



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

ECCHR Scholarship for the 2025 Critical Legal Training Program

Deadline for submission: 22nd September 2024

ECCHR offers four scholarships to support young people with limited financial means and/or from underrepresented geographic and social backgrounds to participate in the Critical Legal Training in the year of 2025.

The Critical Legal Training is ECCHR's education and internship program with the aim to train and cultivate a network for the next generation of progressive human rights lawyers and legal activists, so they may continue to work toward a world free of systemic injustice.

Participants join one of the four ECCHR program teams to work alongside our experienced colleagues and receive close supervision and regular feedback. This traineeship placement is supplemented with weekly curriculum activities coordinated by the CLT team. These include "Critical Reading Debriefs," lunch talks with human rights defenders and other experts in the field, trainee presentations, human rights film screenings or skill-training workshops.

Who can apply?

The call for applications is aimed at **young professionals (max. two years after graduation)** who wish to apply for ECCHR's Critical Legal Training Program but whose personal (e.g. family responsibilities, health), legal (e.g. visa restrictions) and/or financial situation would make it impossible to participate in the Critical Legal Training on an unpaid basis. Note: If this does not reflect your situation, we would ask you to refrain from applying for this scholarship and apply for the Critical Legal Training through the standard process without the scholarship.

The scholarship is open to all nationalities. If you need a visa to work in Germany, we provide close support in the application process.

We strongly encourage applications from individuals from underrepresented regions, including the Global South, as well as refugees and people from diverse backgrounds, such as those from racial, ethnic, religious, gender, and socioeconomic minority groups. With regard to the applicant's individual CV and career path, including lived experience, there is some flexibility regarding the requirement that applicants must have graduated in the past two years.

What form does the scholarship take?

Duration: Scholarships are generally granted for a **four-month full-time internship (40 hours per week)**. This includes 25 hours per week of case work with the program team and 15 hours of educational activities and feedback sessions, which are not counted as working hours.

Starting dates: **Starting dates can be arranged between January and December 2025**, on the first day of each month.

Payment: ECCHR hires scholarship holders as interns who are employed through ECCHR and receive a **gross monthly wage of €1,800 (minus tax, health insurance and social security deductions)**, the estimate net wage would amount to 1,300 – 1,400 €).

For scholarship holders ECCHR will also cover **return travel costs from the place of residence to Berlin up to €1,500** and reimburse visa costs.

As for every staff member of ECCHR, monthly costs for a **local transport ticket** will be reimbursed.

Accommodation: We cannot provide accommodation but will support successful applicants to find a suitable apartment or room in Berlin (via our networks) and can provide information about further estimated living costs.

What are the professional requirements?

Applicants should have the following knowledge and experience:

Education and Experience: Applicants should be in an advanced stage of their education or in the early stages of their human rights career. They should have significant experience in activism, NGO work, community or self-organizing and/or should have above-average qualifications in law or another relevant field. Further, we highly value lived experience next to the professional/educational experience of the applicant. You may elaborate on your path in your motivation letter.

Knowledge: All applicants should have a fundamental understanding of human rights and some experience in dealing with human rights topics. Program-specific background knowledge is also important:

Business and Human Rights (including Climate Justice): Sound knowledge of the international debate on business and human rights and lawsuits taken against corporations on a national level. Background knowledge of climate justice and corporate accountability is a plus.

International Crimes and Accountability: Excellent understanding of international criminal law (incl. extraterritorial cases before national courts) as well as the current legal and political debates on international criminal jurisdiction. Background knowledge of sexualized violence in international criminal law is a plus.

Border Justice: Good knowledge of European and public international law as well as the relevant fundamentals of refugee law, ideally also practical experience in migration law or refugee protection.

Institute for Legal Intervention: Very good knowledge of critical theories of international law and international human rights, e.g. in the areas of intersectionality, postcolonial, Marxist, feminist theory; or interest/practical experience on the role and impact of art and activism in advancing human rights.

Languages: Excellent fluency in English is required. All other language skills are highly welcomed and supportive to your application, but not an exclusion criterion.

How to apply?

Please use the online form to submit your application and mention that you are applying with the ECCHR scholarship when asked. Also, fill in the question about the scholarship statement later in the form.

The form fulfils high security standards. However, if you should have particular security concerns, please download this PDF and send your application with your CV to globalexchange.ecchr@proton.me. You may do the same if you are not able to use the application form for technical reasons.

An overview of the complete application form is copied below.

Applications has to be submitted in English. Applications in other languages cannot be processed.

Applications should include only the required documents and no further transcripts, references or work samples.

What are the application deadlines?

The next deadline for applications is **September 22nd 2024**.

You can expect a response by mid-November 2024.

Interviews will likely be held by telephone or online call between mid-October and mid-November 2024.

The first placements after the call can start in January 2025.

Please note that for applicants from outside the EU we require a period of at least 10 weeks between acceptance into the program and the start of the internship to make the necessary formal arrangements.

