How to start the application process:

- The application process has been split into 2 parts, the first part is a Web-based survey and the second part is an application form in word which can be downloaded, completed and returned by email. Both parts and all sections of the application form should be filled in for the application to be processed.

The **first part**, i.e. the [Web-based survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HRC25_SPmandateholders_EMRIPexperts) is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate/s applying for and nominating entity. **The web-based survey should only be completed once**, i.e. multiple selection allowed to indicate if the candidate is applying for more than one mandates.

This is the **second part, i.e.** of the application form in Word which can be downloaded, completed and saved in word format and then submitted as an attachment by email. Information provided in this form, includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words, will be used as received to prepare the public list of candidates who applied for each vacancy and will be made available to concerned parties, including through the OHCHR Internet.

Once completed the application form in Word should be submitted by email to [hrcemrip@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcsemrip@ohchr.org) and saved as YOURSURNAME\_Yourname\_doc (i.e SMITH\_John\_doc).

If the candidate is applying for more than one mandates, an application form needs to be completed and sent for each mandate.

* A maximum of 3 reference letters can be attached, in pdf format, to the application sent by email. No additional document is required.
* **Application Deadline: 21 November 2013 (midnight, GMT)**.
* Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.

If encountering technical difficulties, you may contact us by email: [hrcemrip@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcemrip@ohchr.org%20)  or fax: + 41 22 917 9011

**An acknowledgment will be sent when we receive both parts of the application process, i.e. the information through the web-based survey and the application form through email.**

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Family Name: XANTHAKI | Sex:  Male  Female |
| First Name: ALEXANDRA | Date of birth ( d-MMM-yy): 10-Jul-70 |
| Maiden name (if any): | Place of birth: ATHENS, GREECE |
| Middle name: N/A | Nationality(please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates): GREEK |
|  | Any other nationality: N/A |
| * Candidates to the **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP)**   Indigenous origin: | |

**II. MANDATE - SPECIFIC COMPETENCE/QUALIFICATION/KNOWLEDGE**

**NOTE: Please describe why the candidate’s competence/qualifications/knowledge is relevant in relation to the specific mandate:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| QUALIFICATIONS (200 words)  Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights; good communication skills (i.e. orally and in writing) in one of the official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.) | My qualifications and work are specifically on human rights and indigenous rights in international law, so I can truly contribute to the mandate of EMRIP to assist the Human Rights Council with thematic expertise in the form of studies and research-based advice on indigenous issues. After completing a law degree in Athens Law Faculty, I completed a Masters (LLM) in ‘Human Rights and Emergency Law’ at Queen’s University, Belfast. Then, I embarked on a PhD in Keele University, UK, on ‘the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the United Nations, Self-determination, Culture and Land’ under the supervision of Prof. Patrick Thornberry. The PhD was awarded in 2001 and argued through using UN instruments, indigenous statements and secondary sources, that the claims of indigenous peoples as put forward in the UN fora are in general in accordance with the existing standards of international law. Since the PhD I have been working in the academia on indigenous rights, while maintaining my links with the civil society. I am currently a Reader/ Associate Professor at Brunel University, UK. I have been publishing in English and teaching in English human rights, minority and indigenous rights; hence my oral and writing skills in English are very strong. |
| RELEVANT EXPERTISE (200 words)  Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles. (Please state how this was acquired).  Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the United Nations or other international or regional organizations’ work in the area of human rights. (Please state how this was acquired).  Proven work experience in the field of human rights. (Please state years of experience. | My knowledge of international human rights is both broad and deep. My LLM studies gave me a general overview of the human rights norms and systems and are continuously revisited and updated through my teaching. My research offers me in-depth understanding of the human rights norms in the minority and indigenous rights and the chance to consistently follow the relevant UN fora since 1996 and experience the application of these norms by United Nations working groups. I have regularly been attending the Working Group on Minorities; the Working Group on Indigenous Populations; the Working Group on the elaboration of the draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; the Forum on Minorities; and the EMRIP. In 2001 and 2004, I acted as a consultant to the UN SR on Indigenous Issues Rodolfo Stavenhagen, entrusted with producing reports to assist him complete his annual studies. In 2012, I co-organised with EMRIP an Expert Workshop on indigenous languages and cultures to help EMRIP draft a high-quality study. In 2007, I completed a study for ILO on indigenous representation. I belong to the Case Team of Minority Rights Group and have worked with several NGOs. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ESTABLISHED COMPETENCE (200 words)  Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired). | I am a leading authority internationally on indigenous rights. My professional career in the last 17 years revolves around identifying the gaps in international human rights on indigenous rights (after taking seriously into account indigenous views on the issues) and researching and producing thematic studies on these gaps; very similar to the mandate of EMRIP. My work has had impact beyond the academia: My monograph Indigenous Rights and UN Standards has become a reference work and is viewed as ‘a thoughtful, authoritative and elegantly written analysis’, ‘an important contribution’ and ‘impressive book’. My co-edited collection Reflections on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is also widely used and cited in the New Zealand Court of Appeal in Takamore v Clarke [2011], while my 2005 collection has been cited by the AfricanComHPR in the Endorois case (2010). Among my numerous publications on indigenous rights, two have been cited in EMRIP studies (UN Doc A/HRC/21/53 (2012) and A/HRC/24/50 (2013)). I am regularly invited to give keynote talks on indigenous rights; and was one of the lead drafters of the UNDRIP Commentary of the International Law Association in 2012 (cultural rights). |
| flexibility/readiness and AVAILABILITY of time (200 words)  to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its requirements, including participating in Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. (Indicate whether candidate can dedicate an estimated total of approx. three months per year to the work of a mandate) | As an academic working in the UK, I am free to perform research and consultancy around the world as long as this work does not interfere with my duties in the university. This role would be fully compatible with my work as a lead researcher. In addition, I teach around 100 hours per year and have to be at the university for other tasks, but I have some flexibility concerning the time these tasks will be performed. I can certainly devote 3 months in this role as it will be part of my role as a leading academic in my field. I hasve already been travelling extensively and have been attending various meetings, including United Nations for a, so I do not envisage any problem with performing my role if my application is successful. |

