



*The Honourable Society of
Lincoln's Inn*

*European and
International Scholarships
Guidance for applicants*



Scholarships awarded

International Criminal Court (ICC), The Hague

Johan Steyn Scholarship

- Only open to members of Lincoln's Inn
- Duration: 6 months
- Award: £11,000

European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), Strasbourg

Peter Duffy Scholarship – UK Division

Nicolas Bratza Scholarship – The Private Office of the President of the Court

- Only open to members of Lincoln's Inn
- Duration: 3 months
- Award: £5,500

Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), Luxembourg

JP Warner Scholarship

- Only open to members of Lincoln's Inn
- Duration: 3 months
- Award: £5,500

EFTA Court, Luxembourg

EFTA Court Scholarship

- Members of any Inn can apply
- Duration: 3 months
- Award: €10,200

Paul Heim Education Award

- Funding to undertake short-term international study in European, International and Human Rights Law
- Award: variable, dependent on the cost of course

Overseas Placement Fund

- Contributions to students and barristers under five years Call undertaking human rights law internships

Reports from former scholars can be found on the [publications section of our website](#).

ICC, The Hague

Johan Steyn Scholarship

- **Duration: 6 Months**
- **Funding: £11,000**
- www.icc-cpi.int

Eligibility

This scholarship is open to members of Lincoln's Inn only. We accept applications from student members and those under five years Call.

Applicants need to demonstrate a genuine interest in the work of the ICC and good knowledge of International and Criminal Law to enable them to participate fully in the work of the ICC in The Hague.

About the Court

The International Criminal Court (ICC) investigates and, where warranted, tries individuals charged with the gravest crimes of concern to the international community: genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

About the Placement

The structure of the internship will depend on the branch of the court in which you work. Interns usually undertake their placement in Registry/Chambers/Office of The Prosecutor/Office of Public Counsel for the Defence. Typically, an intern will assist in carrying out legal research, preparing memos and reports, summarising case law and drafting or proofreading briefs and motions.

Please be aware that if you are successful in securing this scholarship, you will be required to make a separate application to an internship or visiting professional position at the Court. For more details on the positions available and requirements please visit the vacancies section of ICC website.

Funding

The Inn provides funding of £10,650 for the 6-month placement. If you are offered the opportunity to extend your internship, the Inn may be able to provide some additional funding, although this is likely to be less than your original award. You should consider whether you need to save some money before you go, particularly if you want to take up further opportunities at the Court or travel locally while you are there.

Thoughts from our Scholars

My time at the International Criminal Court was possibly the most unique intern experience possible. I was placed in the judges' chambers on the *Prosecutor v Bosco Ntaganda* case. I was entrusted with reviewing 6 witnesses out of the 16 witnesses whose credibility needed assessing. I made my first major contribution to the judgment drafting by writing the background section, recounting Ntaganda's personal history and his military experiences leading up to his appearance before the court. When the judgment was complete, I attended court for the delivery.

During sentencing, I drafted decisions for the admission of evidence based on my assessments of the parties' submissions which were later checked and approved by my

supervisor. During the hearings for the additional witnesses on sentencing, I condensed the witnesses' evidence into digestible reference documents to ease the overall judgment drafting process. I finished my internship with the delivery of the sentencing decision which will be remembered as the harshest sentence the court has ever ordered. – **Dainyah Mason, Johan Steyn Scholar 2018**. You can read Dainyah's full report [here](#).

ECtHR, Strasbourg

Peter Duffy Scholarship – UK Division

Nicolas Bratza Scholarship – Research Division

- **Duration: 3 Months**
- **Funding: £5,500**
- www.echr.coe.int

Eligibility

These two scholarships are open to members of Lincoln's Inn only. We accept applications from student members and those under five years Call.

Applicants need to demonstrate a genuine interest in the work of the ECtHR and good knowledge of human rights law to enable them to participate fully in the work of the ECtHR in Strasbourg

About the Court

The European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) is an international court set up in 1959. It rules on individual or State applications alleging violations of the civil and political rights set out in the European Convention on Human Rights.

It is possible to primarily work in English. Knowledge of French is useful but not essential, although having at least the basics will be helpful for living in Strasbourg.

