**How to apply:**

The entire application process consists of two parts: **1. online survey** and **2. application form in Word format**. Both parts and all sections of the application form need to be completed and received by the Secretariat before the expiration of the deadline.

**First part:** **Online survey** (<http://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/695691?lang=en>) is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate applying for and, if appropriate, nominating entity.

**Second part:** **Application form in Word** can be downloaded from http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/HRC33.aspx by clicking on the mandate. It should be fully 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. The application form should be completed in English only. It will be used as received to prepare the public list of candidates who applied for each vacancy and will also be posted as received on the OHCHR public website.

Once fully completed (including Section VII), the application form in Word should be submitted to [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org) (by email). A maximum of up to three reference letters (optional) can be attached in Word or pdf format to the email prior to the expiration of the deadline. No additional documents, such as CVs, resumes, or supplementary reference letters beyond the first three received will be accepted.

**Please note that for Working Group appointments, only citizens of States belonging to the specific regional group are eligible. Please refer to the list of United Nations regional groups of Member States at** [**http://www.un.org/depts/DGACM/RegionalGroups.shtml**](http://www.un.org/depts/DGACM/RegionalGroups.shtml)

* **Application deadline: 8 july 2016 (12 noon GREENWICH MEAN TIME / gMT)**
* **No incomplete or late applications will be accepted.**
* **Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.**

General description of the selection process is available at <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx>

In case of technical difficulties, or if encountering problems with accessing or completing the forms, you may contact the Secretariat by email at [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org) or fax at + 41 22 917 9008.

**You will receive an acknowledgment email when both parts of the application process, i.e. the data submitted through the online survey and the Word application form, have been received by email.**

**Thank you for your interest in the work of the Human Rights Council.**

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family name:** Jabbour | **6. Year of birth:** 1960 |
| **2. First name:** Suzanne | **7. Place of birth:** Ardeh, Zghorta, Lebanon |
| **3. Maiden name (if any):** | **8. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):** Lebanese |
| **4. Middle name:** | **9. Any other nationality:** No |
| **5. Sex:**  **Male**  **Female** |  |

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

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

1. **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 six official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)**

My involvement in the promotion and protection of the rights of torture victims and rights of children with special needs can be traced back to 1987 when i graduated from the Lebanese University with a Masters degree in clinical Psychology

Since then, I became an activist in support of vulnerable adults and children

I have founded several organizations for Mental health, children with learning difficulties and victims of Torture in Lebanon and currently serve as:

1. Executive Director of Restart Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence and Torture

2. Director of Fista School for Special Education

3. President of the International Rehabilitation council for Torture Victims (IRCT)

4. Vice Chairperson of the UN Subcommittee for the Prevention of Torture (UNSPT)

Being an engaged listener with assertive communication, i possess a deep recognition and understating of each person's concerns

Being an articulate communicator, i have developed an ability to convey complex messages and generate trust and confidence among a variety of audiences.

A genuine conversationalist, i have proficiently deepened connections to others including state and non-state actors, high-skilled experts and colleagues, as well as persons deprived of their liberty, observed during worldwide detention monitoring

An Arab mother-tongue speaker, i can fluently express myself in both written and oral English and french

1. **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.)**

During 26 years of professional experience in human rights-related issues, i have developed profound knowledge of the UNCAT, OPCAT, the Istanbul Protocol, Minimum standard rules, also known as Mandela rules, the UPR as well as the Bangkok rules which i apply as Chair of the IRCT and Vice president of the UNSPT

In my capacity as Executive Director of Restart center, i have led and managed numerous projects for the rehabilitation of torture survivors, including psychosocial intervention for prisoners and family members in Tripoli Prison, capacity building for law enforcement personnel and the protection of children affected by armed conflict in Lebanon.

As specialized clinician and President of FISTA, i hold a significant understanding of children’s rights and deep knowledge of the international framework related to children with special needs.

1. **ESTABLISHED** **COMPETENCE** (200 words)

**Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired.)**

An international expert in detention monitoring and on the promotion of the UNOPCAT. Starting in 2010 as SPT member, I conduct numerous monitoring visits to the OPCAT state parties at global level. The inspection visits include unrestricted access to all places of deprivation of liberty and all information relevant to the persons detained. Moreover, under the framework of the UN OPCAT, i provide assistance to the States Parties on the establishment of the National Preventive Mechanisms.

