

## The public international law firm

## **INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME**

## **GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS**

Volterra Fietta operates a popular internship programme. A significant number of our associate team participated in our internship programme before taking up associate roles.

Our staff lawyers (fully qualified to practice as a lawyer in at least one jurisdiction) and interns (not fully qualified) engage in a wide range of public international law and international dispute resolution work. Staff lawyers and interns are typically involved in both substantive advisory and dispute resolution matters during their time with us. This includes State-to-State public international law and investment treaty work. The firm also regularly has a number of commercial arbitration cases, typically acting for or against governments and State enterprises in the energy, mining, telecommunications and finance sectors.

Internships usually last six months and are on a full-time basis only (in other words, without specific permission from the Firm, staff lawyers and interns cannot at the same time also work (paid or unpaid) for others, such as: researching for professors or academic institutions; organising a conference; continuing to work for their law firm back home). At the firm's discretion, staff lawyers and interns may be offered a second internship seat, usually lasting for another six months. Staff lawyers and interns work as integral members of the Volterra Fietta team. Our starting salary for staff lawyers and interns is at the National Living Wage.

Successful applicants will have a first university degree in law plus at least one further, Master or Doctorate level degree focused on international law. Proven knowledge will be expected to be shown in relevant subjects, such as public international law, international dispute resolution and international arbitration. Candidates are assessed by our recruitment committee. Preference is given to applicants who have gained practical work experience in the field of public international law or international arbitration (for example, in a foreign ministry, an international organisation or a law firm).

All offers of employment by the firm are subject to prospective employees having the right to work in the UK. This includes our internship programme. If you do not have a passport issued by the UK, please include confirmation that you have the necessary visa or work permit that would authorise you to live and work in the UK, together with details of that visa or work permit. If you do not have such a visa or work permit, you must inform us as part of your application that you will need one.

As a general proposition, under UK law, the process of obtaining and maintaining a visa or work permit must be undertaken by the person who seeks one. A prospective employer, such as Volterra Fietta, provides evidentiary support for the applicant. This is the case for our internship programme and therefore, if a visa or work permit is required, then obtaining and maintaining the correct one is the applicant's personal responsibility under the law. In certain circumstances, we may be able to assist a staff lawyer or intern to obtain a visa to work at the firm by working with the Law Society to obtain a Tier 5 Visa for a successful applicant who requires a visa. This would be via the Certificate of Sponsorship ("CoS") programme, established by the Law Society to enable law firms in England to help interns apply for visas licenced under the Government Authorised Exchange (Tier 5 Visa). Please note: the allocation of CoS's is beyond the firm's control.

Visa information for all non UK passport holders and residency information can be found on the UK Home Office website:

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration