be derived by your organization by sponsoring a Princeton intern.

How We Work

We utilize creative coalition-building, insider advocacy, litigation, research & reporting and public advocacy. We approach tough challenges in pragmatic, focused and integrated ways in all of our programs. We draw on a range of powerful new communications tools for expanding our reach and increasing our impact. These core methods are the signature of our success and the basis of our credibility.

Organizational Facts

We have a staff of 65, with offices in New York and Washington, D.C. Our funding comes from private contributions from individuals, foundations, law firms and corporations. To maintain our independence, Human Rights First does not accept any government support.

Princeton Internships in Civic Service is administered by the
Princeton University Class of 1969 Community Service Fund.

12 Stockton Street
Princeton, NJ 08540
609-921-7948, pics@69csf.org, www.69csf.org



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Human Rights Defenders

We provide a lifeline to human rights advocates working to protect human rights in their own country. We work with individuals under threat, pressuring governments to reaffirm the rights of defenders, and to protest the imprisonment of dissidents.

Refugee Protection

We provide legal representation for thousands of asylum seekers and advocate for policies that reflect our nation's heritage as a haven for the persecuted. Our program has long been the gold standard in refugee protection - with one of the largest and most effective pro bono representation programs in the country. We also conduct policy advocacy at the highest levels of government to protect refugees.

Crimes Against Humanity

We work to create and support an international system of prevention, protection and accountability for mass-scale violations of human rights. Through our Darfur campaign we have brought pressure on the United Nations, and governments to galvanize an effective global response to the Darfur crisis.

Law and Security

We work to challenge counterterrorism laws and policies that violate or erode human rights and, more broadly, to promote a greater understanding of and respect for human rights in national security policy, through a combination of policy-relevant research, analysis, and advocacy.

Fighting Discrimination

We work to reduce the incidence of violent hate crimes motivated by antisemitism, Islamophobia or other forms of racial, religious, gender or ethnic hatred, and to help dissipate the climate of prejudice that generates them.

How We Will Benefit from an Intern

Interns play a vital role in keeping the operations of our program running smoothly, both day-to-day and long-term. We benefit from the enthusiasm, fresh perspective, and unique skills that an undergraduate student possesses.

Our Mission

Human Rights First believes that building respect for human rights and the rule of law will help ensure the dignity to which every individual is entitled and will stem tyranny, extremism, intolerance, and violence.

Human Rights First protects people at risk: refugees who flee persecution, victims of crimes against humanity or other mass human rights violations, victims of discrimination, those whose rights are eroded in the name of national security, and human rights advocates who are targeted for defending the rights of others. These groups are often the first victims of societal instability and breakdown; their treatment is a harbinger of wider-scale repression. Human Rights First works to prevent violations against these groups and to seek justice and accountability for violations against them.

Human Rights First is practical and effective. We advocate for change at the highest levels of national and international policymaking. We seek justice through the courts. We raise awareness and understanding through the media. We build coalitions among those with divergent views. And we mobilize people to act.

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What We Do

We protect individuals at risk: Refugees fleeing persecution, victims of crimes against humanity or other mass human rights violations, victims of discrimination, those whose rights are eroded in the name of national security, and human rights advocates who are targeted for defending the rights of others.

Internship Description

Describe in detail the work or project will do; please be as specific as possible. Please also explain the benefit that a student will obtain by interning with your organization.

The 2010 PICS intern will be placed in the Human Rights Defenders program, with possible cross-programmatic involvement, based upon background and interest. The intern will engage in the following activities:

- **Defender case research and updates:** researching and updating defender cases that are featured in our weekly Defender Alerts. This will include researching developments, drafting statements, and updating web pages.
- **Administrative tasks:** assisting the program with administrative tasks such as website updating, data entry, faxing and mailing letters, filing, and photocopying when needed.
- **Thematic focused research:** in addition to case research for the Defender Alert Network, assisting with broader research on broader, thematic topics as needed.
- **Advocacy and writing:** drafting various advocacy documents for us at the UN, with governments or the media;
- **Benefit to intern:** The PICS intern will gain firsthand knowledge about the daily workings of a leading human rights NGO, direct contact with human rights activists around the world, and a working knowledge of international human rights law and precedents. He or she will also experience a fast-paced, dynamic workplace.

Intern Qualifications

Describe any particular skills, background, or qualities you are seeking in an intern.

- Demonstrated, informed interest in international human rights issues;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills;
- Proficiency in Spanish; other languages welcome (especially French, Russian, Arabic, Farsi, or Mandarin Chinese);
- Demonstrated ability to work as part of a team as well as independently;
- Responsible initiative taking; and
- Energy, enthusiasm, and a sense of humor.

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