



JOIN OUR TEAM!

About Equal Legal Aid

Equal Legal Aid is a non-profit organisation based in Thessaloniki that provides pro bono legal information and representation to displaced people. Of all the daily challenges faced by asylum seekers and migrants living in Greece, legal aid is one of the most immediate and pressing. Northern Greece, in particular, faces a structural lack of legal aid. As the asylum procedure is extremely complex, this lack of legal aid is detrimental to the exercise of the right to asylum. In this context, our aim is to defend and promote the fundamental right to asylum in Greece and Europe. First and foremost, our organisation seeks to guarantee access to asylum for displaced people, especially those in precarious and marginalised situations.

By providing legal aid, our project has a twofold objective:

- Individually, we support asylum seekers throughout this difficult process by providing them with the best possible legal care and the tools to understand and actively participate in the process.
- Collectively, we address the root causes of the systemic decline of asylum in Europe by advancing the rights of asylum seekers in the courts through strategic litigation and advocacy at the European level.

About the role of volunteer lawyer

Equal Legal Aid works to fill the gap in the provision of legal assistance and representation in Northern Greece. Our diverse team of Greek and European lawyers and interpreters provides information, guidance, individual counselling and representation. We also use our experience to raise awareness of the situation of asylum seekers stranded at the EU's external borders and to promote structural change.

Working directly with and under the supervision of our coordinator, the volunteer lawyer will support key aspects of our legal work in Greece by:

- Participating in our outreach work by providing tailored legal advice to enquiries received on our hotline and during face-to-face information sessions;
- Assisting our team of lawyers during and for asylum interview preparations, researching countries' conditions and other relevant topics;
- Keeping up to date with relevant legal issues such as refugee and asylum law, Greek asylum procedures, European asylum law;
- Participate in advocacy tasks such as data collection, report writing or relief, and contribute to communication efforts.

Our operational flexibility is essential if we are to respond effectively to needs. This is reflected in the role's responsibilities, which may evolve over the course of the assignment.



From 1 September 2024



5 months commitment (min)



Thessaloniki, Greece

What we are looking for

A committed, independent and compassionate individual with a strong interest in human rights, particularly issues affecting people on the move:

- Able to commit to a minimum of 5 months, ideally 6 months or more;
- Holding a Master's degree(s) in Law as a firm prerequisite, preferably with a major on human rights and/or EU law and/or humanitarian law and/or aliens/asylum law. Any additional university degree/professional training would be an advantage. Being a licensed and practicing lawyer is not required but considered a strong asset for this volunteering position.
- Fluent in English, with excellent written and oral communication skills. Fluency or competence in another language (French, Greek, Arabic, Farsi/Dari) will be considered an asset;
- With strong professional ethics and the highest standards of work integrity.

Preference will be given to those who can demonstrate prior experience in asylum law or in providing legal services to disadvantaged communities and/or in Greece. Knowledge of the Greek refugee context is not required but would be an advantage.

The volunteering assignment is based in Thessaloniki and you must be eligible to reside and work in the EU/Greece.

We are committed to ensuring a diverse and inclusive workplace and encourage people from all backgrounds to apply.

What we offer

- Being part of a committed team of asylum law experts, determined to uphold the rights of displaced people and the rule of law;
- Training and development opportunities;
- Gaining in-depth knowledge of asylum procedures in Greece and asylum policy in general;
- Being involved in all aspects of case management, working autonomously on complex cases and benefitting from peer-to-peer support.

Equal Legal Aid provides a monthly stipend to cover daily expenses such as rent, food, transport. A laptop and smartphone are provided.

How to apply

If you are interested, please send a CV and a short motivation letter to contact@equallegalaid.org by **Friday 19 July COB**. Please indicate the period of your availability and give your consent to the storage of your personal data for recruitment purposes. In the subject line of your email, please include "*Application for volunteer lawyer + NAME*".

Please note that reference checks will be carried out as part of the recruitment process, as well as individual interviews in English.