**III. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)**

**Please indicate all language skills**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Languages** | **Read** | | **Write** | | **Speak** | |
|  | **Easily** | **Not Easily** | **Easily** | **Not Easily** | **Easily** | **Not Easily** |
| **Arabic** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Chinese** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **English** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **French** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Russian** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Spanish** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Mother tongue:**  GREEK |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**IV. Motivation Letter (600 word limit)**

|  |
| --- |
| My main motivation for applying for this position is my conviction that, should I be successful, my experience and expertise will have a positive impact on the annual studies submitted by EMRIP to the Human Rights Council and hence, would assist tangibly the Human Rights Council to fulfil its role concerning indigenous peoples. My work in the last 17 years has been exactly on the theme of EMRIP and I am considered a world-renowned expert on indigenous rights in international law. My work has used the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a starting point to analyse the various gaps in the protection of indigenous peoples. In addition to a considerable body of publications, I have been teaching human rights, minority and indigenous rights and international organisations and I am regularly invited to give talks on various issues of indigenous rights and international law. I have links with NGOs on indigenous rights and civil society human rights organisations working on human rights. I am often asked to help draft and revise studies, reports and laws regarding indigenous rights internationally.  The academic ‘tint’ of EMRIP’s mandate also influences the qualities of the individual that will fill this position. Compared to the position of the UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Issues and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, EMRIP's mandate leans more toward academic work, as it is mainly about thematic studies. Although not an indigenous individual myself, my work and links have proven my respect for indigenous control of their rights and for their understandings. Although resolution 6/36 encourages due regard to be given to indigenous candidates, there is no requirement that this position be filled by an indigenous individual. I am of the firm belief that my deep knowledge of the mandate, my experience in the UN fora, my respect for the priorities indigenous peoples set for their own rights and my respect for the control of indigenous peoples over the matters that affect them; and finally my wide experience on drafting and researching, would all compliment well the indigenous composition of this body and would strengthen the work of EMRIP and ultimately that of the Human Rights Council.  Indeed, my participation in UN fora on minorities and indigenous peoples has made me very sensitive to the various issues arising in UN fora and has enabled me to become familiar with how such bodies overcome difficulties and make positive contributions to human rights. Further, should I be successful, this would not be the first time I would assist compile a UN report. During my consultancy with the UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Issues, I became familiar with the different stages of drafting, the choices that had to be made and the priorities that had to be set. Even more so, the UN Expert Workshop I organised in 2012 with EMRIP at Brunel university included indigenous representatives, NGOs and other academics. The workshop included some discussion on the drafting of the EMRIP annual study and revealed interesting challenges and lessons. It gave me an insight to the fantastic impact such studies may have to the improvement of indigenous peoples’ rights.  I am very committed and very excited about the possibility of being a member of EMRIP. It would give me enormous satisfaction if my skills and expertise were used to actually promote indigenous rights in the UN; and this opening is a fantastic such opportunity. I have the commitment and enthusiasm needed and the time and energy to really focus on the task and help produce high quality annual studies. |

