

## **Internship Opportunities for Students**

**Disclaimer:** The Centre for Refugee Studies is providing the following links to internship opportunities for informational purposes only. The information on the following sites is not controlled by CRS and it cannot guarantee the accuracy of the content. It is up to the individual student to look into the opportunities further. CRS created this list in response to student inquiries, and we hope that it proves useful.

### **Funded Internships & Volunteer Opportunities (with partial funding):**

#### **York International Internship Program (YIIP)**

<http://international.yorku.ca/internships/index.htm>

Contact: [yiip@yorku.ca](mailto:yiip@yorku.ca)

The York University International Internship Program (YIIP) provides both York undergraduate and graduate students a non-credit opportunity to apply their academic knowledge to an international work environment and enhance their job-related skills in an international and intercultural setting. York University offers funding for successful International Internship applicants.

#### **CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency)**

<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/internships>

Contact: [info@acdi-cida.gc.ca](mailto:info@acdi-cida.gc.ca)

The International Youth Internship Program (IYIP) is an employment program for young Canadians between the ages of 19-30. If you're a post-secondary graduate, you could be eligible for this chance of a lifetime to work in a developing country and contribute to Canada's international development goals. Not only will this experience contribute to your personal and professional growth, your sponsor organization will lend a helping hand in your search for employment once your internship ends.

#### **CUSO**

[http://www.cuso.org/take\\_action/volunteer\\_overseas/index\\_e.php](http://www.cuso.org/take_action/volunteer_overseas/index_e.php)

Contact: [cooperant@cuso.ca](mailto:cooperant@cuso.ca)

[Intended more for professionals with some work experience already]

CUSO volunteer cooperants are skilled professionals who donate their expertise for up to two years to participate in a CUSO program overseas. Cooperants provide strategic, technical and professional support to CUSO's development partners in Asia, the Pacific, Africa, the Americas and the Caribbean. They facilitate social justice work with organizations and networks in Canada and overseas.

#### **Uniterra (WUSC/CECI)**

[http://www.uniterra.org/uniterra/en/volunteers/uniterra\\_volunteers.html](http://www.uniterra.org/uniterra/en/volunteers/uniterra_volunteers.html)

Contact: Heather Robertson: [info@uniterra.org](mailto:info@uniterra.org)

Uniterra has volunteer opportunities in partnership with various organizations, both in developing countries and in Canada. Volunteers share their experiences with their community, encourage international solidarity, and help shape policies towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals. With Uniterra, you can volunteer for a posting of

two weeks to two years, depending on the needs of local cooperation initiatives. Canadian volunteers for Uniterra must be Canadian citizens or have landed immigrant status. Uniterra also offers the possibility for local resources from different program countries to participate in the initiatives and cooperation projects of partner organizations. These volunteers ensure long term follow-up and the maintenance of knowledge and skills acquired via the Uniterra Program.

### **Romero House**

Toronto, Canada

<http://www.romerohouse.org/romerohouse/myweb.php?hls=10006>

Contact: [internship@romerohouse.org](mailto:internship@romerohouse.org)

Romero House is an international Community of Service located in a small neighbourhood in Toronto, Canada. Interns live and work within a Christian community of service in Toronto, in one of the four Romero Houses with political refugees who are seeking protection from persecution. They receive room, board and a small stipend while working with political refugees who are seeking protection from persecution. In this home environment, newcomers and interns share the suffering and hopes of our global community. The Romero House program starts in September and runs for eleven months. Other arrangements may be possible.

### **Self-funded Internships & Volunteer Opportunities:**

#### **Uniterra International Seminars**

[http://www.uniterra.org/uniterra/en/campus/learn\\_overseas/learn\\_overseas.html](http://www.uniterra.org/uniterra/en/campus/learn_overseas/learn_overseas.html)

Contact: Heather Robertson: [info@uniterra.org](mailto:info@uniterra.org)

The International Seminar is designed to give Canadian university and college students their first in-depth experience in a developing country. A group of 20 Canadian and 20 host country students engage in meaningful collaborative research in a selected development sector through short-term internships under the guidance of academic advisors. The research projects support the work of local partner organizations in the host country and Seminar participants share their experience on campuses and in their communities' through public engagement activities.

