Digital Civic Space Advisor

Location: Netherlands or United Kingdom (UK)
Hours: Full time
Deadline to apply: 15 March 2022

About ECNL
The European Center for Not-for-Profit Law Stichting (ECNL) works to create legal and policy environments that enable individuals, movements and organisations to exercise and protect their civic freedoms. The work of ECNL is focused on a number of strategic priorities to protect civic freedoms including in the area of technology and artificial intelligence. In all of these priorities, ECNL’s objective is to put into action transformational ideas that address pressing human rights challenges.

In our work on AI and tech, ECNL seeks to engage in collaborative partnerships with policy makers, academics and industry on the one hand, and both digital and non-tech civil society organisations (CSOs) on the other. We work on setting the key standards, promote mutual understanding amongst these stakeholders on the impact of digital tech on civic freedoms. We also foster inclusive and meaningful participation of civil society and the public in policy reforms in order to streamline fundamental right safeguards in the development and functioning of technology. Learn more about our work and accomplishments here.

About the position
The Digital Civic Space Advisor position results from a growing need for ECNL to more robustly investigate the intersection between technology and civic freedoms, continue to grow its networks and ensure that key policy, regulatory and technical developments create protections, rather than harm freedoms.

As our new Digital Civic Space Advisor, the successful candidate will have the opportunity to co-create ECNL’s strategic approach in this field, support ECNL in furthering its digital rights portfolio, broaden up partnerships with diverse stakeholders in the digital rights and deliver ECNL policy and advocacy initiatives in this field.

What you will do
• Develop research, analysis, and accompanying communication materials on emerging technology development and impact on civic space. This includes topics such as the intersection of security with other global trends on civic freedoms and the impact of technology on diverse groups and activists.
• Provide analysis shared with government officials, parliamentarians, civil society and technology companies on technology–related policies or frameworks affecting civic and democratic space.
• Exercise thought leadership and support development of ECNL’s organisational portfolio on digital technologies.
• Maintain and develop further partnerships with a range of organisations, individuals, networks and foundations.
• Work with international stakeholders to develop standards and protections around Artificial Intelligence, biometrics and other emerging digital technologies.
• Work with the Communications and Advocacy team to define strategy for key priorities and develop outputs from inception to publication.
• Develop curriculum and materials on the topic for civil society actors.
• Conceptualise, facilitate and attend events with a view to raising the profile of ECNL research and achieving strategic impact.

Skills and experience required
• An advanced university degree in one of the following fields: technology, law with emphasis on human rights or digital rights, or another relevant field;
• Fluency in English required, another language is a plus;
• At least 5 years of experience in the field;
• Knowledge of existing and emerging digital technologies developments and their human rights impact;
• Experience with initiatives to advocate for international norms relating to digital technologies;
• Experience in civic space issues or understanding and interest in exploring this further;
• Excellent research, advocacy, analytical, writing, and presentation skills;
• Practical experience of engaging constructively with policy makers, research community, civil society and/or technology companies;
• Ability to work collaboratively with diverse groups of people and have a self-directed attitude with solid organisational and multitasking skills;
• Ability to be effective while working remotely and balance competing priorities while working with a diverse team;
• Willingness to travel.

Remuneration and details
This is a full-time position located in either the Netherlands or the UK. The successful candidate must already possess the right to work in the location in which they will be based.

ECNL offers competitive compensation in line with your skills, experience and location. ECNL provides benefits such as holiday allowance, pension contribution, health insurance package (including life insurance, total disability and income protection schemes).

You will work at one of the most diverse, dedicated and enthusiastic teams in the field, in an open and appreciative work culture, including collaboration with a variety of civil society partners, researchers, activists and policy makers on global, European and national levels. You will enjoy a high level of autonomy and responsibility, family-friendly working hours and home office arrangements.

Contract type
1 year with potential for longer term extension.

How to apply
Send an e-mail to info@ecnl.org with the following documents:
• Résumé/CV with 3 references;
• Cover letter outlining your interest in the position;
• 2 samples of your work – a policy document, position paper, campaign website, press release or similar – accompanied by a brief explanation of your role in its creation.

Please add “Digital Civic Space Advisor” in the subject line.
The deadline to apply is 15 March 2022.

Applications will be reviewed on rolling basis; only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.
Senior Advocacy Advisor

Location: Netherlands or United Kingdom (UK)
Hours: Full time
Deadline: 15 March 2022

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About the position
ECNL is looking for a dedicated and experienced Senior Advocacy Advisor to join our team and help develop a rapidly growing field around the intersection of technology and civic space on some of the most pressing ongoing policy, regulatory and technical challenges.

The Senior Advocacy Advisor is a new position within ECNL, allowing the successful candidate to develop the role and co-create ECNL’s advocacy approach, support ECNL in designing, leading and advancing our advocacy at the European and global level on specific topics assigned by the senior management team.

What you will do
- Conceptualise, design, coordinate and implement advocacy strategy or campaign on regional/European and global level in collaboration with the ECNL team and partners focusing on key ECNL policy priorities.
- Identify and advise on opportunities and moments to influence policies that have impact to civic freedoms / human rights and digital civic space.
- Develop strategic collaborations nationally, regionally and globally, and coordinate across teams to ensure engagement and coherent efforts.
- Expand ECNL network of key interlocutors on the topic to build stronger relationships between ECNL and policymakers, other key decision makers, institutions and relevant constituencies.
- Co-develop and produce reports and publications, position papers, policy briefings, presentations, stories and key messages for use across various channels, and working with the Communications team in the development and promotion of communications outputs.
Skills and experience required
- An advanced university degree in one of the following fields: law, international relations, public policy, political science, communications, economics, international development, or another relevant technical field.
- Fluency in English required, another language is a plus;
- Minimum 8 years of experience;
- Knowledge of civic space issues;
- Experience in representation and advocacy within an international organisations;
- Experience in conducting institutional and policy analysis as well as drafting policy and briefing documents in relevant fields;
- Excellent research, advocacy, analytical, writing, and presentation skills;
- Experience in community outreach and carrying out innovative advocacy and campaigning strategies;
- Strong communication skills;
- Practical experience of engaging constructively with policy makers, research community, civil society and/or technology companies;
- Ability to work collaboratively with diverse groups of people and have a self-directed attitude with solid organisational and multitasking skills.;
- Ability to be effective while working remotely and balance competing priorities while working with a diverse team;
- Willingness to travel.

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