

## THE KOONS FAMILY INSTITUTE ON INTERNATIONAL LAW & POLICY INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2015 - 2016

### *The International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC)*

*Making the world safer for children by eradicating child abduction, sexual abuse and exploitation.*

ICMEC is a private, nonprofit organization, working to make the world safer for children by eradicating child abduction, sexual abuse, and exploitation through advocacy, training, and collaboration. We strive to:

- ❖ **Train** and provide assistance for law enforcement, legal professionals, NGOs, and governments;
- ❖ **Conduct research** and develop reports, model laws and frameworks, and best practice guides on child sexual exploitation and missing children;
- ❖ **Advocate** for changes in laws, treaties, and systems to protect children worldwide;
- ❖ **Lead** global coalitions – Financial Coalition Against Child Pornography, Global Health Coalition, and Global Missing Children’s Network; and
- ❖ **Promote** the creation of national centers based on a public-private partnership model.

### General Internship Information

As the workload of ICMEC continues to grow and resources are stretched, the contributions of interns are extremely important. ICMEC interns who share the same belief in our goals help to make the success stories happen. ICMEC offers full-and part-time internships each academic semester. All students having completed at least two (2) years of undergraduate studies are eligible to apply. Successful applicants will be highly motivated students with excellent research skills and a passion for public interest work.

ICMEC’s internship opportunities are primarily focused on a variety of research projects. Descriptions of those projects are given below. The basic requirements to intern at ICMEC are:

- ❖ Be available to work 8 to 12 weeks, at least 15 hours per week, during the Fall, Spring, or Summer semesters;
- ❖ Undergo initial and periodic background checks;
- ❖ Have completed at least two years of undergraduate studies (or working toward a Master’s or Juris Doctorate degree, depending on position).

All internships are unpaid, though ICMEC does provide a partial reimbursement for public transportation/parking associated with commuting to and from work.

Internships may be granted academic credit (please refer to your school’s internship/externship requirements).

Intern candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, transcript, writing sample, Internship Application, and Background Check Form. The Internship Application is available on our website at [www.icmec.org](http://www.icmec.org). Once your application packet is received, you will be contacted to schedule an interview during which you will receive the Background Check Form.

For additional information, please contact Abbe Horswill at [ahorswill@icmec.org](mailto:ahorswill@icmec.org).

## **\*\*8<sup>th</sup> Edition – Child Pornography: Model Legislation and Global Review Update**

First released in 2006, this groundbreaking report analyzes the current child pornography legislation in 196 countries around the world, and offers a "menu" of concepts to be considered when drafting anti-child pornography legislation. ICMEC is currently working to update the 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Child Pornography Model Legislation and Global Review, which was released in early 2013. Research for the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition began in the summer of 2014 and the report is due to be released in late 2015.

Along with the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition legislative review, we are also doing research to see if countries are implementing existing legislation through a series of preventive and protective measures. It is anticipated that this information will be separately published as a supplement.

We are looking for 2-3 legal interns to:

- ❖ Complete the in-depth research on the existing child pornography legislation in the 196 countries;
- ❖ Collect, organize and catalog existing legislation (including data retention regulations);
- ❖ Gather evidence of implementation and enforcement of child pornography laws in countries that have enacted child pornography legislation; and
- ❖ Verify and track information submitted by foreign Embassies and other outside experts; and
- ❖ Assist with drafting and finalizing the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition report for publication.

## **\*\*Online Grooming of Children Research Project**

The grooming of children using the Internet and computer technologies is a growing problem worldwide and is interconnected with a variety of different forms of sexual exploitation of children. Child predators/offenders use the Internet as a means for building a relationship with a vulnerable child, persuading the child to share information, provide sexual images and video of themselves, and oftentimes to meet in-person. ICMEC is conducting a global review of existing laws to determine whether countries are addressing this issue and to make recommendations for the development of new laws.

We are currently seeking 2-3 interns to assist with the verification process for the Latin America/Caribbean region and to continue the research on legislative and policy mechanisms focusing on the online grooming of children primarily focused on the countries of Africa and Europe. Regional expertise or language skills from these regions are helpful, but not required.

## **\*Missing Children's Research Project**

To address the lack of international standards and guidelines on protecting children from going missing/being abducted, and on how to effectively and quickly respond when a child does go missing/is abducted, ICMEC is conducting in-depth research on legislation, best practices, and policies related to missing children to identify trends and common themes and highlight gaps in responses.

The research began in partnership with UNICEF by focusing on the seven Central American countries. The report on Central America was completed in late 2011 and we have now begun to look at countries in other regions. Reports on Southeast Asia, West Africa, and South America will be published in late 2015 and 2016. We are collecting existing resources, laws, practices, and policies through open source searches from NGOs and other organizations working on missing children issues. The end goal is a "Best Practice Guide" on creating and implementing a national structure for prevention, location, investigation, and prosecution of missing children's cases.

We are seeking 1-2 interns to assist research of legislation and policy on missing children, and writing and analysis of the information collected. We are very interested in individuals with interest or experience and/or language skills from the Caribbean, post-Soviet countries, Africa, Western Europe, and the Middle East/North Africa.

### Sex Offender Registration Research Project

ICMEC has undertaken global research to examine current law and policy regarding sex offender registration systems. The report will discuss the concept of registration, the components of a registry, why registration is important as well as why some disagree with registration, and more, in addition to a country-by-country review and recommendations highlighting the stark differences in how different nations approach such legislation.

ICMEC is conducting this research on 196 countries and at the completion of the research a Best Practices Guide on creating and implementing a national structure for registering, monitoring, and tracking of sex offenders will be published.

We are currently seeking 1-2 interns to continue this research looking at both legislative and policy mechanisms in Asia Pacific, Africa, and Europe.

### Internet-Facilitated Child Sex Trafficking Research Project

ICMEC is conducting a global review of existing legislation on the use of the Internet in the trafficking of children for sexual purposes. It is of growing concern that the Internet, and in particular social media and classified ad sites, is being used as a tool/medium for recruiting, advertising, selling, and buying sex with minors. While many countries have human trafficking laws in place, we are looking more closely to see if those laws address the use of the Internet in child sex trafficking. The end goal will be the creation of a model law on the issue including country assessments of the existing legislative tools.

We are currently seeking 2-3 interns to conduct this research looking at both legislative and policy mechanisms and help to verify completed research. We are particularly interested in individuals with regional expertise or language skills from Latin America, Asia Pacific, and Europe/Central Asia.