#### **Refugees International**

<http://www.refugeesinternational.org/section/aboutus/internships>

Contact: [ri@refintl.org](mailto:ri@refintl.org)

Refugees International (RI) offers unpaid internships throughout the year for students and recent graduates seeking work experience in the humanitarian field. Interns will be involved with a variety of projects that contribute to RI's advocacy on behalf of displaced people around the world. The opportunity exists to gain experience in congressional and governmental, advocacy, communications, development, research, peacekeeping, or a general internship. Interns work with RI staff in a support capacity. Projects include: regional and issue research, attending meetings on behalf of RI and taking notes, development of issue briefs, writing for the website and other projects. Internships are generally during spring, summer and fall time periods.

### **Refugee Law Project (RLP) of Makerere University**

Kampala, Uganda

<http://www.refugeelawproject.org/contact/volunteer.htm>

Contact: [recruitment@refugeelawproject.org](mailto:recruitment@refugeelawproject.org)

The RLP accepts selected volunteers from Uganda or abroad for a minimum period of six months, and preferably one year. Voluntary positions are open to individuals with strong experience and specific skills identified as 'gaps' at RLP that we are currently unable to fill, either because of a lack of funding, or difficulties in convincing donors of the needs for such positions due to their emphasis on project-based grants and inability to meet core funding. The RLP also has a summer internship programme, in which applicants are accepted for a shorter time period between May and August.

The RLP (which is also funded by AMERA's parent organization in the UK) provides much of the same services as AMERA. There is a growing focus on research, public and government education and advocacy.

### **Canada World Youth**

<http://www.cwy-jcm.org/en/programs/programs/core>

Contact: [recruitment@cwj-jcm.org](mailto:recruitment@cwj-jcm.org)

The Core Program is six months in length – half happens in Canada and the other half overseas. During the program, you and your counterpart (a young person from the exchange country) get involved in your host community through volunteer service and you live together in a host family. You also participate in educational activities with members of your group, permitting you to enrich and increase your understanding of global and local issues. You soon realize just how much you can learn by becoming active in your community! It's an unforgettable intercultural and educational experience that enriches your knowledge and helps you develop new skills.

### **Self-funded Legal advice organizations:**

#### **Refugee Support and Assistance Program of the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly**

Istanbul, Turkey

[www.hyd.org.tr/?sid=23](http://www.hyd.org.tr/?sid=23)

Contact: [refugeeaid@hyd.org.tr](mailto:refugeeaid@hyd.org.tr)

The RSAP of the HCA provides legal assistance for Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews before UNHCR and the Turkish Ministry of Interior. It also conducts significant advocacy and public legal education activities in both Istanbul and the "satellite cities" (in Anatolia) in which almost all refugees are located. The internship program is more informal (for example, than at AMERA) but interns also have the ability to focus on what interests them.

#### **Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance (AMERA)**

Cairo, Egypt

[www.amera-uk.org/](http://www.amera-uk.org/)

Contact: [egyptinternships@amera-uk.org](mailto:egyptinternships@amera-uk.org)

The second oldest and largest refugee legal aid program in the Global South, AMERA provides legal advice, psycho-social counselling and assistance with general issues of protection for the urban refugee population of Cairo. Interns must commit to a significant period of internship (generally 6 months) but receive a relatively structured training program. Ability to speak Arabic is a significant asset.

### **Asylum Access**

San Francisco, USA (with projects currently in Ecuador and Thailand)

<http://www.asylumaccess.org/volunteer.html>

Contact: [volunteer@asylumaccess.org](mailto:volunteer@asylumaccess.org)

Asylum Access refugee law projects are staffed by volunteer U.S. lawyers and law students (and, occasionally, other highly-qualified individuals) who provide direct legal counsel, representation and advocacy under the supervision of a local project director. Asylum Access provides all volunteer legal advocates with an intensive training in international refugee law and refugee legal advocacy. Volunteers must cover their own expenses and commit to living and working in the global south for a period of three months or more. Volunteers work in partnership with local volunteers to establish new legal aid programs to assist refugees undergoing Refugee Status Determination (typically by UNHCR). AA currently has projects in Ecuador and Thailand. Volunteer opportunities and internships in the United States are also available.

### **Hong Kong Refugee Advice Centre**

Hong Kong (SAR), China

<http://hkrefugeeadvicecentre.googlepages.com/>

Contact: [hkrefugeeadvicecentre@gmail.com](mailto:hkrefugeeadvicecentre@gmail.com)

The HKRAC is a new refugee legal aid organization in Hong Kong (it was formerly the Refugee Advice Unit of Christian Action). It sporadically accepts interns on a fairly flexible basis.