



PRO BONO INTERNSHIP

AT DLA PIPER (IN COLLABORATION WITH PRO BONO CONNECT, NEW DUTCH CONNECTIONS AND THE SYRIA LEGAL NETWORK-NL)

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DLA Piper is a global business law firm with over 4000 lawyers in [80 offices](#). In addition to this, our firm is committed to using our resources to make a positive contribution to the communities in which we operate and to the protection of human rights around the world. As such, we have developed a vast international **pro bono practice** in parallel to our commercial work.

Our pro bono practice involves our lawyers in providing free legal support to individuals and non-profit organisations around the world. One of the core focus areas of our pro bono practice is **securing access to justice for displaced persons**.

We believe that the legal profession has an important role to play in providing assistance to displaced persons. More lawyers working together on strategic and coordinated efforts and armed with better skills will increase access to justice and support better policies for displaced persons globally.

In line with our focus on displaced persons, we are launching a new **signature internship program** in our Amsterdam office for **lawyers and law students who have been forced to relocate from their countries of origin due to conflict, persecution or environmental disaster**.



JOB DESCRIPTION

The main duties and responsibilities will include:

I. The “Know Your Rights” Project [60%]

DLA Piper, Pro Bono Connect and the Dutch Section of the International Commission of Jurists (NJCM) have joined forces with New Dutch Connections and the Leiden Law Clinic to implement a project aimed at empowering asylum seekers in the Netherlands.

The “Know Your Rights” project is a 12-week program, starting in September 2017, during which some 20 young asylum seekers will attend weekly 2-hour sessions on various (human) rights issues. The goal is to empower the young asylum seekers by increasing knowledge of the (Dutch / European / International) legal system, the rights of the asylum seekers and how to stand up for their rights. The main objective is to give them the best tools to be proactive and fulfill their potential.

The intern will be in charge of:

- The practical coordination of the “Know Your Rights” project in collaboration with Pro Bono Connect, the Leiden Law Clinic and the New Dutch Connections
- The writing of correspondence and the planning of meetings between all the participants
- The communication and the promotion of the project
- The preparation, organization and following-up of the empowerment sessions

II. The Syria Legal Network’s research project [30%]

The Syria Legal Network-NL’s mission is to support Syrian lawyers and human rights defenders in the Netherlands contribute to international justice efforts for Syria. The intern will be responsible for:

- Coordinating and editing the Syria Legal Network-NL BY LAWS
- Coordinating the translation of the Nuhanovic Foundation Syria Legal Database
- Coordinate the publication of the Syria Legal Network-NL legal reader

III. DLA Pro Bono intern [10%]

As a member of the DLA Pro Bono team of Amsterdam, the intern will:

- Undertake legal research and draft memos as requested by the Associate and Director
- Provide support in relation to Pro Bono communications
- Assist in the planning of Pro Bono related events

PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Law graduate with excellent academic record;
- Demonstrated commitment to pro bono and social justice;
- Preferred experience working in a law firm;
- Excellent organizational and project management skills;
- An effective advocate and excellent communication and written skills;
- Excellent English (both written and oral), plus proficiency in at least one other language (Arabic or Dutch preferred);
- Optimistic commitment - draws on optimism to overcome challenges, is confident and resilient;
- Flexible worker - ability to respond quickly to new situations, change direction and work flexibly around others, can work autonomously; and
- Personal maturity - achieves satisfaction by empowering others rather than through personal recognition, multi-cultural awareness and sensitivity.
- Regular user of MS Word, Outlook and Excel.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The internship will be paid at a rate of 850 EUR per month (net) and will have a duration of four months (August to end November 2017). All applicants must have the right to work in the Netherlands. This internship opportunity is specifically targeted at lawyers and law students who have been forced to relocate from their countries of origin due to conflict, persecution or environmental disaster.

The internship is a full-time position based at DLA Piper’s Amsterdam office. The successful candidate will work under the supervision of the European Pro Bono Director (Özgür Kahale, based in Paris) and the European Pro Bono Associate (Lamin Khadar, based in Amsterdam).

Application Process: Please send a CV to Lamin.khadar@dlapiper.com with the subject "Pro Bono Internship Application" (no more than 2 pages long) and a covering letter or an e-mail (no more than 1 page) by June, 16th 2017 outlining how you meet the specifications and why you would like to work at DLA Piper. Only selected candidates will be contacted for an interview.