Call for Applications
Internship opportunities in Chambers and the President’s Office
United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals

The world’s newest international criminal justice institution

The United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals is a court of the United Nations established in 2010 to carry out a number of essential functions of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (“ICTR”) and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (“ICTY”), after the completion of their respective mandates. As these two Tribunals complete their work and progressively downsize their operations, the Mechanism is relying less on the support services of the two Tribunals and continues the process of establishing its own small self-standing administration. The Mechanism has established its own structure to govern its activities and developed rules, procedures, and policies that harmonize and build upon the best practices of both Tribunals. The Mechanism operates simultaneously on two continents, with a small team of dedicated professionals based in the respective branches in Arusha, Tanzania and in The Hague, the Netherlands.

The Mechanism has a variety of ad hoc and continuous functions. The ad hoc functions include the tracking and prosecution of remaining fugitives, conducting and completing all appeals in proceedings for which the notice of appeal against the judgement is filed after the start of the relevant Mechanism branch, retrials, trials for contempt of court and false testimony, and proceedings for review of final judgements. The Mechanism’s continuous functions include providing protection to victims and witnesses for ongoing cases before the Mechanism and for completed cases from the ICTR, the ICTY, and the Mechanism, the supervision of enforcement of sentences, providing assistance to national jurisdictions, and the preservation and management of Mechanism, ICTR and ICTY archives. The Mechanism also monitors proceedings in certain cases referred to national jurisdictions.

Chambers is the judicial organ of the Mechanism. It is composed of a full-time President and 24 other independent judges who are called from the roster of judges, as needed, to perform the judicial work of the Mechanism.

The President is the institutional head of the Mechanism and fulfils functions both in Arusha and The Hague. The President is responsible for the overall execution of the institution’s mandate, for representing the Mechanism before the Security Council and the UN General Assembly, presides over the Chambers and is responsible for appointing judges to hear cases as required. The President of the Mechanism also serves as a judge in the Appeals Chamber.

An exceptional opportunity to intern in Arusha or The Hague

Both Chambers and the President’s Office of the Mechanism offer internships to graduate law students and undergraduate law students who are in their final stages of education seeking to enhance their professional training in the unique and dynamic environment of an international tribunal.

In Chambers, interns participate fully in the day-to-day activities of the Chambers by working and interacting with judges, legal officers, and other court staff. Chambers interns, for instance, engage in legal research, prepare memoranda, assist in the drafting of other documents such as decisions and orders, and
may also assist Judges during hearings in court. In addition to participating in the day-to-day activities of the Chambers, interns are invited to attend lectures and other activities which have particular relevance to the work of the Mechanism.

In the President’s Office, interns provide legal support with respect to a wide range of mandated residual functions, including by conducting independent legal research, analyzing laws and policies, drafting and editing orders and decisions, and advising on press and policy matters. Interns may also observe hearings and deliberations, attend meetings of the President with interlocutors inside and outside the Mechanism, assist in the preparation of reports to the Security Council and UN General Assembly, and prepare drafts of speeches.

The duration of a Mechanism internship must be at least three months to a maximum of six months according to the needs of the intern’s assigned section. Please note that neither the United Nations nor the Mechanism offers remuneration for an internship.

**How to apply**

Candidates applying for an internship should possess strong academic credentials, demonstrated research, analytical and drafting skills and have an interest in the areas of criminal law, public international law, international criminal law, international humanitarian law, or human rights law. English and French are the working languages of the Mechanism. Fluency in oral and written English or French is required.

If you have any questions about the internship programme in Chambers please email MICTChambers-internship@un.org and about the internship programme in the President's Office please email MICTPresidentsoffice-internships@un.org

The application should include all of the following documents:

2. Two (2) letters of recommendation;
3. Copies of university/law studies transcripts (including courses taken and grades received); and
4. A sample of the applicant’s written work preferably in a field relevant to the work of the Mechanism and not longer than ten pages.