

If you have any inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact:

Therese Rytter
+45 60 10 88 10
tr@dignity.dk

Deadline:
15 February 2025

Legal consultant for the documentation of torture in Egypt and Myanmar and for international advocacy

1. Background

DIGNITY works with civil society organisations in Egypt and Myanmar with the aim of documenting torture and related human rights violations, of undertaking targeted advocacy vis-à-vis the UN human rights bodies to promote accountability. DIGNITY is also engaged in promoting prevention, justice and accountability for torture and wishes to strengthen its gender perspectives on the perpetration and judicial approaches to torture and other ill-treatment.

2. Objective of the assignment

- 2.1. Promoting changes to legislation, policy and practice at country level in Myanmar;
- 2.2. Facilitating deeper understandings of and strengthening skills in documenting torture and other ill-treatment for purposes of fact-finding and supporting accountability efforts in Myanmar, and Egypt; and
- 2.3. Influencing international norm-building concerning the state obligation to prevent and combat torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

2. Scope of work

3. Scope of work, including activities

3.1. Legal advice concerning human rights violations occurring in Myanmar in contexts of imprisonment.

3.1.1. Provide targeted legal advice and human rights analysis to DIGNITY partners' documentation of torture and other human rights violations, in the context of the coup and ongoing conflict in Myanmar.

3.1.2. Develop informed consent procedures and interview guides for qualitative and survivor-centred interviews with survivors of human rights abuses inside Myanmar.

3.1.3. Review anonymised transcripts of interviews with survivors of human rights abuses inside Myanmar and provide legal and human rights analysis to DIGNITY partners.

3.1.4. Facilitate a workshop with DIGNITY staff for local partners on undertaking human rights fact-finding and analysis.

3.1.5. Review and provide legal and human rights-based advice on the development of training and informational materials concerning torture prevention in prison for stakeholders in Myanmar's democracy and federalism movements.

3.1.6. Promote and contribute to the work of DIGNITY partners in international fora, including the United Nations Human Rights Council.

3.2. Documenting and establishing responsibility for gross human rights violations and international crimes in Egypt

3.2.1. Provide targeted legal advice and human rights analysis to DIGNITY partners' documentation of torture and other human rights violations occurring in the context of arrest, detention and imprisonment in Egypt.

3.2.2. Perform a review with concrete recommendations of DIGNITY partners' progress on building a dossier of case files for submission to international actors focusing on establishing responsibility for human rights violations and international crimes.

3.2.3. Promote and contribute to the work of DIGNITY partners in international fora, including the United Nations Human Rights Council.

3.3. Vernacular accountability in Egypt

3.3.1. Advise DIGNITY partner on data collection and analysis for a study exploring the unexpected and unintended effects of localized efforts to achieve accountability for human rights violations, including through a short history of accountability; a mapping of social actors engaged in responses to human rights abuses; an annotated list of terms used to refer to accountability-related concepts; a case study in which accountability for human rights abuses was at stake; and a list of possible courses for the future.

3.3.2. Promote the final product of the study where suitable including in symposia with subject-matter experts in academia.

3.4. International advocacy concerning the prevalence, prevention and accountability for torture

3.4.1. Identify relevant impactful opportunities for DIGNITY submissions within and surrounding the 58th and 59th sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Council and other relevant events.

3.4.2. Undertake legal research on the prevalence, prevention and accountability for torture and other cruel inhuman or degrading treatment in the context of the calls for input issued by UN Special Procedures Mandate Holders and other relevant stakeholders.

3.4.3. Draft, circulate for input, edit and finalize DIGNITY advocacy submissions to UN Special Procedures Mandate Holders and other relevant stakeholders.

3.5 Paper on gender perspectives on the perpetration and judicial approaches to torture and cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment

3.5.1. Finalize authoritative paper addressing the ways in which gender has, or has not, been a feature of judicial and quasi-judicial adjudications of torture, taking each element of torture in turn.

3.5.2. Collect input from relevant DIGNITY staff and partners on the above issue in the finalization process.

3.5.3. Promote the report across juridical, diplomatic, academic, and advocacy sectors.

3. Skills and qualifications of the consultant(s)

- A master's degree in law with a specialisation in international human rights law;
- Proficiency in international human rights law with knowledge of the fields relevant to the human rights and prevention of torture globally and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV);
- A minimum of 10 years of experience of professional work in the field of international human rights promotion and protection, including preventing torture and related human rights violations;
- Knowledge of the human rights and torture situation in Myanmar and Egypt would be an asset;
- Knowledge of the relevant procedures, strategies, inputs and advocacy activities relating to the drafting, negotiating and passage of a UN Human Rights Council resolution;
- Experience drafting formal language for resolutions in multilateral bodies and intergovernmental organizations, in particular with respect to torture and ill-treatment would be an asset;
- In-depth knowledge of legal standards concerning sexual and gender-based violence and proficiency in undertaking gender analysis of human rights violations, preferably with a particular focus on the gender aspects of torture and the nexus between torture and SGBV;
- A track-record of undertaking successful international human rights advocacy vis-à-vis the UN;
- Excellent analytical, legal drafting, training, networking and communication skills;
- Fluency in written and oral English is a prerequisite.

4. Deliverables and timeline

The consultancy is expected to amount 1,200 hours, which shall be delivered in the period from 1 March 2025 to 31 December 2024. The consultant is expected to produce the deliverables listed in the terms of reference at the indicated deadlines.

[See Terms of Reference her.](#)

5. Expressions of interest and Offers

Expressions of interest and offers, outlining your track record in the areas covered by the consultancy and submitting an offer containing an hourly rate indicating the expected consultancy fee, shall be sent to Therese Rytter, Director of the Prevention and Accountability department, DIGNITY, tr@dignity.dk

Please note that the consultancy will involve international travel and the consultant is required to draw up the necessary insurance as self-employed, at their own cost.

6. Deadline

Applications shall be submitted no later than 15 February 2025.