**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** (<https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/858683>) 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/HRC37.aspx> by clicking on the mandate. It should be fully completed and saved in Word format and then submitted as an attachment by e-mail. Information provided in this form includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words. The same name, gender and nationality should be used both in the online survey and in the Word application form. 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 e-mail). A maximum of up to three reference letters (optional) can be attached in Word or pdf format to the e-mail 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>**

* **Application deadline: 23 January 2018 (12:00 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 e-mail at [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org) or fax at + 41 22 917 9008.

**You will receive an acknowledgment e-mail 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 e-mail.**  
**Thank you for your interest in the work of the Human Rights Council.**

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family (last) name:** DE FIGUEIREDO LOPES | **5. Year of birth: 1977** |
| **2. First (given) name:** LAIS | **6. Place of birth: SAO PAULO** |
| **3. Other name, if any:** VANESSA CARVALHO | **7. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):**   **BRAZILIAN** |
| **4. Gender: FEM** | **8. Any other nationality: -** |

**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.)**

Lawyer with expertise in the non-profit sector and human rights. Coordinated the political and technical participative process that tackled the reform of the national law that organised the interaction between civil society organizations and their partnerships with the public administration in Brazil, as Senior Special Advisor to the Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic, impacting more than 400.000 CSOs. Founder (2001) of one of the first law firms specialized in human rights and civil society in Brazil. Worked in several local, national and international organizations to strengthen CSOs legal arrangements supporting them to be more accountable, strategic and sustainable. Has extensive experience working with the UN System. Joined the *Ad Hoc Committee* for drafting the convention for the rights of people with disabilities. Wrote master's thesis on the human rights of people with disabilities. Professor in the master's program in Business Administration focusing on Civil Society Organizations - "Humans Rights and Public Policies" and "Law Applicable for Third Sector". Proficient in Portuguese (native language), English and Spanish.

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.)**

For the last 15 years, I have worked extensively in bridging gaps between CSOs and the public sector through building better legal frameworks to support CSOs work, teaching, serving the Federal Government, among other activities such as working directly with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CDPD). I participated in several sessions of the UN ad hoc committee to draft this convention in 2005 and 2006, also at the Conference of the States Parties in 2009 to 2011. I was the founder of the campaign "Signing Inclusion" for the process of ratification of the Convention. Master's degree also focused on the CDPD, with distinction. Represented the National Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Member of the Advisory Board and also the Board of Directors of the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL), having participated in several board meetings in different countries under different contexts, including an expert meeting with the currently Special Rapporteur. Senior civil servant at the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil. Role included leadership in the dialogue process to reform the legal framework of civil society organizations that lasted 5 years (2011 to 2016), guaranteeing freedom of association.

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

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

Attorney with expertise in the non-profit sector and human rights affairs. Representative of the National Bar Association at the National Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities from 2006 to 2011, supporting the ratification of the CDPD and the Optional Protocol in Brazil in 2007 and 2008. Served until 1st November 2016 as Senior Special Advisor to the Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic, as the key stakeholder leading the Brazilian legal reforms concerning civil society organizations, freedom of association and their relations with the public administration. Roles included working alongside the Government's staff, civil society organizations and others, seeking to identify and develop the most relevant guidelines to the agenda. Responsible to ensure that the new legal framework was consolidated in both Houses of the Congress, having participated in several high level meetings. National reference following their leadership in the process of reforming the legal framework for civil society and their relation with public administration.

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:** LOPES, Laís; SANTOS, B. C. (Org.); ROLNIK, I. (Org.). Marco Regulatório das Organizações da Sociedade Civil ‐ a construção da agenda no governo federal de 2011 a 2014.

**Journal/Publisher:** Brazilian Government / Imprensa Nacional

**Date of publication:** september of 2015

**Web link, if available:** http://www.participa.br/articles/public/0016/8824/04.12.15\_MROSC\_ArquivoCompleto\_Capa\_Miolo.pdf

**2. Title of publication:** LOPES, Laís Vanessa Carvalho de Figueirêdo; SANTOS, B. C. (Org.); BROCHARDT, V. (Org.). Entenda o MROSC: Marco Regulatório das Organizações da Sociedade Civil - Lei 13.019/2014.

