

Call for applications: Short-term research assistant

Mr. Olivier De Schutter is the [United Nations Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights](#). Special Rapporteurs report to the Human Rights Council and to the UN General Assembly and are part of what is known as the [Special Procedures](#) of the Human Rights Council. The Special Rapporteur is seeking a research assistant to support his team working on a project aimed at providing a worldwide overview of the phenomenon of non-take-up of rights.

Non-take-up is a widespread, pervasive reality that afflicts many social protection systems around the world, yet its exact workings remain hidden by the high degree of context-dependency, among other factors. This large-scale research project aims at remedying this research gap by clarifying the reasons behind the phenomenon in selected countries. The project will provide a worldwide overview of non-take-up by drawing from the experiences of a variety of groups, including national social security administrations, local offices of international organizations, civil society organizations working with people in poverty, and researchers working in the field. Expected outcomes of this project include a final report, selected case studies, and an interactive web map showcasing the results from the research.

Job description

Reporting directly to the Special Rapporteur's Advisor on this project and to the Head of Research and Advocacy, the research assistant will provide research support to this large-scale research project aimed at clarifying the reasons behind non-take-up. Responsibilities will include:

- Assisting with literature reviews and research on social protection around the world;
- Assisting with data entry and manipulation;
- Reviewing and/or editing produced materials, including fact/footnote checking;
- Taking notes during exploratory interviews and calls;
- Working on the design of the interactive web map;
- Other tasks related to this project as appropriate.

Qualifications and experience

The ideal candidate will bring with them the following skills and qualifications:

1. Master's degree student or graduate in international development, public policy, government, or related discipline (essential);
2. Research experience including quantitative and qualitative methods (essential);
3. A basic understanding of project management principles in the context of research processes (preferred);

4. Good writing and analytical skills in English (essential);
5. Excellent cross-cultural communication skills (essential);
6. Experience with qualitative research design and analysis tools (SurveyMonkey/Qualtrics, Atlas.ti) (desirable);
7. Experience with quantitative research analysis tools (Excel, SPSS) (desirable);
8. French reading, writing, and speaking abilities preferred, other languages are an asset.

What we offer:

- Full-time contract for the period between 1 July – 1 December 2021 (5 months)
- The chance to work on a highly stimulating and potentially impactful project on the non-take-up of rights with the team of the UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights. More information about the role of the Special Rapporteur can be found at www.srpoverity.org.
- Competitive remuneration: 12,000-24,000€, based on relevant experience.
- This is a remote work opportunity

Applications and deadline

Applications should include a one-page letter of motivation and a curriculum vitae. These should be sent before 6 June 2021 to Paula Fernández-Wulff (jobs@srpoverty.org) with subject line “Research Assistant application”.