

Perseus Strategies Internships

About us:

Perseus Strategies is a public-interest law and consulting firm in Washington, D.C. focused on serving clients in the international human rights, humanitarian, and corporate social responsibility spaces. It was founded by Jared Genser, HKS MPP '98, who also founded the independent non-profit organization Freedom Now (www.freedom-now.org), which works to free prisoners of conscience worldwide.

At its core, Perseus Strategies is a public-interest law firm, providing legal advisory services to individuals, governments, companies, and non-profit organizations. Perseus' mission is to have a positive impact on the world and to help its clients achieve breakthrough results addressing their toughest challenges. Perseus Strategies' expertise includes major international human-rights treaties and standards; United Nations bodies; and thematic areas, including arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, torture, neurotechnology and human rights, the responsibility to protect doctrine, and mass atrocity crimes. Examples of clients include two American hostages in Iran; leading opposition leader wrongly imprisoned by the Government of Venezuela; an American whose wife abducted their son to Brazil in violation of Texas court order of joint custody; a Burmese company looking to ensure its practices are consistent with international corporate social responsibility standards; a U.S. NGO looking to advocate at the UN to advance global criminal justice reform; and an NGO seeking to conduct undercover investigations of abuses in supply chains in full compliance with international legal and ethical standards.

Internships:

The applicant must have strong research and writing skills and be capable of producing excellent written material under tight deadlines. The ideal candidate will be highly motivated, well-organized, and able to work quickly under pressure, both independently and as a member of a team. As Perseus Strategies is a law firm and deals with confidential client information, discretion is absolutely required. Successful candidates should have experience or interest in human rights, international affairs, legal work, and/or government relations, demonstrable through coursework, prior research, or previous internships.

Simply put, the intern will have compelling work and exposure to government, international institutions, non-profits, and think tanks. Specific responsibilities will include helping with case work for human rights and humanitarian clients, including substantial research and writing to make submissions to UN human rights bodies and other relevant national and global stakeholders, as well as developing and implementing government affairs and media strategies, such as human rights reports, legislation, op-eds, and legal memos. Other responsibilities may include monitoring the news for updates related to our casework, attending relevant events around D.C. or remotely, or taking notes in client meetings with government staff or members of civil society. The intern will be a full member of the team, engaging daily with their direct supervisor and attending all office meetings.

While Perseus Strategies is based in D.C., we do not have a physical office space. Therefore, the internship would be fully remote. If the intern is based in D.C., then they can expect opportunities to attend meetings/events in person and connect with other D.C.-based interns and staff.