**Journal/Publisher:** Brazilian Government / Imprensa Nacional

**Date of publication:** may of 2016

**Web link, if available:** http://www.participa.br/articles/public/0039/9448/LIVRETO\_MROSC\_WEB.pdf

**3. Title of publication:** LOPES, Laís de Figueirêdo. Nova concepção sobre pessoas com deficiência com base nos direitos humanos. In: Francisco J. Lima; Rita Mendonça. (Org.). A efetividade da Convenção sobre o

**Journal/Publisher:** Recife: Editora Universitária - UFPE

**Date of publication:** 2013

**Web link, if available:** http://educacaoinclusivaemfoco.com.br/a-efetividade-da-convencao-sobre-os-direitos-das-pessoas-om-deficiencia/

**If more than three publications, kindly summarize** (200 words):Co-authored several books on the third sector and human rights. Developed studies and papers on the legislation of civil society organizations. For more informations http://buscatextual.cnpq.br/buscatextual/visualizacv.do?id=K4737731Y0

* 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:** Global Forum on Civil Society Law 2015

**Event organizer:**  International Center for Not for Profit Law (ICNL)

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** may of 2015

**Web link, if available:** http://www.icnl.org/globalforum2015/

**2. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** II International Seminar on the New Legal Framework for Civil Society Organizations

**Event organizer:** Government Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** may of 2014

**Web link, if available:** http://www.participa.br/osc/conteudo-capa/agenda-internacional

**3. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** Ninth ISTR Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean

**Event organizer:**  ISTR - International Society for Third Sector

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** august of 2013

**Web link, if available:** http://istrchile2013.blogspot.com/

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 (HRC) sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. Kindly indicate whether the candidate can dedicate an estimated total of approximately three months per year to the work of a mandate.**

I am willing and available to take part in all of the required activities all over the world. I can dedicate the estimated time to this role and commit myself to organizing my time and duties in order to be able to attend the sessions of the General Assembly and Human Rights Council, besides other responsibilities that I may hold. I have highly recognised mediator skills, the ability to listen and to understand the demands of civil society organizations, the concerns of public servants and controlled bodies in order to propose and work towards conciliatory solutions to preserve the autonomy of organizations while ensuring public interest and would be keen to put those abilities in practices during all the activities that involve the role of being a Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

**Please note that the work of mandate holders is unpaid. Those appointed as mandate holders serve in their personal capacities. They are not United Nations staff members, they are not based in United Nations offices in Geneva or at another United Nations location, and they do not receive salary or other financial compensation, except for travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance of “experts on mission”.**

**III. Motivation Letter** (600 word limit, must be included below and not in a separate e-mail or as an attachment)

Oxford, 22th January 2018

I am honored to submit this application for the mandate of the United Nation's Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.

Throughout my career, I have always been committed to Human Rights, their institutions, and to civil society strengthening. I strongly believe that the rights of citizens to gather peacefully in assembly and to associate directly influence the exercise of other fundamental rights. While organized, citizens become able to promote qualified dialogues, participate in public life and influence public debates. An active and engaged civil society contributes to more dynamic societies and, therefore, help to contribute to stronger democracies.

For the past 15 years, I have held leadership positions engaging civil society and advocating for social justice as lawyer, academic, activist and also holding key positions at the Brazilian Federal Government. These experiences allowed me to deepen my knowledge in designing, implementing, monitoring and assessing the exercise of rights, laws and policies. I have also attended a wide range of international events that helped me build a solid network with CSO, practitioners and academics that work in the field.

From 2011 to 2016, I have served as Senior Special Advisor to the Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil, where I led the political and technical participative processes that tackled the reform of the national law that organised the interaction between civil society organizations and their partnerships with the public administration. Inspired by the best international practices, I have worked alongside multi-level governments and legislators in permanent dialogue with civil society organizations, Human Rights activists, social movements and academics, seeking to identify and develop guidelines to produce knowledge and legal improvements for the nonprofit sector. It was an intensively participative process that lasted 5 years where governments, CSOs and legislators, where I could coordinate, from the Brazilian Federal Government, endeavours that resulted in the approval of a new legal framework - Brazilian National Law n. 13.019 of 2014 - that established new forms of interactions between Brazilian CSOs and the public sector.

I also had the opportunity to join the debates at the *Ad Hoc* Committee for the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the United Nations Sixth (2005), 7th (2006) and 8th sessions (2006), as one of the Brazilian Civil Society representatives to the Committee.