About the Placement

The Peter Duffy scholarship is named after Peter Duffy QC, a prominent human rights barrister. Scholars will be attached to the UK division of the court, where they will have the opportunity to work on real UK cases which may include research into a particular topic, drafting or sifting through applications.

The Nicolas Bratza scholarship is named after Sir Nicolas Bratza, former President of the ECtHR. Scholars will be attached to the Private Office of the President of the Court. They will prepare legal and political briefings for the team working with the President, as well as assist in drafting speeches for the President.

If selected, you will need to contact the Court directly to arrange your placement. The Court will offer you specific dates dependent on their timetable.

Funding

The Inn provides funding of £5,350 for each of these 3-month placements. If you are offered the opportunity to extend your internship, the Inn may be able to provide some additional funding, although this will not be as substantial as your original award. You should consider

whether you need to save some money before you go, particularly if you want to take up further opportunities at the Court or travel locally while you are there.

Thoughts from our Scholars

I worked at the Registry of the Court, which meant processing applications against the United Kingdom and analysing them for admissibility, followed by production of case notes for use by senior lawyers and judges. The UK team is small, but extremely friendly and welcoming. The insights I gained during my placement extended to valuable transferable skills, such as brief-making, legal research and case analysis, which I will get to apply throughout the rest of my legal career. It was a pleasure to discover the work of the Court, the Council of Europe, Strasbourg and its surroundings. – **Dominika Leitane, Peter Duffy Scholar 2022**. You can read Dominika's full report [here](#).

I was placed within the Office of the President as a Trainee under the legal advisor to both the President and the Registrar of the Court. My main role consisted of drafting speeches for the President, whether that be for visits to universities and external conferences which would have a more academic or theoretical focus, or for visits to other Council of Europe bodies. The diverse nature of the work I was involved in during my three months allowed me to deepen my understanding of human rights law at the European level and to better appreciate the day-to-day operations of the Court and the key challenges that it faces. – **Alex Hughes, Nicolas Bratza Scholar 2022**. You can read Alex's full report [here](#).

CJEU, Luxembourg

JP Warner Scholarship

- **Duration: 3 Months**
- **Funding: £5,500**
curia.europa.eu

Eligibility

This scholarship is open to members of Lincoln's Inn only. We accept applications from student members and those under five years Call. It is not required that applicants have the nationality of an EU Member State.

Applicants need to demonstrate a genuine interest in the work of the CJEU and good knowledge of EU Law to enable them to participate fully in the Court's work.

About the Court

The CJEU has jurisdiction over EU Law as applied in the 27 EU Member States. The CJEU is formed of the Court of Justice and the General Court. The Court of Justice's primary role to ensure the uniform interpretation and application of EU law across the Member States. It hears actions brought by Member States, EU institutions, and gives preliminary rulings on the interpretation of EU law requested by national courts, and rules on the validity of acts by EU institutions. The Court of Justice also hears appeals from the General Court. The working language of the Court of Justice is French.

About the Placement

The JP Warner Scholarship is named after Sir Jean-Pierre Warner, who served as the Court's first British Advocate-General. The Scholar will be hosted in the Chambers of First Advocate

General Maciej Szpunar, or other Chambers. One of the languages First Advocate General Szpunar drafts his opinions in is English. The Scholar will assist the Chambers by undertaking research and legal analysis which provide input into the independent opinions as to how the problems raised by the cases before the Court may be resolved. If selected, you will need to contact the Court directly to arrange your placement. The Court will offer you specific dates dependent on their timetable.

Funding

The Inn provides funding of £5,100 for the 3-month placement. You should consider whether you need to save some money before you go, particularly if you want to travel locally while you are there.

EFTA Court, Luxembourg

EFTA Court Scholarship

- **Duration: 3 Months**
- **Funding: €3,400 per month**
- www.eftacourt.int

Eligibility

This scholarship is open to members of any Inn. We accept applications from student members and those under five years Call.

Applicants need to demonstrate a genuine interest in the work of the EFTA Court and good knowledge of European Law to enable them to participate fully in the Court's work.

This Scholarship may be awarded to more than one candidate.

