



August 2024

Title: Junior Professional Officer – Junior Human Rights & Technology Officer
Bureau/Dept/Unit: TSB/SGD
Supervision: Olivier Alais/Program Coordinator
Duration: 2 years (with option for renewal)
Location: ITU Headquarter – Geneva, Switzerland
Grade: **P2**

ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs.

We allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.

ITU is committed to connecting all the world's people – wherever they live and whatever their means. Through our work, we protect and support everyone's fundamental right to communicate.

Today, ICTs underpin everything we do. They help manage and control emergency services, water supplies, power networks and food distribution chains. They support health care, education, government services, financial markets, transportation systems, e-commerce platforms and environmental management. And they allow people to communicate with colleagues, friends and family anytime, and almost anywhere.

With the help of our global membership, ITU brings the benefits of modern communication technologies to people everywhere in an efficient, safe, easy and affordable manner.

ITU membership reads like a Who's Who of the ICT sector. We're unique among UN agencies in having both public and private sector membership. So in addition to our 193 Member States, ITU membership includes ICT regulators, many leading academic institutions and some 700 tech companies.

In an increasingly interconnected world, ITU is the single global organization embracing all players in this dynamic and fast-growing sector.

The JPO would be based in ITU HQ in Geneva, Switzerland, an international and exciting city that host more than 190 international organizations. Geneva host more than two thirds of all UN activities and

is visited by nearly 3000 heads of states or similar officials every year. It is a great opportunity to be based at the heart of the diplomatic world, and meet people from across the globe.

A. Organizational Unit:

The Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) fulfills the objectives of the Union relating to telecommunication standardization, by providing secretariat support to groups studying technical, operating and tariff questions and facilitating the adoption of Recommendations in these areas with a view to standardizing telecommunications and information technology on a global basis. In order to achieve these objectives, the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau works in accordance with the instructions of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assemblies (WTSA), Telecommunication Standardization Study Groups and the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group. TSB, headed by an elected Director, provides the technical, administrative and logistic support for the assemblies and for the meetings of the groups mentioned.

The Study Groups Department (SGD) is responsible for facilitating, managing and supporting the work of the ITU-T study groups in the development of global telecommunication standards (ITU-T Recommendations) and other documents and databases related to standardization. It provides the counsel and secretariat for the Sector's study groups, focus groups and other ad hoc groups. Particular attention is given to "Bridging the Standardization Gap", i.e., to strengthen the participation of developing countries in the standards making process. The Department maintains close relations with the ITU Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Development Sectors and takes part in their work as required. Likewise, it cooperates with other global standards organizations such as ISO and IEC as well as recognized industry forums and consortia.

B. Organizational context:

Within the Study Groups Department, the JPO will play a vital role in exploring the relationship between human rights and technical standard-setting processes for new and emerging digital technologies.

Under the supervision of the Program Coordinator, the JPO will collaborate with various departments and units within the ITU, as well as with the ITU membership and other stakeholders, to investigate how human rights considerations can be integrated in technical standard-setting processes.

The work of the JPO will contribute to the realization of ITU's strategic goals *Universal Connectivity* and *Sustainable Digital Transformation* considering a human rights perspective.

C. Duties, responsibilities and key results expected:

Under the supervision of the Program Coordinator, the JPO will:

- Conduct research and analysis;
- Drafting and edit reports, documents, and communication materials;
- Assist in the organization and facilitation of workshops, events, and training sessions;

- Develop capacity building strategies;
- Manage small grants if needed;
- Assist with convening members and relevant stakeholders, building communities of experts;
- Perform other tasks as required.

D. Work relations and contact

TSB staff, other departments of ITU/ Bureaux, members, external partners and other stakeholders as required.

E. Competencies

Core Competencies: Applying Expertise; Effective Communication; Learning and Knowledge Sharing; Organizational Commitment; Results-Focused, and; Teamwork and Collaboration.

Essential Functional Competencies: Analysis, Judgement and Decision Making ☒; Client and Service Orientation ☐; Innovation and Facilitating Change ☒; Leadership ☐; Networking and Building Partnerships ☒; Planning and Organising ☒; Successful Management ☐

Essential Technical Competencies

- Excellent research and writing skills;
- Familiarity with international human rights frameworks;
- Familiarity with new and emerging digital technologies, interest in social and ethical dimensions of technology;
- Familiarity with technical standards and standard-setting processes;
- Ability to analyze and interpret legal, technical and policy documents.

F. Qualifications required

1. Education:

Degree in law, technology, international relations, political science or a related field.

2. Work experience:

At least three years of progressively responsible experience in the field of human rights or policy advocacy in a digital context. Previous experience in researching and analyzing human rights issues is preferred.

3. Languages:

Knowledge of one of the six official languages of the Union (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish) at advanced level and knowledge of a second official language at intermediate level. Knowledge of a third official language would be an advantage. (Under the provisions of Resolution No. 626 of the Council, a relaxation of the language requirements may be authorized in the case of candidates from developing countries: when candidates from such countries possess a thorough knowledge of one of the official languages of the Union, their applications may be taken into consideration.)

G. Training and Learning Elements:

The JPO will have the opportunity to acquire excellent knowledge and experience in:

- Human rights frameworks and principles;
- New and emerging technologies;
- Technical standards and standard-setting processes;
- Emerging human rights issues and trends.

Learning will be structured and will take place through participation in ITU meetings and workshops, studying ITU reports and studies, and engaging in mentoring, coaching, and on-the-job training.

The post holder will be attached to a direct supervisor who will provide learning opportunities through guidance, feedback, and knowledge sharing.