

Senior Legal Researcher, Investment Law and Policy

The Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment ([CCSI](#)) is seeking a Senior Legal Researcher to support research, advisory work, and the organization and delivery of capacity building programs related to CCSI's work on [Investment Law & Policy](#).

This position will collaborate with CCSI's Director and Research Staff to execute the Center's applied research agenda on the laws, policies, and practices that shape international investment and its alignment with sustainable development and human rights.

Specifically, the Senior Researcher will contribute to CCSI's ongoing work to better understand how international investment governance affects sustainable development at global, national, and local levels, and how different investment treaty approaches can strengthen alignment between those instruments and broader economic, social, environmental, and governance objectives outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals, human rights law, and climate frameworks. While much of CCSI's work takes a global focus, certain programs or projects also involve and require expertise in specific regional or national frameworks and laws.

This position also supports CCSI's technical advisory work with select governments, inter-governmental organizations, and civil society organizations. The incumbent will contribute to ongoing projects, including through project and advisory work, desk research, stakeholder consultations, organizing and facilitating events and trainings, establishing and maintaining strong relationships with collaborators, and helping to develop materials for publications, among other possible activities. Requires a high degree of initiative and independent judgment.

Responsibilities include

Conducting literature reviews, gathering data, doing interviews, and conducting legal or policy analysis; mapping the institutional, policy, and stakeholder landscape relevant to specific Center initiatives and goals; collaborating with external leaders, practitioners, and scholars, including Government partners of CCSI; designing, organizing, and delivering research- and policy-based conferences, seminars, trainings, and workshops; providing technical and advisory services to partners, including Government and civil society partners; working on the various publications, databases, and other resources of the Center; writing papers, case studies, and reports on Center projects.

Requirements: Qualifications and experience

- Must have an in-depth understanding of legal, policy, and institutional instruments that govern international investment, as well as recent trends in investment treaty drafting and practice.
- Demonstrated knowledge of and interest in how international investment law interacts with sustainable development objectives, human rights law, and climate objectives.
- Substantial experience in research and advisory work, including in specific responsibilities outlined above, along with a track record of publications for diverse audiences (academic, practitioner, civil society, policymakers).

- Experience with securing funding for projects and liaising with donors.
- Ability to convey messages in English and (preferably) a second language in compelling, clear, and concise ways for the Center's diverse target audiences, both orally (e.g. through presentations, trainings) and in writing (through publications).
- Skilled at engaging in multi-stakeholder dialogues and debates with stakeholders who hold diverse viewpoints.
- A demonstrated and advanced ability to think analytically, strategically, and creatively. This position also requires willingness to take initiative and learn new areas, and to work in a highly interdisciplinary, flexible, and dynamic environment.
- Excellent organizational and project management skills, both for self and for diverse teams operating in multicultural settings.
- Excellent management skills developed through demonstrated experience with managing projects and people. Ability to reliably and capably manage projects from conception through to MEL stages, and ability to manage people in an effective, inclusive, and energizing manner.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, along with a clear commitment to an inclusive and collaborative working environment, and to mentoring.
- Experience with managing project projects and with narrative reporting.
- Knowledge of relevant software and willingness to learn and adapt to Center's systems.
- Fluency in English required and proficiency in French, Spanish or another second language strongly preferred. Applicants should indicate language fluency in their applications.
- Must be willing and able to travel within the US and overseas, in line with project commitments.

This position is based at Columbia University in New York. Full time remote work is not possible.

Please apply [at this link](#). Note that the link is for an open-rank position; your cover letter should indicate that you are applying for the position working on investment law and policy and speak to your qualifications from the above criteria. The deadline for applications is May 21, 2022, but applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.