I am a well recognized key expert in the MENA region in lobbying and training on the UNCAT,OPCAT, Istanbul Protocol, Bangkok rules and Mandela Rules.

http://www.lbcgroup.tv/watch/28471/%D8%B3%D9%88%D8%B2%D8%A7%D9%86-%

An experienced trainer on Prisons Management, Human Rights Instruments targeting the Lebanese Internal Security Forces, General Security Forces, as well as the Lebanese army. In addition, I am engaged in developping tailored capacity building programs on the Code of Ethics and Dual loyalty for forensic doctors affiliated to the Lebanese Ministry of Justice. I have also drafted a unified protocol for medical centers in Lebanese prisons and created an innovative torture preventive mechanism to guarantee a comprehensive and independent medical screening to each person under investigation: the Forensic & Psychological Examination Unit in Tripoli Justice Palace, Lebanon.

1. **PUBLICATIONS OR PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

**Please listsignificant and relevant published books, articles, journals and reports that you have written or public statements, or pronouncements that you have made or events that you may have participated in relation to the mandate.**

* 1. **Enter three publications in relation to the mandate for which you are applying in the order of relevance:**

**1. Title of publication:**

**Journal/Publisher:**

**Date of publication:**

**Web link, if available:**

**2. Title of publication:**

**Journal/Publisher:**

**Date of publication:**

**Web link, if available:**

**3. Title of publication:**

**Journal/Publisher:**

**Date of publication:**

**Web link, if available:**

**If more than three publications, kindly summarize** (200 words):

* 1. **Enter three public statements or pronouncements made or events that you may have participated in relation to the mandate for which you are applying in the order of relevance:**

**1. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** North South Prize of the council of Europe at the Assembly of the Portugese republic in Lisbon.

**Event organizer:** the North South center of the council of europe (the European Center for Global interdependance and Soliudarity)

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** 12 June 2014

**Web link, if available:** https://www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/NSP/Speeches/Suzanne%20Jabbour%20Speech.pdf

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YlSc770GJzk

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igoQXdB9Rj0

**2. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** Public event during 41st session of the Board of Trustees of the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture“Redress and rehabilitation of victims of torture: an integral part of the fight against tortur

**Event organizer:** the United Nations Voluntary fund for Victims of Torture

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** 16 April 2015

**Web link, if available:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFMPl7c8qyg&feature=youtu.be

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/TortureFundMeeting.aspx

**3. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** Human Rights Day: Responding to Trauma:Human rights, capacity building, and lessons for the development sector

**Event organizer:** the Center for Victims of Torture, Washignton DC

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** December 10, 2015

**Web link, if available:** http://www.cvt.org/blog/healing-and-human-rights/taking-stock-and-looking-forward-reflections-path-project-and-syrian

**If more than three, kindly summarize** (200 words):Discussant on “Radicalization in prisons, the Lebanese context” during the CT MORSE Informal Consultation meeting on “Strategies and Programs to Reduce the Risk of Radicalization in Prisons”, in Brussels, July 2015

Discussant on “Introduction to the OPCAT and the role of the UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT)”, during the Expert roundtable titled “Implementing the Convention against Torture (CAT)”, sharing best practices and experience in preventing torture in police custody in the MENA in December 2015, Marrakesh. The regional workshop was organized by the Convention against Torture Initiative in Geneva, held in partnership with Wilton Park;

Discussant on “Providing assistance to victims of torture in emergency context” during the expert workshop held on the occasion of the 41st session of the board of trustees of the UN voluntary fund for victims of torture in 2015

Discussant on “Condition of the death row prisoners & the death row phenomenon in the MENA region” at the Expert seminar on “Moving Away from the Death Penalty” in the Middle East and North Africa region in Algeria, organized by the OHCHR, in cooperation the Algerian Consultation Commission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (CNCPPDN) in December 2014

In addition to numerous interventions worldwide.

1. **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.)**

Besides my responsibilities in Lebanon, the MENA region and with the IRCT, I have been an SPT member and vice president for the past six years. During my mandate at the UNSPT, i used to participate to the sessions in Geneva three times a year, in addition to the country visits held twice a year.

Being an innovative and adaptive self-starter with a relentless passion and dedication for the defense of human rights and eradication of torture practices, this opportunity represents for me the upright postion of my carrer.

Building on my professional expertise with international and national governmental and Non Governmental Organizations and as a dynamic Professional Collaborator consistently striving to build strong working relationships with all stakeholders and Highly responsive to tide deadlines, i have managed to skillfully complete my obligations and duties in all my occupations in a timely and exceptional manner.

