

EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS PROJECT (EHAHRDP) – TECHNOLOGY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Number of Placements: 1

Placement Site: Kampala, Uganda

URL: <http://www.defenddefenders.org/>

Field/Subject Area:

Open to all York students who meet the eligibility criteria

Position Description:

The Technology and Human Rights intern will work with a team of technologists operating within a sub-regional human rights organisation to support a variety of projects promoting digital security education and support, data analysis, digital threat research, administration of technical infrastructure, web and graphic design, and other projects supporting the use of technology by human rights defenders. They will work under the Technology program Manager and Administrator.

The intern will be assigned a project or projects based on their previous technical capacities and interests. An indicative list includes:

- Producing analysis and visualisations from human rights and program activity data from DefendDefenders and other regional human rights organisations. Supporting human rights defenders to understand and communicate their data.
- Reviewing the digital security of human rights organisations and advising on mitigation measures.
- Custom web development for human rights organisations.
- Writing analysis on censorship and internet controls in the sub-region
- Improving systems administration of networks and web servers for human rights organisations
- Improving implementation of documentation databases for human rights organisations
- Creating graphics design and iconography to support technical education and engagement

Complete all tasks assigned, which includes but is not limited to the responsibilities outlined above.

Expected work hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday

Preferred start date: May

Qualifications/skills required:

- Strong self-learning skills are a must. When you encounter a technical challenge you turn quickly to Google and read dozens of pages to piece together the relevant information to solve the challenge.
- Respect for security protocols and confidentiality, including digital security
- Willingness to learn from others and patience to educate others on your own knowledge
- Knowledge of African political history, experience working cross-culturally, and respect for a host society will support the intern's successful experience at DefendDefenders. Knowledge of human rights and international development an asset, as is experience in project management.

A variety of technical and soft skills are desirable for this fellowship. An indicative list includes:

- Data analysis, statistics, and visualisation (R, Tableau, relevant JS libraries)
- Mapping
- Web design (Wordpress) and development (Django, Git-based flat sites, Ruby on Rails)
- Graphic design and illustration
- System administration (security, networking, network storage, wireless, Windows domains/AD, log analysis, shell scripting)
- ICT policy analysis
- Writing of educational material
- Training and education experience
- Malware analysis
- Penetration testing, ethical hacking, cybersecurity
- Database administration (CRMs like CiviCRM or Salesforce), SQL migration and custom scripting

Language requirements:

English; additional languages are a bonus: French, Arabic, Amharic, Somali, Swahili, Kirundi/Kinyarwanda.

Highlights of Organization/background information:

The East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project is designed to strengthen the work of human rights defenders (HRDs) by reducing their vulnerability to the risk of persecution and by enhancing their capacity for effectively defending human rights. Its activities focus on Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia and Somaliland, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The Project envisions a region in which the human rights of every citizen as stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) are respected and upheld. Our mission is to maximize the protection of HRDs working in the sub region and to enhance the awareness of human rights work through linkages with national, regional and international like-minded entities.

The Project's actions are guided by the following objectives:

- To protect and defend human rights defenders in the region;
- To build the capacity of human rights defenders in the region;
- To advocate and raise public awareness and profiles of human rights defenders in the region.

The Project is making effort to implement its set objectives in the following areas: Protection, Advocacy and Capacity Building.