



**University of
Nottingham**
Human Rights Law Centre

Student Placements Academic Year 2025 – 2026

The Human Rights Law Centre (HRLC) offers students various opportunities to get involved in projects and events of the Centre throughout the year. These positions provide students with an opportunity to work on a voluntary basis, gaining valuable experience to complement their studies.

In 2025/26, undergraduate, postgraduate taught & postgraduate research students can apply to be involved in the following HRLC projects:

- **International Criminal Justice Databases**
- **International Human Rights Reports (IHRR) publication**
- **Scholars at Risk – Student Advocacy Programme**
- **United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights**

The placements are only open to a subsection of students, so please check the eligibility for each placement carefully before applying. Details of application requirements and deadlines are listed with each placement below.

It is possible to apply for up to three positions, however students can only undertake **one placement** within an academic year.

If you are interested in applying for a placement, please complete the application form listed in the role. The application deadline is **11:59 pm (BST) on Monday, 20 October 2025**.

For further information or any queries, please contact hrlc@nottingham.ac.uk.

Please find below a description of each placement.

Project Title	International Criminal Justice databases
Open to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final-year law undergraduates • Postgraduate taught law students
Location:	Remote working Human Rights Law Centre, University of Nottingham, UK
Description of activities:	<p>The successful candidates will provide legal research and organisational support to enhance the capacity of the National Implementing Legislation Database (NILD) and the Cooperation and Judicial Assistance Database (CJAD), the two databases maintained by HRLC for the ICC's Legal Tools Project.</p> <p>Students will mark, re-mark and input national implementing legislation of the ICC Statute, undertake research and assist with papers and reports under the supervision of <u>Professor Olympia Bekou, Professor of Public International Law and Head of School</u>. Students will also review the comparative overviews and key provision analyses, perform spot checks for accuracy on NILD and CJAD and maintain the project website.</p>
Skills required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound knowledge of international criminal law (in particular, the substantive and procedural provisions of the ICC Statute). • Excellent research skills (including use of online legal databases, library-based research, and ability to draft clearly and concisely). • Ability to work independently and as part of a small team. • Ability to work well under pressure and to meet short deadlines. • Excellent computer skills and ability to work with relational databases. • Knowledge of languages, particularly French and Spanish is desirable.
Period of Duration:	5-10 hours per week November 2025 – June 2026
Number of positions:	5 – 7
Application:	<p>Please use the online application form to provide a 500-word statement of interest, specifying your interest and suitability for the role.</p> <p>Deadline for applications: 11:59 pm on 20/10/2025</p> <p>Interview dates: w/b 27/10/2025</p>

Project Title	International Human Rights Reports (IHRR) publication
Open to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final-year law undergraduates • Postgraduate taught law students
Location:	Remote working Human Rights Law Centre, University of Nottingham, UK
Description of activities:	<p>Student assistants are required to support the editorial process for the IHRR, a leading publication produced quarterly by the HRLC.</p> <p>Under the supervision of <u>Olive Welch, HRLC Research and Projects Assistant</u>, successful candidates will monitor new case law from the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies, update the related spreadsheets, and draft headnotes for upcoming issues. Student assistants will also research and draft headnotes for decisions and jurisprudence of the regional human rights systems (African, Inter-American, etc). Assistants may be required to provide support in proof-reading, checking citations, facts and cross-references.</p> <p>Assistants may also be required to help with formatting, indexing and maintenance of the IHRR online.</p>
Skills required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solid knowledge of international and regional human rights law and systems. • Excellent written English. • Excellent analytical skills. • IT skills essential (e.g., working with the databases of the UN and regional courts and commissions, and proficiency in Excel and Word). • Attention to detail and the ability to work independently.
Period of Duration:	Up to 7 hours per week, as required. November 2025 – June 2026
Number of positions:	4 - 5
Application:	<p>Please use the online application form to provide a 500-word statement of interest, specifying your interest and suitability for the role.</p> <p>Deadline for applications: 11:59 pm on 20/10/2025</p> <p>Interview dates: w/b 27/10/2025</p>

Project Title	Scholars at Risk – Student Advocacy Programme
Open to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate and final-year undergraduate law • Postgraduate and final-year undergraduate non-law students
Location:	Remote working Human Rights Law Centre, University of Nottingham, UK
Description of activities:	<p>The University of Nottingham is part of the Scholars at Risk (SAR) network, which is an international network of institutions and individuals whose mission is to protect scholars and promote academic freedom. The Student Advocacy Programme provides students with the opportunity to develop human rights research and advocacy skills through direct engagement on behalf of threatened members of the global higher education community.</p> <p>Supervised by Olive Welch, HRLC Research and Projects Assistant, the student group will take on the case of one or more scholars facing unjust restrictions, prosecution or imprisonment. Students will research their selected case, set up a plan to monitor the case and organise advocacy initiatives and events (primarily using social media) with the aim of raising awareness about the case. Throughout the placement, students will attend a weekly 2-hour meeting with the supervisor during term time. Additionally, students are expected to meet as a group, without the supervisor, to work on their campaign for the remaining weekly hours. The student group will engage with SAR students from other universities in the SAR network and participate in the annual European Student Advocacy (ESA) Days event. The student group will close out their placement by preparing an end-of-programme report.</p>
Skills required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passion for social justice and a high motivation to make positive change. • Ability to work independently and as part of a team. • Excellent research and writing skills. • Ability to work flexibly. • Proficiency in the use of social media as a promotional tool. • Experience of event planning or organisation. • Excellent IT skills.
Period of Duration:	Up to 7 hours per week, as required. November 2025 – June 2026
Number of positions:	4-5
Application:	<p>Please use the online application form to provide a 500-word statement of interest, specifying your interest and suitability for the role.</p> <p>Deadline for applications: 11:59 pm on 20/10/2025</p> <p>Interview dates: w/b 27/10/2025</p>

Project Title	United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights
Open to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate (PGT & PGR) law students
Location:	Remote working Human Rights Law Centre, University of Nottingham, UK
Description of activities:	<p>The Human Rights Law Centre is pleased to offer an opportunity to work, on a voluntary basis, with member of the United Nations (UN) Working Group on Business and Human Rights, Robert McCorquodale. Robert is Emeritus Professor of International Law and Human Rights at the University of Nottingham, where he formerly served as Head of the School of Law.</p> <p>The UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, established in 2011, has a mandate to promote, disseminate and implement the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). The group is also mandated to exchange and promote good practices and lessons learned on the implementation of the UNGPs, and to assess and make recommendations.</p> <p>Professor McCorquodale is currently looking for very capable postgraduate students who can conduct research over a period of several months. This research will contribute to the Working Group's forthcoming thematic report on Corporate Governance, Business and Human Rights. The report aims to investigate the current position of the duties of directors and of senior executives in relation to the consideration of human rights matters, including environmental damage and climate change.</p>
Skills required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent research skills and ability to identify relevant research materials • Familiarity with issues surrounding business, human rights, and, especially, corporate governance legal issues • Ability to work under instruction/direction • Ability to work independently
Period of Duration:	Up to 7 hours per week, as required. November 2025 – March 2026
Number of positions:	2 - 3
Application:	<p>Please use the online application form to provide a 500-word statement of interest, specifying your interest and suitability for the role.</p> <p>Deadline for applications: 11:59 pm on 20/10/2025</p> <p>Interview dates: w/b 27/10/2025</p>