***APPLICATION DEADLINE: 15 APRIL 2020 AT 12:00 noon GREENWICH MEAN TIME***

* *The application process consists of two compulsory parts:****(1) online survey[[1]](#footnote-1)*** *(*[*https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/937632*](https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/937632)

*and****(2) application form in Word format[[2]](#footnote-2)*** *(to be downloaded from* [*https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/HRC44.aspx*](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/HRC44.aspx)*)*

* *Once fully completed, the Word application form should be submitted by email to* [*hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org*](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)
* *A maximum of up to three optional reference letters may be attached to the email (in Word or PDF format).*
* *No additional documents (e.g. CVs, resumes or supplementary reference letters) will be accepted.*
* *Applicants 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 the Secretariat. Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.*
* *Please note that an application will only be considered if both parts and all sections of the Word application form have been completed and received by the Secretariat before the expiration of the deadline.* ***No incomplete or late applications will be accepted.***
* *General description of the selection process and answers to frequently asked questions are available at* [*https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx*](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx) *and* [*https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/BasicInformationSelectionIndependentExperts.aspx*](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/BasicInformationSelectionIndependentExperts.aspx)
* *In case of technical difficulties or problems with accessing or completing the forms, you may contact the Secretariat by email (*[*hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org*](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)*) or fax (+41 22 917 9008).*

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family (last) name:** Pojman | **5. Year of birth:** 1964 |
| **2. First (given) name:** Ruth Freedom | **6. Place of birth:** New York City, NY, USA |
| **3. Other name, if any:** | **7. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):** U.S. |
| **4. Gender:** Female | **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.)**

I have dedicated my life to addressing human rights issues, and have worked on preventing and combating human trafficking for over two decades. I have a masters degree in International Relations, with a minor in international communications, and have continued to take academic and training courses over my career to hone my knowledge and skills. I have a strong background in communications, inter alia through having worked as a public information officer for UNHCR, in media relations in the private sector, and as the editor of a journal. I have been invited to speak on human trafficking, human rights and other related issues at over well over 100 events around the world. I speak four languages, including three UN languages, English, French and Russian, and I have also studied Mandarin Chinese and Spanish. My communication skills and language ability have allowed me to speak directly to human rights activists and trafficking victims in civil society and in shelters in many countries which I have visited.

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.)**

I am conversant with international human rights instruments, norms, and principles, having studied international relations, including international public law. My substantial knowledge of international mandates related to the UN and other international organizations was gained through my work for IOM, OSCE, UNHCR and as a partner to other international and regional organizations on human rights, economic and social issues. I have participated in deliberations and negotiations on instruments, legislation and policies at both the international and national levels, e.g. I advised a government on the adoption of the Palmermo Protocol, and was a delegate to the International Labour Conference in 2014, where the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention 1930 was adopted, which covers human trafficking. I helped governments negotiate a number of political commitments, such as the Addendum to the 2013 OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: One Decade Later. I have proven experience working in the field of human rights, including 22 years of working on anti-trafficking.

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

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

My competence on the issues at hand has been established during over two decades of work on preventing and combating trafficking in persons, through an evidence-based and results-focused strategic approach to antitrafficking linking research to policy and practice. For example, in my last post, I led efforts to develop guidance and a model law for government measures to prevent human trafficking through transparency in supply chains for goods and services, promoting responsible labor recruitment, and focused in particular on public procurement, bringing together government officials responsible for public procurement and human trafficking for the first time. I also worked with colleagues to ensure that my own organization undertook due diligence, and am proud that the OSCE was the first multilateral organization to have committed to strengthen its internal regulations and personnel policies to prevent human trafficking in its own supply chains. I am an internationally recognized advocate and expert on trafficking in persons, and have been invited to serve on several advisory boards and councils as well as to become a member of various initiatives.

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:** Report of the OSCE Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings following the visits to the Republic Kazakhstan

**Journal/Publisher:** OSCE

**Date of publication:** 2014

**Web link, if available:** https://www.osce.org/secretariat/254281?download=true

**2. Title of publication:** ICAT Toolkit for guidance in designing and evaluating counter-trafficking programmes: Harnessing accumulated knowledge to respond to trafficking in persons

**Journal/Publisher:** UN ICAT-UNODC

**Date of publication:** 2016

**Web link, if available:** http://icat.network/sites/default/files/publications/documents/16-10273\_ICAT\_toolkit.pdf

**3. Title of publication:** ETI Blog, Why is public procurement so critical in the fight to end modern slavery, forced labour and human trafficking?