From 2006 to 2011, I acted as the representative of the Brazilian Bar Association at the National Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities where I remained deeply engaged to the international movement to monitor the Convention and the Optional Protocol.

In 2009, I obtained a Master's degree in Human Rights, from the São Paulo Catholic University, focusing on the rights of Persons with Disabilities. I still put efforts in bridging gaps between academia and human rights/civil society convening courses about human rights, public policies and the role of civil society for graduates in Business Administration.

While aware of the challenges Civil Societies face to have their rights recognized world wide, I intend to work hard in bridging gaps between the United Nations System and the civil society organisations and to foster international dialogue seeking the advancement of international human rights.

I strongly believe that my life commitment to the implementation and safeguard of the freedom of association and assembly, alongside a solid experience in both national and international level in the field, will allow me to exercise the role of Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association with dedication, independence and impartiality.

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

**Please indicate all language skills below.**

**1. Mother tongue: Portuguese**

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

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

**Read:** Easily orNot easily:        
**Write:** Easily or Not easily:       
**Speak:** Easily or Not 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:  **NO** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily:        
**Write:** Easily or not easily:       
**Speak:** Easily or not 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:   **YES** If yes,

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

**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

**NOTE: Please list the candidate’s academic qualifications (university level and higher, indicating type of degree, subject, and whether full or part-time, ex. *Masters in law, University of xxx, part-time)*.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of degree and name of academic institution, full or part-time:** | **Years of attendance**  (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2003): | **Place and country:** |
| Doctoral Programme in Public Law  PHD in Public Law  Welfare State, Constitution and Poverty  Thesis: Public Funding of CSOs as a dimension of freedom of association (under construction)  University of Coimbra  Part time | 2016-2020 (estimated) | Coimbra, Portugal |
| Master degree in Law - Human Rights  Dissertation: Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Optional Protocol and Accessibility  Catholic University of São Paulo, Law School | 2005-2008 | São Paulo, Brazil |
| Specialist on Public Policies  Final work: Report - Parliamentary Enquiry Comission on the National Health Service (CPI DO SUS)  http://www.escoladegoverno.org.br/biblioteca/traducoes/556-formationgovernors  Government School of São Paulo | 2002 | São Paulo, Brazil |
| Bachelor in Law  Catholic University of São Paulo, Law School | 1996-2000 | São Paulo, Brazil |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held in the area of human rights, beginning with your current occupation.** **Also indicate whether positions held were not full-time.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of employer,**  **functional title,**  **main functions of position, full or part-time:** | **Years of work** (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2005): | **Place and country:** |
| Partner at Szazi, Bechara, Storto, Rosa e Figueirêdo Lopes Advogados  SBSA is a brazilian law firm specialized in non-profit and public law that provide legal advise to national and international civil society organizations acting in various fields (such as advocacy, environment, culture, health, education, disability, sports) as well as to business and public bodies, including technical and strategic support for implementing projects, designing programs and policies and strenghtening advocacy initiatives. The work is inspired by the belief that civil society organizations have the power to foster social change. As a lawyer, I also work with in researching, training and producing knowledge in the field of third sector law, human rights and public policy.  Part-time.  For more information: [www.sbsa.com.br](http://www.sbsa.com.br). | 2017 - … | Sao Paulo, SP Brazil |
| Secretary-General of the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil Special Adviser to the Minister - I have been working since 2011 as a special adviser to the Minister Chief of the Secretary-General of the Presidency of Brazil, coordinating a project to reform Brazilian laws and regulations concerning civil society organizations and their relations to the government. Duties involved coordinating civic engagement with various professionals in the Federal, State and Municipal governments, political parties, think tanks, civil society organizations, academics, the media, trade unions and the private sector to develop the new Legal Framework for Civil Society Organisations in Brazil (Law 13.019, 2014 and Decree 8.726, 2016). Additional responsibilities encompassed institutional representation of the presidency in both, national and international levels including the coordination of staff (7 public servers and 20 consultancy’s UNDP and UNESCO), technical papers, briefings, press releases, books and presentations that matters with the process. The new law is innovative as it contributes to the decriminalization of CSOs; it also values and encourages social participation and opens a path for the modernization of the State. Among the changes brought by the new regulatory framework is the obligation for the public administration to hold public calls for the establishment of partnerships with CSOs. This will enable greater transparency in the use of public funds and will be a way to broaden the possibilities of access for CSOs to these resources. The call will also enable smaller organizations, with little experience, to form CSOs networks for the consecution of partnerships with the public administration. The English version of the new law can be find here <http://www.participa.br/articles/public/0028/8040/Lei_13.019_-_INGL_S_-.pdf> | 2011-2016 | Brasília DF, Brazil |