About the Court

The EFTA Court has jurisdiction with regard to EFTA States which are parties to the EEA Agreement (at present Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway). The Court predominately hears infringement actions brought by the EFTA Surveillance Authority against an EFTA State with regard to the implementation, application or interpretation of EEA law rules; gives advisory opinions to courts in EFTA States on the interpretation of EEA rules; and hears appeals against decisions taken by the EFTA Surveillance Authority. The jurisdiction of the EFTA Court largely corresponds to the jurisdiction of the Court of Justice of the European Union. The working language of the EFTA Court is English.

About the Placement

The Scholar will be placed in the Chambers of Judge Bernd Hammermann, the Judge nominated in respect of Liechtenstein. Scholars are actively involved in chambers' work, which includes, for example, preparing initial draft judgements and reports for the hearing as well as legal research into EEA/EU law.

If selected, you will need to contact the Judge's chambers directly to arrange your placement, which will offer you specific dates dependent on their timetable.

Funding

This scholarship is funded by the EFTA Court and administered by the Inn on its behalf. The funds are therefore paid to the scholar in Euros as a stipend during their 3-month traineeship.

The Court provides a monthly stipend of €3,300 for the duration of the placement. Placements can be prolonged if the Judge's chambers propose an extension, and the trainee wants to extend his/her stay.

Thoughts from our Scholars

As a Trainee in the Chambers of Judge Bernd Hammermann, the Judge nominated in respect of Liechtenstein, I assisted his cabinet for three months on cases ranging from access to evidence in trade secrets cases to the environmental impact of mining permits on Norwegian fjords. I was able to work on cases throughout the litigation process, contributing to preliminary reports, press releases, and draft judgments. The Liechtenstein Cabinet, and the EFTA Court as a whole, is enriched by the different legal traditions everyone comes from. I found it particularly interesting to see behind the curtain of a court without dissenting judgments, and to learn how unanimous judgments are reached. – **Tiyash Banerjee, EFTA Court Scholar 2024.** You can read Tiyash's full report [here](#).

Paul Heim Education Award

- **Funding: Variable**

The Paul Heim Education Award aims to encourage the study of European, International and Human Rights Law by providing funding for at least one student per year to undertake a short course of study in one of these fields which will further their aim of practising in the relevant area of law. Students will need to secure their own place on their chosen course. **The funding offered will be subject to a means test.**

Some examples of appropriate courses are:

- The Academy of European Law Summer Schools in Human Rights and European Law
- The Hague Academy of International Law, the EUIC Venice Summer School in Human Rights
- The Institute for European Studies Summer School

The panel will consider applications from candidates wishing to undertake any other similar course of study.

Overseas Placement Fund

In addition to the scholarships, the Inn has an Overseas Placement Fund to assist students and young barristers undertaking human rights law internships. These have included visits to Greece to work with Syrian refugees, working on death row cases in the USA and placements with the Women's Legal Centre, Cape Town, South Africa. The Inn cannot fully fund the placements but can make a contribution.

To apply for funding applicants are asked to submit an application form with a copy of the contract / letter of appointment to education@lincolnsinn.org.uk

The application form can be found on our [International Scholarships page](#).

How to Apply

Please complete our [online application form](#) by **10am on Monday 23 March 2026**. We will not consider applications received after this time.

Interviews will be held remotely in Mid-May.

The EFTA Court Scholarship is open to members of all Inns. All other scholarships are only open to members of Lincoln's Inn.

Applicants are welcome to apply for more than one scholarship.

Application Guidance

The panel will assess all applications against the following criteria (at the written stage, and, if relevant, the interview stage):

- Commitment to the Bar
- Motivation for the internship and its benefit for career progression
- Intellectual ability
- Inter-personal skills
- Written and oral advocacy
- Ability to be an excellent ambassador for the Inn
- Integrity

To be successful, you must provide examples of how you meet these criteria within your application.

References

The application form requires you to name two referees, at least one of whom must provide an academic reference. It is your responsibility to ensure that your referees can comment substantively on the criteria, as references that only confirm dates of employment may be discounted.

References must be submitted by email to scholarships@lincolnsinn.org.uk before the deadline. They can be sent directly or by you, on your referees' behalf, but it is your responsibility to ensure we receive them before the deadline. Late references will not be accepted, and your application will not be considered.

Please refer to the guidance for referees for further information about providing references.