



THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FOUNDATION

**Employment Opportunity**  
**Advocacy Director**

**Overview:** Founded in 2001, the International Legal Foundation (ILF), <http://theilf.org>, is the leading global advocate for the right of the indigent accused to legal representation. Driven by the belief that every person accused of a crime deserves to be represented by a well-trained lawyer, no matter their ability to pay, the ILF assists countries emerging from conflict or in transition to establish quality, effective criminal legal aid systems.

The ILF is committed to continuing its long-track record of demonstrating the critical importance of the right to counsel in criminal cases at the international, regional and country level. In the ILF's work to expand its **global advocacy** for this essential component of a fair and effective justice system, the ILF seeks a dynamic and skilled Advocacy Director.

Working closely with the Executive Director, the Advocacy Director will lead the ILF's efforts to build strategic relationships with governments, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, global philanthropy and other key partners to increase awareness, action, and resources devoted to the right to counsel for the indigent accused. The Advocacy Director will also play a key role in developing and implementing the ILF's internal and external communication strategy at the international and country level, and also work closely with the ILF's program team to develop and implement strategies to establish effective and sustainable public defender programs in post-conflict countries around the world.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Lead the ILF's participation in strategic global advocacy efforts related to changing UN norms, international agreements, advocating sustainable and effective legal aid systems in countries where the ILF works, and regional initiatives to elevate the right to counsel.
- Direct the ILF's advocacy campaigns to connect the right to counsel to other global topics and movements (e.g. the new Sustainable Development Goals) through traditional and social media, high-level speaking engagements, briefings, etc.; respond to emerging global opportunities, elevating and mobilizing others to create awareness and support action through briefings meetings with policy partners and stakeholders.
- Act as a principal, under direction of the Executive Director, to develop opportunities for growth and advancement of the ILF's mission, national and international profile as a leader in indigent defense and in seeking to diversify private and government support.
- Serve as a key leader in the developing of communication strategies and dissemination of documents, thought pieces, expert issue publications on high priority areas and work closely with others at ILF to support the efforts to increase the profile of the organization in the international development and law and policy community through traditional media outlets and new media to develops dissemination plan

- With the ILF's program team and country level partners, identify and leverage opportunities to advance the ILF's long-term objectives at the country level and promote this work on a larger scale at the national, regional and international level.
- Represent the organization at conferences, events, and stakeholder meetings, ensuring key global and regional events integrate and elevate the right to counsel globally.
- Train and equip the ILF's staff worldwide to actively and effectively identify and advance advocacy and outreach opportunities.

**Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

- A deep commitment to the ILF's mission, and demonstrated commitment to working with dedication and persistence in a mission-driven environment.
- Demonstrated ability as a right to counsel advocate.
- A seasoned track record in advancing issues through communications, policy, and partnership building; ability to develop and deliver high impact messages and content, specifically tailored for international development community.
- Experience working on indigent defense/ legal aid reform.
- Professional network connected to right to counsel issues.
- An ability to collaborate at all levels, including executive leadership, colleagues, Board Members, government officials, and donors.
- Strong organizational skills, ability to think strategically and execute tactically; a self-starter with an eye for impact.
- Nimble outlook and demeanor and an ability to work both responsively and proactively around communications and advocacy.
- A team-oriented approach with the ability to lead and participate as a member of teams demonstrating effective advocacy, consensus building and leadership.
- Excellent communication and writing skills; demonstrated public speaking skills and ability to coach staff around public speaking and advocacy.
- Strong leadership and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrated interpersonal savvy to effectively influence others.

**Education and Experience:**

- Advanced degree, and 5+ years of indigent defense practice experience preferred.
- 5+ experience of successfully managing policy reform with proven impact.

This position is based at the ILF's headquarters in NY, but travel is expected, including to the post-conflict and transitional countries in which the ILF works and advocates for reform.

Please submit your resume and a **thoughtful** cover letter to:

HR Manager at [jobs@theilf.org](mailto:jobs@theilf.org) or 111 John Street, Suite 1040, New York, NY 10038

No telephone inquiries please. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

*The International Legal Foundation is an equal opportunity employer that does not discriminate in its hiring practices.*