**Journal/Publisher:** ETI

**Date of publication:** 2019

**Web link, if available:**  https://www.ethicaltrade.org/blog/why-public-procurement-so-critical-fight-to-end-modern-slavery-forced-labour-and-human

**If more than three publications, kindly summarize** (200 words):Over the years I have authored, contributed to and/or directed 30 articles, research studies, surveys on anti-trafficking and human rights. In addition I have contributed to or made country visits. Please finds some illustrative examples, including my first research study on TIP:

Trafficking in Women and Children from the Kyrgyz Republic, IOM, 2000 https://childhub.org/en/system/tdf/library/attachments/iom\_2000\_trafficking\_kyrgy.pdf?file=1&type=node&id=16318

Examining the Intersection Between Trafficking in Persons and Domestic Violence, USAID, 2007 https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\_docs/PNADL005.pdf

Best Practices for Programming to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in Europe and Eurasia, 2007, https://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=472933

Statement on visit to Canada

https://www.osce.org/secretariat/125716

OSCE Press Release on follow up visit to BiH

https://www.osce.org/secretariat/116246

White Paper, Human Rights Mitigation in the Sports Context, IHRB, 2017 https://www.ihrb.org/uploads/reports/MSE\_Platform%2C\_Human\_Rights\_Risk\_Mitigation\_in\_the\_Sports\_Context%2C\_Jan\_2017.pdf

Summary of Learning from the Evaluation of the OSCE Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in human Beings, 2014

https://www.osce.org/secretariat/211146?download=true

* 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:**

**Event organizer:**

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Web link, if available:**

**2. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Event organizer:**

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Web link, if available:**

**3. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Event organizer:**

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Web link, if available:**

**If more than three, kindly summarize** (200 words):I have made statements and/or presented on human trafficking and human rights issues at over 100 events around the world, examples of such include:

Consultation of the UN Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Ms. Joy Ngozi Ezeilo on “the role of regional and sub-regional mechanisms in international efforts to counter trafficking in persons, especially in women and children” October 2010, Dakar, Senegal https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Trafficking/Dakar\_agenda\_en.pdf

Hearing at the Brazilian Senate Human Rights Committee, Brasilia, Brazil, July 2019 https://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2019/07/01/escravidao-contemporanea-sera-tema-de-debate-na-comissao-de-direitos-humanos and

http://www.diap.org.br/index.php/noticias/noticias/28945-governo-tem-3-semanas-para-aprovar-previdencia-na-comissao

Statement at the Alliance 8.7 meeting on the margins of the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, special session on Regional Initiatives, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2017

https://www.alliance87.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/GCG-Meeting-Report\_FINAL-27-01-18.pdf

Spoke at UNITAR Workshop on Trafficking in Persons, United Nations, NYC, as part of series leading up to High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, and the development of the UN Global Plan of Action, October 2005

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.**

**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”.**

I am an independent expert who has flexibility in her work. I appreciate the commitments involved, and if appointed, I would dedicate the necessary time per year to the work of the mandate, to ensure that the mandate is further enhanced and strengthened.

1. **NOMINATION FOR THE MANDATE**

**Indicate whether you have been nominated by (check all that apply):**

**Individual nominations (indicate this if you are self-nominating)**

**Governments**

**Regional Groups operating within the United Nations human rights systems**

**International organizations or their offices**

**Non-governmental organizations**

**National human rights institutions**

**Other human rights bodies**

**Name of the nominating entity and additional information about the nomination (use if applicable, for third-party nominations only)** (200 words)**:**

**III. Motivation Letter**(600 word limit. Must be included in the space below and not in a separate email or as an attachment. To be drafted and signed by the candidate himself/herself even if nominated by another entity.)

Dear Members of the Consultative Committee,

My interest in this meaningful position, the mandate holder of UN Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, derives from my deep dedication to advance fundamental freedoms over two decades of diplomatic and international work in 60 countries. My combination of experience, expertise and skills, includes strategic and political work, advocating for and engaging on relevant policy areas. I have first-hand knowledge of anti-trafficking from governmental, multilateral, non-governmental, field and headquarter perspectives. I have an unusual depth of understanding for this complex crime and human rights issue that is multi-dimensional and characterized by legal complexity under both domestic and international law.

As a critical thinker and problem solver, I have consistently worked to connect the strategic level to practical ideas about how to accomplish more tangible impacts, to be even more effective in working towards our common cause. I have a nuanced understanding of the challenges in international cooperation to combat all forms of human trafficking, and am adept at negotiating in cross cultural and multilateral environments to maintain a dialogue between all relevant actors, from States to frontline civil society actors and the private sector, to exchange promising practices and lessons learned, to find ways to build political leverage and a balanced approach since it is crucial to address this complex issue together which tragically affects all parts of our earth.