Future calls for applications will be announced on our website, via our social media channels and in our newsletter.

Contact

Andrea Ries, Critical Legal Training Coordinator
E-Mail: application@ecchr.eu
Phone: +49 (0)30 40607157

Critical Legal Training Program & ECCHR Scholarship: Application Form (template – ideally use the online form)

1 / 12 - Personal Details

Name:

First Name:

Gender:

Current Residence:

Official citizenship:

Telephone:

Mail:

Please note: We ask for your current residence and official citizenship for administrative reasons. This information helps us to understand what kind of steps are necessary to realise your traineeship. They are not an exclusion criterion.

2 / 12 - ADMINISTRATIVE CHECK

Are you applying to the ECCHR scholarship to participate in the Critical Legal Training? (if yes, please give more details in your scholarship statement later in this form) YES / NO

Please confirm that your graduation from university will be no longer than two years ago by the deadline of the scholarship call. YES/NO

Will you be enrolled as a student for the entire duration of the Critical Legal Training? YES/NO

If you are a student, would the Critical Legal Training be a mandatory internship according to your study rules? YES/NO

If you are a student, will you be able to apply for a scholarship supporting your stay (e.g. ERASMUS, or through your university, note: not the ECCHR scholarship)? YES/NO

Are you applying to the Critical Legal Training as part of your German legal clerkship (Referendariat)? YES/NO

If you are neither a student nor a “Referendar*in”, are you applying to the Critical Legal Training in connection with a fellowship program you are part of? YES/NO

If yes, which program?

If you are neither a student nor a “Referendar*in”, have you explored suitable options for fellowship programs to realise your participation in the Critical Legal Training? YES/NO

If yes, which ones?

Are you currently eligible to work in Germany? YES / NO (this is not an exclusion criterion)

3 / 12 - TIME PREFERENCES

Please note: for voluntary student internships without scholarships, the maximum duration is three months. For scholarship holders, 4 months is the ideal length.

Preferred start date:

Latest possible start date:

Preferred length of your stay (minimum 10 weeks, ideally 3 months, for the ECCHR scholarship only 4 months is possible):

Full-time (40 hrs/week): Yes/No

Part-time: Yes/No

Possible working time (minimum commitment: 24 hrs/week, for the ECCHR scholarship, only full-time is possible):

4 / 12 - THEMATIC PROGRAM

Preference

Please choose the program which fits to your interest, expertise and experience

Business and Human Rights (including Climate Justice)

Institute for Legal Intervention

International Crimes and Accountability

Border Justice

Experience in the program area (max. 500 characters)

We value both professional as well as lived experience.

5 / 12 - EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Do/did you study law? (this is not an exclusion criterion) YES/NO

If yes, in which country?

Degree(s) obtained (please also name the subject):

Degree currently pursued (if applicable):

Current institution (e.g. university/employer):

6 / 12 - LANGUAGE SKILLS

Note: The working language at ECCHR is English. All other language skills are highly welcomed and supportive to your application, but not an exclusion criterion.

English

Native – Fluent – Intermediate

German

Native – Fluent – Intermediate

Other:

7 / 12 - MOTIVATION LETTER

Motivation letter for the Critical Legal Training.

Please explain why you want to join the Critical Legal Training
(*max. 500 characters*)

Scholarship Statement for the ECCHR Scholarship:

Explanation: This scholarship is aimed at students and young professionals (max. two years after graduation) whose personal (e.g. family responsibilities, health), legal (e.g. visa restrictions) and financial situation would make it impossible to participate in the Critical Legal Training on an unpaid basis. Please explain how this reflects your situation, i.e. why you are applying to the ECCHR scholarship.

If this does not reflect your situation, we would ask you to apply to the Critical Legal Training without this scholarship.

8 / 12 - CASE ANALYSIS

Please give a critical comment on the potentials and limitations of strategic litigation, analyzing one of ECCHR's cases in the program area you are applying for, as it is presented on our website.

Applicants to the Institute for Legal Intervention can comment on any case pursued by ECCHR and give a critical comment from a decolonial/gender/intersectional/social class perspective.

(*max. 2000 characters*)

9 / 12 - REFERENCES

Please name two persons who are familiar with your work (this can be e.g. former colleagues, activist who you have worked with, supervisors from your studies etc.). There is no need to attach recommendation letters.

Note: Giving references is voluntary and not an exclusion criterion. However, under specific circumstances, we might ask you for references in a later step of the application process.



Reference 1

Name:

Institution/Affiliation:

Address:

Telephone:

Mail:

Reference 2

Name:

Institution/Affiliation:

Address:

Telephone:

Mail:

10 / 12 - HOW DID YOU FIND OUT?

How did you find out about ECCHR's Critical Legal Training?

11/12 CV-Upload

Please attach your CV

Note: We welcome CV that include experiences beyond formal work and education, like self-organizing, community work, activism etc.