Understanding all inherent functions and requirements intrinsic to this position, i am ready to commit to the mandate as Special Rapporteur on Torture with a highly professional, responsible and dedicated contribution

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

To whom it may concern,

Under the best auspices of a professional career dedicated with passion and ethics to the fight against torture, I am writing this letter to present my candidature for the mandate of United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture.

During twelve years, I have taken part and led field actions in promoting and protecting human rights focusing on victims within prisons and detention centers in the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. I became the Vice-presidentof the UN SPT and in 2012 the Chair of the Executive Committeeof the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), an organization with members from all regions of the world.

As you will be able to appreciate from my academic and professional background, I am a clinical psychologist by training, specialized in supporting survivors of torture, violence and war-related trauma. When observing a torture case I wear privileged lenses, which allow me to interview victims applying the principle of “do no harm”, in compliance with the Istanbul Protocol (IP). I am convinced that clinical knowledge is key for improving torture documentation towards the provision of legal evidence, in a context like the Syrian conflict where the right skills to document torture become paramount.

I am knowledgeable in strategy and mechanisms of the UN CAT and OP CAT and I have been fully active in advocating for the ratification of the Optional Protocol in the MENA, intervening before government and civil society at regional level.

Being a Middle Eastern woman who works on the issue of torture, I had to demonstrate through concrete actions that my professional mission is not to negotiate with unattended promises. I have a comprehensive experience of work in contexts that have tested my ability to remain independent and value respect for diversity. Thanks to extensive managerial positions, also developed as Executive Director of RESTART, I have succeeded in building a trustful relation with the diverse state and non-state actors, gaining the expertise to establish a positive and proactive dialogue with all counterparts. As a mixed result of an ongoing teamwork and intensive lobbying conducted during bilateral meetings, I was able to ideate and realize an innovative mechanism for torture prevention, through the independent Forensic and Psychological Examination Unit, created as a pilot in Tripoli Justice Palace.

I have been in direct contact with torture survivors, refugees and prisoners, working on prevention, accountability, monitoring, rehabilitation and redress. At its 20th Anniversary, my humble organization counts 17,649 new lives released from torture perpetrators, from those who are silent about torture and refuse to criminalize it. I think about all individuals who gained their chance to overcome the cruel ill-treatment, to regain control of their mind, and believe that ‘we are our mind’.

As a Lebanese activist, I learned very early that challenges are part of any worthwhile road, and I do believe that as part of a lucky minority in our bleeding country, in our bleeding region, in our bleeding world, I should contribute to the maximum extent possible to eradicate torture practices.

Time has come for women to be increasingly represented and if this candidature will give me the voice to break the silence on torture and to break with this inhuman, degrading stalemate, I will be more than happy to embrace the enormous responsibilities that come with it.

Thank You for reminding me that we should always be ambitious with ourselves. It would be an honor for me, to put my assets into a personal engagement, for such a distinguished role truly aligns with my inner vision: a future free of torture.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Jabbour

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

**Please indicate all language skills below.**

**1. Mother tongue:** **Arabic**

**2. Knowledge of the official languages of the United Nations:**

**Arabic:** Yes or no: **Yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily orNot easily: **Easily**  
**Write:** Easily or Not easily: **Easily  
Speak:** Easily or Not easily: **Easily**

**Chinese:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**English:** Yes or no: **Yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **Easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **Easily**

**French:** Yes or no: **Yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **Easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **Easily**

**Russian:** Yes or no: **NO** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**Spanish:** Yes or no: **NO** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**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**  (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2003): | **Place and country:** |
| Master’s degree in clinical Psychology  Lebanese University Faculty of education and human sciences | 1985-1987 | Lebanon |
| Psychology at the Lebanese University Faculty of education and human sciences | 1981-1985 | Lebanon |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**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 work** (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2005): | **Place and country:** |
| International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) | 2012-present | Copenhagen, Denmark |
| Vice Chairperson of the United Nations Subcommittee on prevention of torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT) | 2011-present | Geneva |
| Executive Director of Restart center for rehabilitation of victims of violence and Torture | 2005-present | lebanon |
| Director of FISTA Association for Special Education, | 1992-present | lebanon |

**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS   
(of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1)  
*To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on his/her behalf.***

**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.**

N0

**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

**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

**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

**5. Should the candidate be appointed as a mandate holder, 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.**

I am currently a member of the UNSPT but my mandate is scheduled to end in December 2016.

\*\*\*\*