



Irish Council for  
**Civil Liberties**



## **CONSULTANCY OPPORTUNITY: Drafting a Know Your Rights Guide for People seeking International Protection**

### Introduction:

The Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL) is an independent NGO that works to protect and promote human rights in Ireland. The Irish Refugee Council (IRC) advocates for people seeking international protection and for refugees in Ireland. Together we are seeking a paid consultant to draft a clear and accessible *Know Your Rights* guide for international protection applicants. The Guide will aim to explain rights within the protection process, under the EU Reception Directive, and the range of broader rights under the Irish Constitution and human rights law that apply to everyone in Ireland. This includes civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights such as the right to protest, freedom of expression, freedom of religion, the right not to be subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment, the right to education and the right to earn a livelihood.

The Guide will outline the current law in a clear and accessible manner to empower international protection applicants to both exercise and vindicate their rights.

The Guide will be the ninth guide in the series of *Know Your Rights* guides produced by ICCL.

**This project is funded by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission's Human Rights and Equality Grants Scheme 2020.**

### The Project:

#### *Outputs*

The Consultant will:

1. Undertake research to identify the range of rights international protection applicants are entitled to in Ireland.
2. Conduct focus groups with international protection applicants to identify particular gaps in knowledge and to ensure the guide meets specific needs for greater information.
3. Draft the contents of a clear and comprehensive guide to the rights international protection applicants are entitled to in Ireland, which will include information relating to access to justice such as relevant contacts and how to make complaints.
4. Assist with dissemination events and activities.

#### *Desk research*

A significant body of work has been conducted in recent years identifying the rights violations faced by international protection applicants in Irish society, both in terms of procedural challenges inherent in the reception and international protection systems, and also within the direct provision system. The consultant will gather this data and will collate and analyse research on wider human rights issues facing international protection applicants. The desk research will help to frame a set of issues for further exploration in the focus group phase.

### *Focus Groups*

Working with ICCL, the Irish Refugee Council and other civil society organisations with expertise in the area of asylum law, the Consultant will assist in facilitating focus groups with international protection applicants. The aim is to hold focus groups throughout the country and engage with as many international protection applicants as possible. Taking the viewpoints of international protection applicants as a starting point will ensure the project responds to real needs.

### *Drafting the Guide*

The consultant will build on existing materials such as UNHCR guidance on the Reception Directive 2018 and will expand on such materials to include the range of rights that apply to everyone in Ireland. A guiding principle in drafting the guide will be empowering all international protection applicants to claim their rights. Clarity of presentation is therefore key.

### Requirements:

The successful applicant will have:

#### *Necessary*

- i. In depth knowledge of protection law and experience working in the protection and immigration legal process.
- ii. In depth knowledge of human rights law and Irish constitutional law.
- iii. Demonstrable drafting skills.
- iv. Excellent communication skills.
- v. An academic qualification in law or related subject.

#### *Desirable*

- i. Experience drafting documents explaining rights.
- ii. Experience conducting focus groups.
- iii. Experience working in a human rights context.
- iv. Experience as an applicant in the Irish international protection system.

### Timescale – 11 months:

- Initial desk research to assess the range of rights applicable to international protection applicants. (Month 1)
- Focus Groups with international protection applicants to assess their knowledge of their rights and what areas should be explained in greater depth. Outcomes to be written up. (Month 2)
- Next phase of desk research to ensure the content of the Guide reflects the needs of international protection applicants and first draft. (Month 3 and 4)
- Distribution of first draft for feedback to relevant stakeholders including lawyers, NGOs and international protection applicants including further focus groups. (Month 5 and 6)
- Implementation of comments and feedback and final drafting. (Month 7 and 8)

- The Consultant may be required to assist with training seminars with protection applicants in Month 11 of the project.

The Consultant will be supported by staff from ICCL and IRC where necessary.

Fee:

€7,200 plus expenses related to the focus groups and seminars.

Contact:

For more information please contact [info@iccl.ie](mailto:info@iccl.ie)

Background reading:

ICCL Know Your Rights Guide on Protest (model of a Know Your Rights Guide)

<https://www.iccl.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Know-Your-Rights-Protest.pdf>

UNHCR Guide on Asylum Rights <https://help.unhcr.org/ireland/rights-and-duties/>

*ICCL and IRC are equal opportunity organisations.*

**Please submit applications to [info@iccl.ie](mailto:info@iccl.ie) with subject line 'Consultancy KYR Rights of International Protection Applicants' by 5:30pm, 5 October 2020.**