Fellowship in Human Rights and Justice

The Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice at the University of Texas at Austin, an interdisciplinary human rights center housed in the School of Law, seeks applications for a post-doctoral or research fellowship beginning August 3, 2020 and running through July 30, 2021. Applicants from all countries and relevant disciplines are welcome to apply.

The fellow, working closely with the Center’s co-directors and staff, will provide intellectual and administrative leadership for a multi-year project on human rights and economic inequality, which will be entering its sixth year. The project examines structural drivers of economic inequality; how law might create, accentuate, or ameliorate forms of unequal distribution; the ways in which the global architecture of human rights might better address inequality among and within countries; and the capacity of economic inequality, as a dominant analytical or orienting frame, to capture the racial, gendered, and colonial patterns of accumulation and the reproduction of power and wealth over time. With regard to the last issue, much of our focus next year will be to move “beyond inequality” as our principal organizing frame, as we consider questions around the “future of work,” through the lenses of racial capitalism, world-system theory, and distributional analysis.

The fellow will be provided time to pursue their own research projects, and will also be involved in the daily running of the Center’s “Beyond Inequality” project. Academic and administrative responsibilities relating to the project may include:

- Researching and drafting reports and white papers;
- Authoring and editing academic publications;
- Assisting in grant writing and reporting;
- Organizing speaking events, a conference, or other public events;
- Networking with academics, activists, and policymakers in multiple regions;
- Supervising students involved with the project;

Candidates should have advanced graduate training; significant research experience; strong organizational, writing, and verbal communication skills; and an interest in critical analysis of human rights issues.

Ideally, the appointment will begin August 3, 2020 but the start date is negotiable. The fellow will receive a competitive stipend commensurate with experience, as well as health insurance, full use of UT facilities, and office space at the Law School. The fellow is required to be in residence in Austin, although the position will likely include some international travel. The fellow may not hold any other appointment during the fellowship period. Preference will be given to applicants who have received a PhD, JD, or equivalent law degree by the start date.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis, beginning March 15, 2020. Application packages should include the following materials: cover letter; CV; graduate transcripts (unofficial and scanned are acceptable); personal statement about relevant research and practical experience (no more than 500 words); and writing sample (no more than 7000 words). Additionally, three letters of recommendation, including at least two academic references, should be emailed separately from the recommenders to Sarah Eliason, Rapoport Center Administrative Associate, seliason@law.utexas.edu.

Any questions, and all materials (in PDF format), should be sent to Sarah Eliason, Rapoport Center Administrative Associate, seliason@law.utexas.edu.