

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Contract type: Individual Consultant

Project title: Monitoring of reception conditions of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in Luxembourg

Contract Duration: 40 working days/ expected start date: asap – expected end date: end of April 2019

Duty Station: Home-based (Luxembourg)

Closing Date: 27 February 2019 (midnight)

Organizational context and General background of assignment:

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is an intergovernmental organization with a mandate to protect refugees and stateless persons worldwide. UNHCR works with States, civil society organizations and other actors to address issues of concern which fall under its mandate.

Children's rights are enshrined in international law, including in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and are at the heart of UNHCR's protection mandate. Given the fact that asylum-seeking girls and boys face unique protection risks, responding to their specific needs is a key priority for the BELUX Unit. UNHCR's commitment to protect children of its concern is not only a moral imperative, but will also contribute to ensuring a better future for children, their families and communities.

Between 2015 and 2017, over 200 UASC have applied for asylum in Luxembourg, representing more than twice the number for the period between 2012 and 2014. While the largest increase was noticed in 2015, 2017 was marked by the particularly young age of UASC applying for asylum in Luxembourg (between 12-14 years old).

In addition to the 2 already-existing mixed reception centres hosting UASC, 3 reception centres exclusively dedicated to UASC have opened their doors since 2016. The principle of the best interest of the child is embedded in Luxembourg legislation and policy, and should be implemented in the context of reception conditions. A mapping of the current situation for the identification of good practices and elaboration of recommendations in line with international protection standards and the best interest principle will serve as a basis for UNHCR to engage with and support different stakeholders in upholding these standards.

Functional expertise and responsibilities:

Under the supervision of the Head of the BELUX Protection Unit and the Liaison Officer for Luxembourg, the consultant shall be responsible for providing UNHCR with a report offering a comprehensive overview of reception conditions of UASC in

Luxembourg, as well as a catalogue of best practices and the proposal of recommendations for improvements in the reception system.

For that purpose, the following activities are planned:

- Desk research on the legal and factual situation with respect to reception conditions of UASC in Luxembourg;
- Organisation of preliminary meetings with relevant stakeholders from administrations, civil society, lawyers, child protection organisations, judiciary, academics, international organisations;
- Organisation of visits to 5 reception centres hosting UASC;
- Interviews with staff responsible of the reception centres, with preparation of questionnaires
- Individual participatory assessments or focus group discussions with UASC in reception centres, with preparation of questionnaires
- Child protection assessment of reception facilities
- Organisation of debriefing meetings with stakeholders

Expected deliverables:

The consultant will draft an internal report providing an overview of the reception conditions of UASC in Luxembourg, taking into account feedback provided by stakeholders and information obtained through the visits to the reception centres, results stemming from the child protection assessments and the participatory assessments with UASC. The report will address inter alia the following themes: material reception conditions, guardianship system, legal representation, education, child protection, safety and well-being, health, psychosocial support and family separation. The report will highlight best practices observed, and offer recommendations and follow-up actions to improve the reception conditions of UASC. The report will then serve as a basis for UNHCR to advocate for adequate reception conditions of UASC.

Required qualifications and experience:

- a) Education
 - University degree in a related field
- b) Work Experience
 - At least 2 years related job experience in one of the areas relevant for the work required, such as reception monitoring, working with UASC or with asylum seekers, experience in conducting participatory assessments
 - Experience in the field of child protection
 - Experience in the field of international refugee law is an asset
 - Work experience with UNHCR is an asset
- c) Key Competencies
 - Knowledge of the Luxembourg child protection system
 - Knowledge of the Luxembourg asylum law

- Experience/knowledge conducting participatory assessments would be an asset
- Sound analytical skills
- Fluency in French and English, with excellent drafting skills in both languages
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work independently and on own initiative
- Sound reporting skills
- Sound computer skills
- Complies with UN core values

Candidates are invited to send a motivation letter and UNHCR Personal History Form (available here: <http://www.unhcr.org/admin/jobs/5748ac794/p11-form.html>) prior to the closing date of this vacancy to the following email address: belbrhr@unhcr.org Please include the project title and your surname in the subject line.