| International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) Member of the Board of Directors - In such capacity, I participated in several board meetings, being part of the decision process on programs and projetcs of the organization in different countries and contexts. ICNL seeks a legal environment that strengthens civil society, advances the freedoms of association and assembly, fosters philanthropy, and enables public participation around the world. For more informations: <http://www.icnl.org/> | 2011-2014 | Washington DC, US |
| National Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - Secretariat for Human Rights of the Presidency of the Republic of Brazil Counsellor representing the Brazilian Bar Association  I was Counsellor representing the Brazilian Bar Association at the National Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Conselho Nacional dos Direitos da Pessoa com Deficiência – CONADE). To promote the political rights of persons with disabilities, the National Council, a component body of the Secretariat for Human Rights of the President of the Republic, is a high-level decision-making body designed to monitor and evaluate the development of national policies for the inclusion of persons with disabilities as well as sector-specific educational, health, labor, social assistance, tax, transport, culture, tourism, sport, leisure and urban policies directed at the segment. CONADE has made adjustments in its bylaws to allow it to participate in the fulfilment of monitoring obligations under the Convention. It should be noted, though, that CONADE’s membership consists of representatives of both government and civil society institutions. Its collegiate composition has five commissions and I was elected to be coordinator of the Law Commission, being part of the presidency of this participatory body that has 38 members. In such capacity, I was responsible for legal opinions. | 2006-2011 | Brasília DF, Brazil |
| Partner at Figueirêdo Lopes, Golfieri, Storto e Reicher Advogados  Over ten years as an attorney, who has long been focusing on human rights and nonprofit sector, I was a former partner in a law firm based in São Paulo, reference in providing specialized legal services to civil society organizations in Brazil and Latin America. I was deeply involved in managing the business and preparing technical and academic contents for the nonprofit organizations and for the improvement of the regulatory framework of civil society in order to ensure freedom of initiative of the private sector in all areas of public interest. The legal advice that I provided to these entities was guided by the understanding of the organization as a whole and aims at structuring and improving the governance and functioning of the organization as well as its relations with employees, beneficiaries, customers, suppliers, public agencies and investors. In our role, we provided services in different areas of Law, from corporate governance to preventive advice in, tax, civil and administrative matters, also including legal representation at Court for the defense of our client’s interests. Our proactive and problem‐solving approach in providing the best technical advice and most innovative solutions on matters affecting tax exemptions and incentives enabled me to meet clients’ demanding needs for tax assistance. I have in‐depth experience in defending client’s best interests in all types of proceedings and disputes with tax authorities regarding tax exemptions ensured by our Constitution and laws to civil society organizations. I also advised clients on how to financially optimize the tax incentives of their donors, and their own. | 2001-2011 | Sao Paulo, SP Brazil |

**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 the candidate’s behalf.***

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

**No**

**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 the mandate? If yes, please explain:**

**No**

**3. Is there any reason, currently or in the 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 the candidate discharges the 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? (Please answer YES if the candidate complies, NO if the candidate does not comply, together with an explanation.)**

***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, the candidate 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.**

**VIII. CERTIFY AND SUBMIT APPLICATION**  
***To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on the candidate’s behalf.***

**I hereby certify that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete and are made in good faith. I understand that falsifying or intentionally withholding information will be grounds for not being selected or appointed or the withdrawal of any proposed appointment or, if an appointment has been made and accepted, for its immediate cancellation or termination.**  
  
**Kindly note that whilst no changes can be made after this application form has been submitted and the deadline for applications has expired, any relevant change of current occupation, employment, or position, or any other relevant fact or circumstance should be brought to the attention of the secretariat by**   
**e-mail ([hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)).**

**Please review your application before you insert your name and date to indicate your agreement.**

**Name:**     **Lais de Figueiredo Lopes**

**Date:**      **January, 22th, 2018**

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