**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

**NOTE: Please list the candidate’s academic qualifications: (university level and higher)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of degree and name of academic institution** | **Years of Attendance** | **Place and Country** |
| PhD in INDIGENOUS RIGHTS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW: SELF-DETERMINATION, CULTURE, LAND | 1995-2001 | KEELE UNIVERSITY, UNITED KINGDOM |
| MASTERS DEGREE (LLM) IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND EMERGENCY LAW | 1994-1995 | QUEENS UNIVERSITY, BELFAST, UNITED KINGDOM |
| LAW DEGREE | 1988-1994 | ATHENS LAW FACULTY, GREECE |
|  |  |  |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held, beginning with the most recent one:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Employer  Functional Title  Main functions of position | Years of Attendance/Work | Place and Country |
| LAW SCHOOL, BRUNEL UNIVERSITY, READER (ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR) AND RESEARCH DIRECTOR | 2010- CURRENTLY | LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM |
| LAW SCHOOL, BRUNEL UNIVERSITY, SENIOR LECTURER (ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR) AND DEPUTY HEAD  LECTURER | 2007-2010  2004- 2007 | LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM |
| LECTURER, LAW SCHOOL, LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY | 2001-2004 | LONDON,  UNITED KINGDOM |
| LECTURER, LAW SCHOOL, KEELE UNIVERSITY | 2000-2001 | LIVERPOOL, UK |

**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS (of Council Resolution 5/1)**

1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause him/her to limit the extent of their inquiries, to limit disclosure, or to weaken or slant findings in any way? If yes, please explain.

|  |
| --- |
| NO, I HAVE NO SUCH RELATIONSHIP. |

2. Are there any factors that could either directly or indirectly influence, pressure, threaten, or otherwise affect the candidate’s ability to act independently in discharging his/her mandate? If yes, please explain:

NO, THERE ARE NO SUCH FACTORS.

3. Is there any reason, currently or in that past, that could call into question the candidate’s moral authority and credibility or does the candidate hold any views or opinions that could prejudice the manner in which she/he discharges his mandate? If yes, please explain:

NO, THERE IS NO SUCH REASON.

4. Does the candidate comply with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the Annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1?

*Para. 44: The principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time shall be respected.*

*Para. 46: Individuals holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity which may give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate shall be excluded. Mandate-holders will act in their personal capacity*

YES, I COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE PROVISIONS AS I HOLD NO OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS POSITION, NOR A DECISION-MAKING POSITION IN GOVERNMENT.

5. Should the candidate be appointed as an expert, he/she will have to take measures to comply with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the Annex to Council resolution 5/1. In the event that the current occupation or activity, even if unpaid, of the candidate may give rise to a conflict of interest (e.g. if a candidate holds a decision-making position in Government) and/or there is an accumulation of human rights functions (e.g. as a member of another human rights mechanism at the international, regional or national level), necessary measures could include relinquishing positions, occupations or activities. If applicable, please indicate the measures the candidate will take.

NO, I WILL HAVE TO TAKE NO SUCH MEASURES.

You will receive an acknowledgment when we receive both parts of the application process, i.e. the information through the Web-based application and the Word application form by email.  
  
Thank you for your interest.