

The Masiyiwa Fellowship will provide three graduating students with the opportunity to spend one year working with an innovative human rights organization. In the spring of 2015, fellows will be selected to work with **Human Rights First, the Center for Business and Human Rights, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum beginning in September 2015.** In future years, fellows will have the opportunity to work with additional organizations, including NYU's [Global Justice Clinic](#) and [Just Security](#), and on human rights projects of their own design.

Below are descriptions of this year's organizations and fellowship projects.

Human Rights First is an advocacy and action organization challenging the United States to be a global leader on international human rights. The inaugural Masiyiwa Fellow will work on one of the following projects:

1) Steering Human Rights First's legal research on combatting impunity and changing the cost-benefit analysis for perpetrators and enablers of human trafficking, the Fellow would produce legal analysis and related written materials in one or more areas of interest in support of the organization's policy agenda on human trafficking. Possible areas for research include: a) improving victim access to legal representation; b) lessons learned from the treatment of domestic violence cases by law enforcement and the courts applicable to the trafficking field; c) an analysis of which potential trafficking cases brought to federal prosecutors resulted in an indictment; and d) financial red flags in labor recruitment. The Fellow would also coordinate ongoing research projects being undertaken by major law firms and law school clinics on the impact of current national and international laws combatting trafficking and the efficacy of financial investigations in trafficking prosecutions. In addition, the Fellow would analyze legislative proposals and help craft new federal legislation to fill statutory gaps identified by the campaign. [Human Rights First's policy blueprint on disrupting the business of trafficking is [here.](#)]

2) As part of Human Rights First's advocacy efforts to counter extremism in Europe, which will focus in part on Russia's support of extreme political parties in Europe, the Fellow would undertake a major research project and prepare a report and a web-based interactive map detailing the human rights impact of Russia outside its own borders. [Human Rights First's policy blueprint concerning the impact of Russia abroad on anti-LGBT legislation is [here.](#)]

Applicants should specify which of these projects is of interest and why.

The Center for Business and Human Rights at the NYU Stern School of Business challenges and empowers companies and future business leaders to make practical progress on human rights. The first human rights center at a business school, it takes a sector-by-sector approach, working with business leaders and other stakeholders to develop clear standards and metrics that will help shape their responses to the human rights challenges they face. Although mindful of how businesses function and the constraints they can face, the Center also presses them to address these human rights challenges as an essential part of broader sustainability strategies.

The Center has begun to work on labor and factory safety in apparel manufacturing supply chains, and on privacy and free expression issues faced by technology companies. It is starting to explore developing human rights considerations in financial investment strategies. In the future, the Center plans to expand its work to examine security issues in the extractives industries and child and forced labor in the agricultural sector.

The Masiyiwa Fellowship will provide a graduating student the opportunity to spend one year working full-time at the Center on one or more of these industry initiatives. The Fellow will work closely with the Center's staff, conducting research and gathering information for the Center's reports and industry assessments, assisting in the convening of stakeholders' engagements, and developing and implementing the Center's recommendations.

The Fellow will need to demonstrate a commitment to and knowledge of international human rights, excellent writing and communication skills, strong research skills, knowledge of business practices, and a deep desire to work collaboratively with business leaders and other stakeholders on human rights issues.

The **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum** inspires citizens and leaders worldwide to confront hatred, prevent genocide, and promote human dignity. The Masiyiwa Fellow will be located in either the Museum's Center for the Prevention of Genocide (CPG) or the Levine Institute for Holocaust Education and will interact with policymakers, academics, researchers, and advocates to create the tools and structures needed to avert future genocides.

Possible Fellowship Projects for 2015-16 include:

- **Counterspeech Initiative:** The CPG is building a Counterspeech Initiative to create strategies and tools for detecting and countering inflammatory hate speech where it

currently threatens to incite mass violence, while also educating and motivating the public and policymakers to appropriately address these threats.

- **Early Warning Project:** The purpose of this project is to spur action from policymakers at the national and international levels before mass violence erupts, to drive an informed public debate about effective early warning when mass atrocities loom, and to bring clarity and specificity to the notion of prevention as a policy priority in the United States and beyond.
- **International Decision-Making in the Age of Genocide:** This initiative will examine a series of carefully researched case studies focused on the international response to recent past genocides and mass atrocities, including those in Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. Its goal is to build a reservoir of knowledge and expertise from past genocides that can be applied to future crises.
- **Law, Justice, and Society Initiative.** The project engages law enforcement officers, lawyers, judges, and other members of the courts, encouraging them to critically examine the failures of their counterparts during the Holocaust. The Museum seeks to reinforce in these professionals a clear recognition of their crucial role in protecting individual rights and strengthening democratic values in today's society. Among various activities, the project uses historical case studies to support judicial programs, develops training programs for law enforcement officers, and creates online continuing legal education programs and resources for legal professionals.
- **Initiative on Holocaust Denial and State-Sponsored Antisemitism.** The initiative sponsors a range of programs in Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa, from teacher training in Turkey to the development of online resources in Arabic, Turkish, and Farsi to awareness raising about the persistence of antisemitism in the very lands where the Holocaust took place. It also closely monitors political trends related to antisemitism, including hate speech and the growth of extremist groups.

The Masiyiwa Fellowship Selection Committee will review applications and select finalists to be interviewed by the organizations. Applicants may apply to work with more than one of the organizations.

Factors the committee will consider include:

- a) the applicant's human rights experience (in law school courses, extracurricular activities, summer jobs, and full-time work);

- b) the applicant's leadership capabilities and likely future commitment to human rights work; and
- c) the applicant's interest in and commitment to the organization's work.

The Selection Committee may ask applicants to participate in an interview.

The Public Interest Law Center (PILC) will notify finalists by early March.

Application Requirements

Applicants should submit the following materials **by February 15, 2015**:

- 1) **a short personal statement** (500 words maximum) describing the applicant's relevant experience, interest in the work of the organization(s), and future aspirations;
- 2) **two or three letters of recommendation**, including one letter from a current or former professor or other person associated with NYU School of Law and one letter from a supervisor or employer familiar with the applicant's human rights work or recent work experience;
- 3) **a résumé.**

Application Deadline

Applications will be due to PILC by February 15, 2015, to be considered for a fellowship beginning in the fall of 2015. Applicants are encouraged to consult with PILC as they decide which organization or organizations to pursue.

Submit all materials by e-mail to pilc.info@nyu.edu.

Application letters should include the following address in the header:

Masiyiwa Fellowship Selection Committee
Public Interest Law Center
NYU School of Law
245 Sullivan Street
New York, NY 10012