



# Position: Advocacy Advisor, Universal Periodic Review

The Sexual Rights Initiative (SRI) is a coalition of six national and regional organizations from all parts of the world with an office in Geneva, Switzerland that has been advocating for the advancement of human rights in relation to gender and sexuality at the UN Human Rights Council since 2006.

The SRI aims to advance sexual rights (broadly defined) as a particular set of rights and as a crosscutting issue within international law, specifically in the work of the UN Human Rights Council and its mechanisms. The SRI's approach to advocacy combines feminist analysis with important normative advances in the recognition of the human rights of women, marginalized communities and young people. The SRI further aims to create a political space for advocacy on sexual rights by bridging Southern, Northern and Eastern perspectives and incorporating diverse views.

The SRI is currently expanding its Geneva-based presence. We are seeking highly motivated, effective and experienced sexual rights advocates with a firm grounding in feminist principles and analysis to play important roles in achieving the goals of the coalition.

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## Terms of Reference

Working closely with the SRI coalition partners and as part of the SRI's Geneva-based team, the key objective of this role is to support the engage national level organisations in the work of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) as a tool to hold governments accountable for sexual and reproductive rights violations, and to ensure greater visibility and integration of a wide range of sexual rights issues in the UPR process. In doing so, the Advocacy Advisor will ensure that the diversity of SRI coalition partners' work and analysis is reflected in the work undertaken and will bring visibility to the work of SRI coalition partners as relevant and appropriate.

## Responsibilities

Working closely with the SRI coalition partners and as part of the SRI's Geneva-based team and reporting to the Director of the SRI Office in Geneva, the Advocacy Advisor – Universal Periodic Review will assume the following responsibilities:

- Working closely with SRI's Advocacy Advisor (Knowledge Translation), engage, develop and execute a comprehensive strategy for the SRI's engagement in the UPR process that includes a targeted outreach strategy for collaboration with national NGOs to develop quality, timely and persuasive written UPR submissions for every UPR session,

- coordination of in-country and Geneva advocacy opportunities, support follow-up/implementation activities, and identification of research, training and resource needs;
- Build strong and trusting relationships with diverse stakeholders working to advance human rights related to sexuality, gender and reproduction within the UPR process including national, regional and international NGOs, UN Permanent Missions, UN agencies and UN experts;
- Monitor, engage and report on events, developments and initiatives related to the UPR, including pre-sessional advocacy opportunities, one-on-one member state advocacy on national reports, and analyses of each UPR session;
- Develop strong working relationships with the SRI coalition partners and bring attention to the structure of the SRI as a coalition of national and regional organizations.
- Serve as a point of contact in Geneva for the SRI on all UPR related matters;
- Ensure the SRI's UPR database is up to date and responsive to user needs;
- Provide briefings, trainings and seminars on sexual and reproductive health and rights to differing audiences that can include permanent missions, special procedures, treaty body members and NGOs

### *SRI Teamwork*

All members of the SRI team in Geneva are expected to work collaboratively, to ensure strong communication and linkages between the SRI's streams of work and partners, and to actively support the achievement of the SRI's strategic goals as determined by the SRI partner organizations. Duties in this respect include:

- Support SRI partners' and Geneva-based team's work on the Special Procedures, Treaty Monitoring Bodies and the Human Rights Council including direct advocacy with States as required;
- Provide input into policy briefs, position papers, shadow reports, and statements on sexual rights prepared by SRI partners and Geneva-based team;
- Monitor and report to SRI partners and Geneva-based team on developments, opportunities, initiatives, and emerging trends within the Special Procedures and national engagement in the international human rights system;
- Represent the SRI on relevant external panels, committees and meetings as well as at every Human Rights Council session;
- Develop and contribute to public communications from the SRI to different audiences;
- Develop relationships with key stakeholders at global and national levels, including relevant UN Agencies, Permanent Missions, UN Experts and NGOs;
- Contribute to the development of SRI digital tools;
- Assist in the development of funding proposals and other fundraising activities;
- Assist SRI coalition partners in their work to engage the international human rights system
- Prepare regular activity reports for SRI partners and donors;
- Assist with planning and running events in Geneva organized by the SRI;
- Participate in SRI Geneva-based team meetings and SRI partner meetings; and
- Perform other duties as required.

### **Skills and Competencies**

- Strong understanding and articulation of feminist principles and perspectives, sexual rights, intersectionality and decolonialist social justice movements;
- Demonstrated knowledge of international human rights mechanisms, (particularly the UPR) and instruments and how to use them to advance sexual rights;
- Demonstrated knowledge of relevant international organizations especially the UN Human Rights Council and its mechanisms and the Treaty Monitoring Bodies;

- Excellent writing, analytical and persuasive skills in English and one other official UN language;
- Fluency in Spanish, French or another UN official language considered an asset
- Flexible and adaptive, able to respond quickly and effectively to changing circumstances;
- Commitment to working as part of a diverse and participatory team;
- Enjoy working collaboratively with a range of stakeholders;
- Ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with people from a range of national and cultural contexts;
- Excellent organizational skills and ability to prioritize work effectively;
- Strategic thinking, sound judgment and a very clear and focused approach;
- Sensitivity and a strong capacity for confidentiality, tact, discretion and diplomacy

## Experience

- A minimum of 3 years' experience in legal/policy analysis and advocacy on human rights related to sexuality, reproduction and gender;
- A minimum of 3 years working with a feminist civil society organization in the Global South;
- A degree in a related field such as: Human Rights, Law, Political Science, Women's/Gender Studies; (an advanced degree would be considered an asset)
- Experience drafting shadow reports, UN submissions, policy papers, and advocacy materials;
- Experience working in coalition with diverse stakeholders to achieve a common goal;
- Experience developing and executing successful advocacy strategies to advance sexual rights at the national, regional and/or international level;
- Experience working with government officials, particularly diplomats and foreign ministry officials;
- Experience providing trainings and briefings to a range of audiences.

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## Application process

Please send cover letter, CV and 3 references to [jobs@srigenewa.com](mailto:jobs@srigenewa.com) with subject line "**SRI Advocacy Advisor – Universal Periodic Review**" by close of business on **02 February 2018**

**Please also include where you heard about this opportunity in the body of your email.**

**The SRI encourages applications from individuals from the Global South and members of historically marginalized communities.**

Interviews will be conducted in early February and the position will commence as soon as possible thereafter.

We thank all applicants in advance;

**PLEASE NOTE: only those candidates invited for an interview will be contacted.**