Legal Officer

Help us advance digital rights in Europe!

The Digital Freedom Fund works to advance digital rights through strategic litigation in Europe. We do this through grants that support the legal, advocacy, research, and other costs involved in litigation as well as through facilitating skill development and networking of organisations working on digital rights issues, among others. DFF co-drives a process towards decolonising the digital rights field, which informs all our work. The initiative focuses on the need to tackle how uneven power dynamics, exclusion, and systems of oppression play out in the current digital rights field, to increase our capacity to foster change for all.

As part of its work in facilitating skill development and networking, DFF organises several events, including an annual strategy meeting, litigation retreats, workshops, speaker series, and virtual meetings to collaboratively strategise on litigation across different digital rights issues.

We are looking for a Legal Officer to help us successfully carry out these activities, and to work with organisations working to protect digital rights to bring about change. The Legal Officer will work closely with the Legal Adviser, under supervision of the Director.

DFF’s team is based in various cities in Europe. Its office is in Berlin, where the Legal Officer will preferably be based (other locations can be considered).

Role description

The Legal Officer's time will be dedicated to DFF’s field support and knowledge building activities, including the following main tasks:

- Taking a lead in conceptualising, designing, and delivering trainings and other convenings on a range of digital rights issues and litigation tactics/strategies, including through the development of curricula, programmes, and agendas for such events;
- Leading DFF’s follow-up to trainings and other convenings to help ensure further support can be given to participants at the early stages of their case development;
- Assisting in the development of litigation strategies across different thematic issues with a view to them being utilised by DFF and its wider network in the planning of their work;
- Assisting in the development of litigation tools, resources and other materials for the digital rights field; assisting in the development of case ideas and providing other forms of substantive and strategy assistance to organisations and individuals in DFF’s network, including through the coordination of support from DFF’s pro bono network;
- Working with DFF’s Communications Lead and external consultants to develop communications strategies around DFF’s skill and network building activities (pre- and post-events);
- Assisting the Director and others in the design, writing and development of funding proposals and reports for DFF’s financial sustainability and resilience, including being in contact with funders;
- Writing about digital rights issues for DFF’s blog and other publications;
- Assisting with other legal tasks if and when necessary, such as supporting the development of DFF’s internal legal knowledge and facilitating knowledge sharing within DFF’s network (including through the tracking and documenting of legal developments and litigation activities relevant to digital rights in Europe), and supervising legal fellows;
- Representing DFF at various events.
Candidate profile

The successful candidate will be interested in and able to:

- Think strategically about how DFF can effectively carry out its projects and help create the processes to support it;
- Have good project management skills and will be able to manage multiple projects simultaneously alongside ongoing tasks and responsibilities;
- Work on projects or activities involving legal analysis, coupled with a passion to advance digital rights;
- Analyse complex legal issues and translate them in relatable terms to a non-legal audience, including by structuring and systematising information in an accessible way;
- Considerately navigate power dynamics, have a strong understanding of racial and social justice issues;
- Work independently and use their own initiative to progress projects, striking a balance between independent and team work;
- Structure and systematise information in an accessible way;
- Be willing to work remotely and self-support in terms of various administrative matters;
- Be fluent in written and spoken English;

The successful candidate will also:

- Critically reflect on their own work and implement feedback as a way to constantly evolve and improve;
- Have experience in working with people whose mother tongue is not English;
- Be excited to work on digital rights issues using an intersectional lens;
- Be motivated in working towards an anti-oppressive workplace;
- Have basic proficiency with common office software and utilities such as cloud servers, password managers, project management software and MS Office;
- Have a valid work permission in an EU country. Occasional international travel can be required.

Conditions

Salary: EUR 35,000 - 50,000 gross per year, depending on experience and based on full-time employment of 40 hours per week. DFF offers an attractive additional pension contribution and provides its employees with a laptop, and a contribution towards mobile phone expenditure. The initial employment term will be one year, with the possibility of renewal.

Deadline for applications is **12 June at 23:59:59 CET**. Interviews will be conducted in late June, and the preferred start date is in early September 2022.

How to apply

Please visit our recruitment portal to apply: [https://digitalfreedomfund.bamboohr.com/jobs/](https://digitalfreedomfund.bamboohr.com/jobs/)

In the recruitment portal, you should be prepared to supply the following:

- Your CV (2 pages max.)
- Two professional references that can attest to your competencies and compatibility with the Candidate Profile. References will not be contacted without prior approval.
- One sample of your previous work.
- Be ready to address the following questions:
  - What about supporting strategic litigation on digital rights interests you both personally and professionally?
  - What do you think are the key challenges to taking digital rights litigation, and what could organisations like DFF do to help litigators overcome these challenges?
  - What skills or knowledge do you believe you could contribute to the digital rights field, and what skills or knowledge would you most like to build through working with the field?

We specifically invite application from persons who, due to historical dynamics of exclusion, are under-represented either in legal professions and/or in the non-profit sector.

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[info@digitalfreedomfund.org](mailto:info@digitalfreedomfund.org)