



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR

### “COACHING ON INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LITIGATION FOR LAWYERS”

The Human Rights and Justice Centre (HRJC), with the support of TRIAL International, announces a **call for applications for a coaching program on international human rights litigation for lawyers**. The program will allow participants to gather the necessary theoretical and practical knowledge to represent victims of gross human rights violations before international mechanisms.

#### Specific Features:

- 6-month program;
- 5 participants;
- Conduct research and prepare a report analysing the identified Nepalese laws and case laws on national provisions relating to gross human rights violations in line with international laws, standards and the cases from Human Rights Committee;
- Receive support and individualised coaching from national experts.

The program aims to a) strengthen participants' knowledge of all the steps involved in litigation of complaints at the international level and advocate on human rights violations relating to international litigation; b) strengthen participants' knowledge of the Nepalese context and Nepalese legal aspects, mechanisms and functioning relating to gross human rights violations; c) support participants in the development of effective legal and non-legal strategies to litigate and advocate on gross human rights violations with international standards.

#### Description of the Programme

The program will run **from October 2021 to March 2021**. Throughout the program, participants will receive legal training and will work on advocacy tools relating to gross human rights violations in Nepal, with a view to prepare the documents for submission before national institutions.

Participants are expected to:

- a) attend group sessions;
- b) research and prepare report in English on national provisions relating to gross human rights violations in line with international laws, standards and cases from the Human Rights Committee (an international human rights mechanism of the United Nations), to

be used as an advocacy tool against gross human rights violations of Nepal;

- c) participate to individualised coaching sessions with the HRJC to discuss the preparation and concerns on the assignment.

The programme will take the form of the following:

- Group sessions: Throughout the coaching, there will be **4 group sessions** where lectures will be delivered by the representatives of the HRJC and invited national experts. The first group session (introductory session) will be executed online for two hours (11:00 am to 1:00 pm) for one day. After which, the group sessions will take the form of lectures, discussions and workshops in online or in-person. For online session, the session will also include another two hours each day for the participants to complete and submit the assigned workshop, on their own. The participants will be assigned such workshops at the end of the online session.

Depending on the situation of lockdown and considering the measures put forward by the government regarding the COVID-19 crisis; the second, third and fourth sessions will take place in-person with all the necessary measures and precautions (e.g., venue with social distancing, sanitizers, gloves and other essentials). The group sessions in-person are expected to last two full days (9:00 am to 5:00 pm). However, in case of impossibility of conducting the session's in-person, online mediums would be utilized for conduction, with the model adopted in the first group session (introductory session).

The group session(s) are expected to be delivered on Friday and Saturdays. The online sessions will be delivered on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays (two hours each day). The participants will be informed in advance of the dates of the session, so that they can organise themselves accordingly.

- Assignments and Individualised coaching sessions: Throughout the coaching programme, the organizers will provide participants with an assignment to work on. The participants will be requested to **submit assignments approximately on a monthly basis** and will receive feedback from the representative of the HRJC. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their assignments with the HRJC representatives to receive technical assistance and support on the specific legal and judicial steps to be undertaken. These discussions can be held through "individualised coaching sessions" whereby the participant and the HRJC representative communicate with the participant to provide concrete feedback about their work, in terms of quality and effectiveness. The individual coaching sessions can be both virtual (via e-mail or, where necessary, via any online platform) and in person, depending on the situation of the government placed rules and nature of the COVID-19 crisis in Nepal.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

In order to take part in the coaching programme, participants must fulfil the following requirements:

- Hold a Bachelor degree in Nepalese Law;
- Be a registered member of the Nepal Bar Association;
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Nepali;
- Availability to engage in the programme and abide by its rules of engagement;
- Demonstrated independence, motivation and interest in the human rights cause;
- At least 2 years of professional experience in private practice of law (asset);
- Prior experience in legal representation of victims of human rights violations (asset).

### **Conditions of Engagement**

Participants must:

- commit for a period of 6 months (October 2021 to March 2022);
- be ready to have group sessions in Kathmandu valley, Bagmati, in case the situation of COVID-19 improves and the organizers decide in a mutual consent with the participants to conduct the sessions in-person in Kathmandu valley, Bagmati.
- devote at least 2 hours per week to the programme;
- attend 95% of the group sessions;
- be available to attend individualised sessions regarding their assignments, meet the deadlines, and incorporate the feedback from the HRJC in their work;
- be reachable to and responsive to be contacted by the HRJC during working hours;
- show a cooperative attitude and motivation throughout the programme.

Non-compliance with the above-mentioned rules will entail the expulsion of the participant from the programme and his/her immediate replacement.

### **Application Procedure**

Applications can be submitted electronically until **10 October 2021, at 23:59 hours Kathmandu time (GMT + 5:45)**. No application received after the deadline will be accepted and no technical or personal reasons will be considered. Thus, eligible candidates are encouraged to apply before the deadline. If eligible candidates experience problems with the application procedure, they can write to the e-mail address below to explain those at least three days before the end of the deadline.

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to [contact@hrjc.org.np](mailto:contact@hrjc.org.np) and [o.kc@hrjc.org.np](mailto:o.kc@hrjc.org.np) indicating in the subject of the e-mail “**Application for Coaching on International Human Rights Litigation– Kathmandu 2021**”.

Selected candidates will be notified by **15 October 2021**.

**The programme will start on 29 October 2021**, with introductory session of an hour (11am-12 pm). The first group session will be held on 29, 30 and 31 October 2021 (11:00 am to 1:00 pm).

### **Application Materials**

In order to apply, candidates should submit the following documents together with their application. All documents must be submitted in pdf format, and must be named following the structure: SURNAME\_NAME\_HRJCTRIAL2021\_CV; SURNAME\_NAME\_HRJCTRIAL2021\_Application\_Form, etc.

- CV in English (max. 3 pages),
- A letter of motivation for participation (no more than a page),
- Scanned copy of Advocate Licence,
- Signed agreement with the rules of engagement (Sent in email separately along with this file).

Incomplete applications or applications not respecting the page limits and format requirements established above will not be considered.

### **ABOUT THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND JUSTICE CENTRE (HRJC)**

The Human Rights and Justice Centre (HRJC) improves access to justice for victims of human rights violations in Nepal such as torture, enforced disappearances, extrajudicial executions and sexual violence.

The HRJC provides free legal support to victims regardless of their background, religious or political affiliation. Through a network of trusted Nepalese human rights lawyers, it litigates cases domestically and internationally to end impunity and enforce the rule of law.

### **ABOUT TRIAL INTERNATIONAL**

TRIAL International is a non-governmental organization fighting impunity for international crimes and supporting victims in their quest for justice.

TRIAL International takes an innovative approach to the law, paving the way to justice for survivors of unspeakable sufferings. The organization provides legal assistance, litigates cases, develops local capacity and pushes the human rights agenda forward.