Political will is still sorely lacking especially when it comes to admitting the problems that are hiding in plain sight, “walking the walk” and committing the level of resources needed to develop evidence-based policy change, to actually implement international and national laws, policies, plans and partnerships. It is all the more important to endeavor to address anti-trafficking comprehensively through linking and mainstreaming the issue into related international development and policy areas, such as gender, human rights, good governance, conflict and security, socio-economic issues, labour, migration, and international development. Each of us, whatever our role, needs to work together to face the challenges head on, and to prevent this profitable crime and human rights abuse from occurring in the first place

Anti-trafficking needs to keep apace with the dynamic global developments, such as conflicts, the migration crisis, and the current COVID-19 pandemic, which increase the number of persons vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Over the years I have been honored to visit victim service providers and shelters in many countries, and have first-hand experience working directly with trafficked persons. Survivor alliances able to advise on anti-trafficking policy is more important than ever, as we must ensure that the voices of those most affected are heard and heeded, especially women and girls who constitute 72% of detected victims globally.

As a person dedicated to contributing to a better world for our children, being tasked at birth to fight for Freedom for those who cannot fight for themselves, it would be an honor to serve as a UN Special Rapporteur. If successful. I would work closely with you to further strengthen advocacy and to mobilize partnerships, to effectively address the root causes and factors of human trafficking, as well as to empower and support key stakeholders to do their work, and to restore dignity to trafficked persons.

I believe that the work of the UN is critical today to address the causes and consequences of human trafficking, including the linkages to other human rights abuses, to ensure that all its manifestations are no longer “the way things are”. I wish you all the best in your crucial work to uphold human rights globally. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

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

**Please indicate all language skills below.**

**1. Mother tongue:** **English**

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

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

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

**Chinese:** Yes or 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: **yes  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **yes  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **yes**

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

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **yes  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **no  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **yes**

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

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **yes  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **no  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **yes**

**Spanish:** Yes or 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, indicating the type of degree and field of study, and whether full- or part-time; for example, *Masters in Law, 1975-1977, University of XXX, part-time)*. If space in the table is insufficient, you may list more than one degree in a single row below, separating them by a blank line.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **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:** |
| Certificate in Anti-corruption, International Anti-Corruption Academy | 2012 | Laxenburg, Austria |
| Certificate in Documentary Film, George Washington University | 2006 | Washington, D.C. |
| M.A. International Relations | 1995 | Washington, D.C. |
| Certificate, International Public Law, Moscow State University | 1990 | Moscow, USSR |
| B.A. History, Minors in French and Russian literature | 1988 | Oxford, Mississippi |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held in the area of human rights, beginning with your current (most recent) occupation.** **Also indicate whether positions held were full-time or part-time. If space in the table is insufficient, you may list more than one position in a single row below, separating them by a blank line.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **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:** |
| Independent expert, consulting for and advising agencies and organizations such as ETI, GFEMS, GlobSec, GRI, the OECD, OSCE, RUSI, USIP, and Winrock International, and I am currently working on a global guide on on the economic reintegration of victims of modern slavery through access to skills development services for the ILO. | 2018-2020 | Vienna |
| OSCE, Deputy Coordinator and Senior Advisor, also served as Acting Coordinator over several months | 2008-2018 | Vienna, Austria |
| USAID, Senior Anti-trafficking and Gender Adviser | 2002-2008 | Washington, D.C. USA |
| IOM, Chief Programme Specialist | 1997-2001 | Bishkek |
| UNHCR, Public Information Officer | 1996-1997 | Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan |
| Consultant for Mobil Oil in Media Relations and for UNDP on the Report on the State of Women in Kazakhstan for the 4th UN World Conference on Women in -Beijing | 1995-1996 | Almaty, Kazakhstan |
| World Learning, Program and Information Officer | 1994-1995 | Moscow, Russia |

**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.**

At present not applicable, but if I were appointed and such would arise, I would relinquish any activity deemed as conflicting with the mandate

**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   
email (**[**hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org**](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)**).**

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

**Name:** , Ruth Freedom Pojman

**Date:** April 22, 2020

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1. The short **online survey** 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. The same name, gender and nationality must be used both in the online survey and in the Word application form. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The **application form in Word format** includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words (section III of the form). The application form should be completed in English only. It will be used as received to prepare the public list of eligible candidates who applied for the vacancy. The application forms of eligible candidates will also be posted as received on the OHCHR public web page for the selection process. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)