

**NOTE ON THE UNIVERSITY TRAINEESHIP PROGRAMME  
AT THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE**

The Court has instituted the University Traineeship Programme in collaboration with sponsoring institutions that have identified students with excellent credentials who are completing their course of studies and have demonstrated exceptional interest and excellence in the field of Public International Law.

Participation in the programme is limited to Faculties of Law that accept to fund the expenses of successful candidates, who receive no remuneration for their work at the Court. While the Court does not exercise any control over the amount of funding that each institution undertakes to make available to a successful candidate, it requests that every effort is made to ensure that the successful applicant can benefit fully from his or her experience at the Court without suffering from financial hardship. Sponsoring institutions are also requested to ensure that successful candidates have medical insurance that covers them during their stay in The Netherlands.

The Court has enjoyed working with the gifted and dedicated young lawyers who have participated in this programme in previous years, and is gratified that the number of sponsoring institutions has increased significantly each year since its inception. This has made the selection process more challenging, and the Court has been faced with the difficult task of choosing among excellent candidates.

Please find described briefly below criteria that the Court would like to apply to applications submitted on behalf of candidates to the University Traineeship Programme.

1. Selection of candidates

Universities may present one or more candidates, but the Court encourages each institution to submit more than one applicant. Universities are also strongly encouraged to limit applications to candidates who have excellent academic records at the sponsoring university and have excellent French or English skills, but also a very good working knowledge of the other language. In addition to information required in order to satisfy the Court that the candidates meet the conditions set out in this letter, the Court would like them to indicate their ages.

2. Letters of reference

Universities should submit at least two letters of reference for each applicant, preferably from individuals who may be able to speak to their credentials in the field of International Law.

3. Writing sample

Universities are requested to submit a writing sample from each applicant of no more than 15 typewritten pages of work that has been submitted for publication or other work of publishable quality. The Court accords significant attention to this element of the candidate's application, and appreciates all steps taken by the submitting university to ensure that it has the ability to review written work directly produced by the applicant.

4. Presentation of the applications

The submitting University is requested to assemble documents presented on behalf of the applicant in the following order:

- (a) The letter from the university sponsoring the candidate;
  - (b) The letter of application from the candidate;
  - (c) The candidate's curriculum vitae;
  - (d) A copy of the candidate's official academic record;
  - (e) Letters of reference; and
  - (f) The candidate's writing sample.
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