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## Senior Legal Associate at the UNHCR Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein in Berne

The UNHCR Office in Berne is the UNHCR representation in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. We work closely with authorities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other relevant actors in Switzerland and Liechtenstein for the protection of asylum seekers, refugees and stateless people. We also work to find durable solutions for refugees.

We are currently recruiting a

### Senior Legal Associate, initially for 6 months, with possibility of extension

Under the direct supervision of the Head of Office, the Senior Legal Associate is one of the two most senior positions in the Office. She or he is coordinating the work within the Office's protection team (5-8 persons) and acts as focal point for complex protection projects.

#### Responsibilities

Typical tasks of the Senior Legal Associate include for example:

- Coordinate the work of the protection team
- Monitor the development of law and doctrine; identify protection gaps and effectively advocate for change.
- Draft position papers on pertinent legal issues.
- Engage with stakeholders such as the Federal Administrative Court and other relevant court; authorities; universities and other partners on questions related to international refugee law.
- Provide legal advice and support as needed on selected complex individual cases.
- Assist in the development of protection project proposals and project implementation.
- Develop protection strategies.

#### Required qualifications and work experience:

- Sound general legal background.
- Excellent knowledge of international refugee and human rights law and proven long-time work experience in its practical application. Knowledge of and experience in the Swiss asylum system is an asset.
- Outstanding analytical and legal writing skills.
- Capability to effectively manage a constantly changing work agenda with a multitude of different tasks.
- Good skills in managing sensitive relations with counterparts and partners as well as cross-cultural sensitivity.

#### Languages

- German, French, English – all three essential (German or French at mother tongue level), further languages of advantage.

**Position start date: as soon as possible**

**Application:**

Please submit your application for job opening 36266 “Senior Legal Associate (Office for Switzerland & Liechtenstein)” through UNHCR’s vacancies portal <https://www.unhcr.org/careers.html>.

**Closing date: 7 June 2022**

Kindly note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted. For further questions, please contact Ms Tina Vidmar, [vidmar\[at\]unhcr.org](mailto:vidmar[at]unhcr.org).

We are looking forward to your application.